East-West Exchange

The East-West exchange agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union, which was signed 27 January, is the product of a protracted series of negotiations. The first steps toward the exchange were taken at the Geneva summit conference in 1955 with the consequence that a few technical teams were exchanged in 1956. Not much exchange could take place, however, so long as the Russians refused to meet the United States requirement that all foreigners entering this country, other than officials, had to be fingerprinted.

The way to a wider exchange was opened when, early last fall, Congress gave the Secretary of State the right to waive the fingerprinting requirements. Negotiations for exchange began last October, and agreement was reached in January.

The State Department negotiated not only with the Soviet Union, but also with private American groups who might or might not want to enter into the exchange program; the Russians had no comparable problem owing to the different relation of their citizens to their Government. It is to this difference that the remarkably specific terms of the agreement may be attributed. Thus, for example, the countries agreed to exchange eight medical delegations of five or six specialists in the fields of antibiotics, microbiology, physiology and pharmacology of the nervous system, and so on, for periods ranging from two to six weeks; to exchange a Soviet pianist and a violinist for two American vocalists; and to exchange 20 students in 1958 and 30 in 1959. The same pattern was followed in other exchanges: so many exhibits, films, and radio and television programs will be traded, and so many people will be exchanged in the fields of agriculture, industry, medicine, the arts, the sciences, education, and athletics (including chess).

Wide as this range of occupations is, it is not complete; for some American groups would not enter into any arrangement because of their reluctance to do anything that would "legitimize" their Soviet counterparts by making it appear that they accepted them as their equals in democracy and freedom from Government control. Among those who took this stand were the American Legion, the Boy Scouts, newspaper reporters, labor unions, and chambers of commerce. This limitation on the exchange is not as great as it seems: anyone can make his own arrangements to visit the Soviet Union, and the State Department stands ready to facilitate exchange for any organized group that wishes it.

There is another respect in which the exchange is not as effective as it might ideally be: certain cities in each country are out-of-bounds for nationals of the other country. This kind of eye-for-an-eye diplomacy arose when the Russians closed certain cities to Americans and the State Department retaliated by closing "equivalent" cities to the Russians.

As long as this kind of restriction remains in force we may expect repetitions of incidents like that of last November when a Russian chess champion was prevented from accepting an invitation to take part in a tournament in Dallas.

If exchange is a good thing—and both countries think it is—then it ought to be carried out in full. Both countries ought to relax their restrictions on travel. But if this cannot be done, why should we not take unilateral action and extend to the Soviets the same travel opportunities that we extend to other foreigners? If we did this the Soviet Union would have the choice of either following suit or having to defend a logically indefensible position. —G. DuS.
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SCIENCE, VOL. 127
Kodak reports on:

Mr. Brethen and Lecture Assistant Sandmeyer...big deal over 0.009 roentgen...color films for sophisticates

Craftsmanship

After this one, Mike Brethen’s pay checks will have to follow him around in his retirement. He joined us right out of the Army in 1919 and wound up no less a craftsman than the old fellow who gets $65 for a pair of shoes. Rather than on a last or lathe, Mike’s craftsmanship has been expressed over a big stoneware crock of acid with ice floating in it as sodium nitrite diazotizes an aromatic amine, after which he adds the resultant diazonium salt to the cuprous salt of whatever halide is required and gets an oily layer containing his aromatic halide. A Swiss chemistry lecture assistant named Sandmeyer proposed this eight years before Mr. Brethen’s birth. Since many full-grown adult organic chemists despair of professional advancement from doing Professor Sandmeyer’s reactions over and over again, a clear field was left Mr. Brethen to specialize in and do it very well.

On his last day at work he sat down and figured out he had run exactly 50 different versions of the Sandmeyer, counting the displacement of diazonium by iodine, which needs no copper.

Take m-Dibromobenzene. What could be simpler? Yet the other day we had a request for it from a man who is so eminent that organic chemists everywhere know his surname only as the designation for a certain green textbook 4½ inches thick. He couldn’t find m-Dibromobenzene on the market, and he apparently thought it wise to let an expert make it, so the job fell to Mike Brethen. Now, therefore, it becomes Eastman 7276.

