

British Biophysical Society

The second meeting of the Committee took place at 2.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 9th May 1962 in the rooms of the Faraday Society, 6 Gray's Inn Square, W.C.1.

Present: Professor J. T. Randall
Professor J. A. V. Butler
Professor A. F. Huxley
Professor F. J. W. Roughton
Professor J. J. Weiss
Professor D. D. Eley (Meetings Secretary)
Dr. P. M. B. Walker (Treasurer)
Dr. J. C. Kendrew (Honorary Secretary)

Apologies for absence were received from: Dr. R. D. Keynes, Professor R. D. Preston, and Professor J. W. S. Pringle.

62/8 Correspondence

- a. A resolution passed unanimously by the Annual General Meeting of the Biochemical Society, deploring the failure of the Government to accord effective recognition to the importance of the universities in the training of scientists, was noted.
- b. On a request from the Scientific Liaison Officer in London of the American Office of Naval Research, to be placed on the Society's mailing list for announcements of meetings and for abstracts, it was agreed to provide the former but not the latter.

62/9 Reports on meetings

- a. Middlesex Hospital, 10th March, 1962

It was reported by the Meetings Secretary that the meeting was attended by 300 people; 100 lunches and about 150 teas were provided. The Meetings Secretary was asked to send a letter of thanks to Dr. Campbell.

- b. Edinburgh, 12th-13th April, 1962.

It was reported by Dr. Walker that the various sessions were attended by between 40 and 90 people.

The Meetings Secretary was asked to convey the thanks of the Society to Professor Swann for the hospitality of his Department, including the provision of free tea to members and non-members.

62/10 Future meetingsa. Cambridge, 27th September 1962

Dr. Kendrew reported that the meeting would include a visit to the new Medical Research Council Laboratory of Molecular Biology, a talk by the Chairman (Dr. M. F. Perutz), and a session for the reading of contributed papers. The Local Secretary would be Dr. H. C. Watson.

b. University College, London, 17th - 18th December 1962

A report (annexed) on the proposed arrangements was presented by Professor Huxley. Professor Randall described the program proposed for a symposium on Physical Aspects of Electron Microscopy, arranged by Dr. R. E. Burge, and Professor Butler outlined his plans for a symposium on the Structure of the Nucleus. It was decided that the Annual General Meeting would be held on 17th December, before or after tea.

c. Later meetings

The Meetings Secretary presented a list of topics and of places for later meetings. This list as modified by the Committee (annexed to these minutes) would be circulated to the Committee for their further suggestions.

d. Newcastle, April, 1963.

It was agreed, on the invitation of Professor Weiss, to hold a meeting at Newcastle in April 1963, including symposia on Radicals and Nucleic Acids. Professors Weiss, Butler, and Eley were appointed as members of the Organizing Committee.

e. The Committee authorized the Treasurer to look into the possibility of obtaining secretarial assistance, at the Society's charge.

f. The Meetings Secretary and the Treasurer were asked to prepare a code of practice for the organization and administration of the Society's meetings, both formal and informal. This document would define the responsibilities of the Officers of the Society and of the Local Secretary.

g. The treasurer reported that the overall cost of lith-printed abstracts, including postage, did not exceed that of duplicated abstracts by more than 20-25%. The Committee agreed that lithoprinting should be used henceforth, as at the Edinburgh meeting.

62/11 International Organization for Pure and Applied Biophysics

A report was made by Professor Butler on the recent meeting of the Council of the International Organization. He asked members of the Committee to send him suggestions for the membership of the proposed Commissions on molecular biophysics, on cell membranes, and on communication and control problems, and stated that consideration of the formation of two further commissions, dealing with biophysics of organisms and special tissues and with theoretical biophysics, had been deferred.

It was noted that the Council had tentatively suggested the holding of an International meeting under the auspices of the Commission on Molecular Biophysics in Cambridge during the Summer of 1963.

62/12 Co-ordinating Committee for Symposia on Drug Action

The Committee decided that an invitation to nominate a representative to this Committee should be declined, since its activities were too far removed from the interests of the Society.

62/13 Proposal for the creation of a British Science Foundation

Professor Butler reported that a meeting called by the Biochemical Society to consider this suggestion had been attended by representatives of many scientific societies, and that considerable differences of opinion were expressed. He further reported