Mike’s pupils and our other craftsmen are hard at work keeping some 3600 stock bottles of Eastman Organic Chemicals filled. The job is never ending. We hope the orders are too. Distillation Products Industries, Eastman Organic Chemicals Department, Rochester 3, N. Y. (Division of Eastman Kodak Company).

A modest contribution

Man comes home from work and his wife asks him what kind of a day he’s had. “Same old yackety yack,” he reports. “Heap-big all-afternoon powwow over the fact that whereas it used to take 0.019 roentgens of radium gamma radiation to produce a density of .05, they have now made x-ray film that takes 0.010 roentgens of gamma radiation to produce a density of .05. Cauliflower tonight again?”

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You know that while high film sensitivity is the aim, nevertheless the departure from a strict reciprocity between the effects of illumination and exposure time is different between the three emulsion layers of a color film, leading hitherto, to color imbalance unless the exposure time is kept within narrow prescribed limits. You therefore experience a feeling of release when we tell you that the barriers on both sides have fallen: Type L is balanced for exposure times from 1/5 second to 60 seconds, such as encountered in photomicrography and photomacrogrophy; Type S is good down to the briefest flash of a gas discharge lamp.

In case you have a friend who fails to grasp your explanation of the preceding paragraph and who has questions about this Type C—Type L—Type S business, tell him to write to Eastman Kodak Company, Professional Goods Division, Rochester 4, N. Y.

This is another advertisement where Eastman Kodak Company probes at random for mutual interests and occasionally a little revenue from those whose work has something to do with science.

11 APRIL 1958
Letters

Population of Australia

In the issue of 3 January, Paul B. Sears [Science 127, 9 (1958)] cites the population density of the continents (page 11). His observations on “The inexorable problem of space” are so thoughtful and so timely that I venture to call attention to his estimate for Australia, which may confuse some readers.

The estimate given for Australia is 31 inhabitants per square mile. If this refers to Australia (and Tasmania) alone, the figure should be approximately 3.1 per square mile. It is probable, therefore, that Sears is referring to the entire southeast Asian archipelago, and that Indonesia, New Zealand, and possibly the Philippine Republic and Taiwan are to be included—the over-all average for these areas collectively would be in the neighborhood of 31 per square mile. But the figure given for Asia (78 per square mile) suggests that the offshore islands are included in the Asian estimate.

GEOFFREY BRUUN
Ithaca, New York

I am most grateful to Geoffrey Bruun and also to Chester Longwell for calling attention to this error.

The figures were obtained from a standard atlas. It is not available as I write, so that I am unable to say whether the datum given for Australia was intended for the whole of Australasia, a misprint, or my own error in copying, although I checked the table twice. I did, however, take the precaution to have my manuscript read by three very competent critics, none of whom caught the error.

The paragraph in question (page 11, column 3) should therefore be amended to read as follows:

“North America, including great areas of desert and tundra, follows with 23, while Africa and South America are nearly tied, with 17 and 19, respectively. The figure for the United States is 51, while Australia is the least densely populated of the continents, with about 3 persons per square mile.”

I am obliged to M. B. Russell and Donald Jones for comments on the statement regarding corn production (page 13, column 2). Actually, both per acre and total production within the corn belt proper are greater than ever. It is the natural fertility—that is, that possible without fertilizer input—that has declined. The present high total yield can be even further increased, as I have said, but this fact must be weighed against increasing production costs and the present high rate of population increase.

Incidentally, Jones has reminded me
Meetings

Ninth Pacific Science Congress

The small, forward-looking group of scientists, headed by the late Herbert E. Gregory, who organized the First Pacific Science Congress, held in Honolulu in 1920 (and known then as the Pan-Pacific Science Congress), could hardly have guessed the magnitude of the success that would in future years crown this pioneer effort.

It is an understatement to say that the Ninth Pacific Science Congress, held in Bangkok, 18 Nov. to 9 Dec. 1957, exceeded all expectations. The attendance of 860 registered delegates—the largest attendance at any Pacific Science Congress to date—included 500 foreign delegates and 360 delegates from Thailand. In all, 36 countries or territorial subdivisions (such as Hong Kong, Singapore, New Guinea, and the Ryukyus) were represented. Of the registered delegates, 228 were from the United States.

Notwithstanding the unexpectedly large attendance, all arrangements were adequate, everything proceeded

---

Paul B. Sears
Yale University,
New Haven, Connecticut

International Clearinghouse

Your editorial "Strength through union," in the 14 February issue of Science [127, 313 (1958)], discusses an issue of great importance to scientists. There is no doubt that we need a clearinghouse and coordination center for abstracting, indexing, retrieving, and translating the vast flood of scientific publications which is inundating us today and which will increase with time. There is much to be said for your conclusion that this service can best be performed by combining and coordinating private and governmental facilities and programs, and I was happy to learn that progress is being made in this direction.

It seems, however, that this is a problem of international scope; one that could and should be solved by an international clearinghouse. Such a world science literature center, organized, perhaps, under the United Nations, could abstract all the literature now being covered by Russian, American, and other abstracting agencies, and the abstracts, appropriately translated, could be made to meet the requirements of scientists throughout the world. To Americans and Russians this would represent a great saving in expense and technical manpower; to the scientists of many small countries it would mean the difference between participation and scientific isolation.

Scientists have often emphasized the international nature of their interests and activities. Unwittingly they may be drawn into the disruptive eddies of political currents and swept apart. Here, it seems, is an opportunity to forge a link across international lines which has great potential value to science and which could serve as a significant strand in the forging of broader bonds of understanding between nations.

John T. Emlen, Jr.
Department of Zoology,
University of Wisconsin, Madison
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mality was dropped, and the royal couple mingled with and chatted with their guests for a good two hours, conversing with perfect ease in at least three languages.

The scientific program of the congress included more than 700 papers, divided among 18 sections. In addition to the submitted or invited papers, there was a symposium on "Climate, Vegetation, and Rational Land Utilization in the Humid Tropics," aided by UNESCO; there were the reports of the chairman of the standing committees of the Pacific Science Association; there were two sessions on "International Cooperation in Science"; and there were seven public evening lectures by distinguished speakers from three continents. Asia and Thailand were ably represented by Boonsong Lekagul, who gave a lecture on "Wildlife of Thailand," illustrated with excellent motion pictures.

Somewhat unexpectedly the U.S.S.R., which had not participated in the Seventh (New Zealand, 1949) or Eighth (Manila, 1953) Pacific Science Congresses, sent a delegation of nine to the Bangkok congress—eight scientists and an interpreter. The latter was a graduate student from the University of Moscow who had an excellent command of English. The scientists were well selected for this congress, being specialists in the marine biology and oceanography of the northwestern Pacific. All spoke either German, French, or English, so that communication presented no great problem. The pleasant and highly competent young interpreter was unobtrusive but available when needed. It was my impression that the Russians were welcomed as scientific colleagues, and that ideological differences were pushed into the background for the duration of the congress.

A feature of the Ninth Congress that left visiting delegates amazed and speechless with admiration and envy was the Documentation Section. I carried an extra suitcase full of mimeographed copies of documents pertaining to my section—a precaution that proved completely unnecessary. I could have got along perfectly well with one copy of each paper. The Documentation Section, set up at Chulalongkorn University, was equipped with two IBM electric typewriters, two multilith machines, and equipment for photographing line drawings, halftones, or handwritten script. It was also equipped with a highly trained crew that worked literally day and night and could reproduce anything in any language. They turned out documents in English, French, Thai, and Chinese, and everything came forth when needed. Twenty-four hours was the prescribed time for getting out 300 or 500 copies of a given document. But if a harassed chairman of a section came in at 9:00 A.M. with a set of resolutions...
adopted by his section and said, "I need 300 copies of this by noon," he got 300 copies by noon. I watched this system to see whether it would break down under pressure, but it never did. It turned out over three million pages of multilithed material in two weeks. Never has a scientific gathering been better documented.

At the end of two weeks of deliberations the congress met for a final plenary session, at which Ian McTaggart Cowan, head of the Canadian delegation, gave a brief, brilliant address of thanks on behalf of all the foreign visitors. This closing session was held on 30 November. The official dates of the congress, 18 November to 9 December, included the various field trips planned to give visiting delegates a better knowledge of a richly endowed and fascinating land.

It is gratifying to report that the Council of the Pacific Science Association announced at the final plenary session that they had unanimously accepted the joint invitation that had been extended by the National Academy of Sciences and the Bernice P. Bishop Museum to hold the Tenth Congress in Honolulu in 1961.

Great credit for the smooth operation of the congress is due the secretary-general, Chong Ratanarat, and his efficient staff and Brenda Bishop, secretary of the Pacific Science Council. The large American representation was organized by Harold J. Coolidge, executive director of the National Academy of Sciences' Pacific Science Board.

ROBERT C. MILLER
California Academy of Sciences
San Francisco

Call for Papers by AAAS Sections

Eight sections of the association will arrange sessions for contributed papers at the Washington, D.C., meeting, 26–31 December 1958. The secretaries or program chairmen to whom titles and abstracts should be sent, not later than 30 September, follow:

C–Chemistry. F. O. Rice, Department of Chemistry, Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

E–Geology and Geography. Both geology and geography, cosponsored respectively by the Geological Society of America and the Association of American Geographers, Middle Atlantic Division: Frank C. Whitmore, Jr., U.S. Geological Survey, Washington 25, D.C.

F–Zoological Sciences. (If outside the scope of the American Society of Zoologists and Society of Systematic Zoology, which are meeting with the AAAS.)

Karl M. Wilbur, Department of Zoology, Duke University, Durham, N.C.

G–Botanical Sciences. Barry Commoner, Henry Shaw School of Botany, Washington University, St. Louis 5, Mo.


Np–Pharmacy. John E. Christian, School of Pharmacy, Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind.

Q–Education. Herbert A. Smith, 205 Bailey, School of Education, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kan.

Although the deadline is 30 September, most sections and subsequently the AAAS office, would be glad to receive titles in advance of this date.

RAYMOND L. TAYLOR
AAAS

Colloquium of College Physicists

The 20th annual Colloquium of College Physicists and the associated June Lectures will be held at the State University of Iowa, Iowa City, 18–21 June. The program will consist of lectures on

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Venoms, 480 pp., 1956 ........................ 9.50
The Future of Arid Lands, 464 pp., 1956 ........................ 6.75
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Psychopharmacology, 175 pp., 1956 ........................ 3.50
Luminescence of Biological Systems, 466 pp., 1955 ........................ 7.00
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The Present State of Physics, 271 pp., 1954 ........................ 6.75
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Parapsychological Association

The formation of the Parapsychological Association, a professional group of research workers in the area of extrasensory perception and psychokinesis, has been announced. The objects of the association are to advance parapsychology as a science, to disseminate knowledge of the field, and to integrate the findings with those of other branches of science. Full membership is restricted to those with doctorate degree training or equivalent.

The founding officers are R. A. McConnell, president (Biophysics Department, University of Pittsburgh); G. R. Schneider, vice-president (Psychology Department, City College of New York); R. White, secretary (Parapsychology Laboratory, Duke University); R. J. Gadoz, treasurer (Duke University); and councilmen M. Anderson (Duke University), K. Osis (Parapsychology Foundation of New York), and W. G. Roll (Oxford University).

Alaskan Science Conference

The ninth Alaskan Science Conference will take place at the University of Alaska, College, Alaska, 2–5 September, under the sponsorship of the AAAS Alaska Division. The meeting will cover ten general fields of science and their application in the arctic and subarctic areas.

Titles and papers must be received by the section chairman before 1 June. Abstracts not exceeding 250 words should be provided by 1 July. Abstracts must be submitted for inclusion of the papers in the printed program. It is planned that abstracts or papers will be published in the Proceedings of the Ninth Alaskan Science Conference. For further information, including a list of the section chairmen, write air mail to the president and general chairman of the conference, Dr. Robert L. Rausch, President, Alaska Division, AAAS, Box 960, Anchorage, Alaska.

Biometric Conference

The fourth International Biometric Conference will be held in Ottawa from 28 August to 2 September. One day will be devoted to a symposium on biometrical genetics, and sessions are being arranged on clinical research, the interpretation of experimental results, applications of multivariate analysis, ecology and animal behavior, mathematical models in biology, the $\chi^2$ test, and plant and animal breeding. Further details may be obtained from the local secretary, Dr. G. B. Oakland, Statistical Laboratory, Science Service Building, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, Canada.

Society Elections


- Montana Academy of Sciences: pres., George W. Rollins, Social Studies Department, Eastern Montana School of Education; past pres., Philip L. Wright, Department of Zoology, Montana State University; sec.-treas., LeRoy H. Harvey, Department of Botany, Montana State University; v. pres., George H. Gloge, Eastern Montana School of Education, Billings.
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American Economic Association: pres., George W. Stocking, Vanderbilt University; sec.-treas., James Washington Bell, Northwestern University, Evanston, III. The vice presidents are Seymour E. Harris, Harvard University and George J. Stigler, Columbia University. The representative to the AAAS Council is William S. Vickrey, Columbia University.


Forthcoming Events

May
2. Engineers and Architects Conf., 5th annual, Columbus, Ohio. (H. A. Bolz, College of Engineering, Ohio State Univ., Columbus.)

2. Southern California Acad. of Sciences, annual, Los Angeles. (Miss G. Sibley, Los Angeles County Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles 7, Calif.)
2-3. North Dakota Academy of Science, 50th anniversary, Fargo. (B. G. Gustafson, Box 573, University Station, Grand Forks, N.D.)
3-4. Population Assoc. of America, annual, Chicago, Ill. (D. O. Price, Inst. for
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5-7. Microwave Theory and Techniques, Stanford, Calif. (G. H. Keitel, 601 California Ave., Palo Alto, Calif.)


6-9. Royal Netherlands Acad. of Sciences and Letters, 105th anniversary, Amsterdam, Netherlands. (RNSSL, 29 Kloveniersburgwal, Amsterdam.)

6-9. Western Joint Computer Conf., Los Angeles, Calif. (W. H. Ware, Rand Corp., 1700 Main St., Santa Monica, Calif.)


10. Virginia Academy of Science, annual, Roanoke. (P. M. Patterson, Dept. of Science, Hollins College, Hollins, Va.)


8-10. Illinois State Academy of Science, 51st annual, Urbana. (R. A. Evers, Illinois Natural History Survey, Urbana.)

11-16. Social Welfare, nat. conf., Chicago, Ill. (National Conf. on Social Welfare, 22 W. Gay St., Columbus 15, Ohio.)

12-14. High Polymer Forum, 8th Canadian Symp., Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec. (M. H. Jones, Dept. of Chemistry, Ontario Research Foundation, 43 Queens Park, Toronto 3, Ont.)


12-14. Research Methods and Instrumentation Symp., 8th annual, Bethesda, Md. (J. B. Davis, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda 14.)


14-16. Society for Experimental Stress Analysis, Cleveland, Ohio. (W. M. Murray, P.O. Box 168, Cambridge 39, Mass.)


18-24. Sanitary Engineering, 6th Inter-American Cong., San Juan, Puerto Rico. (E. Ortega, Box 218, San Juan.)


19-23. Gas Chromatography, 2nd symp., Amsterdam, Netherlands. (G. Dijkstra, Postbox 114, Vlaardingen, Netherlands.)


(See issue of 21 March for comprehensive list)
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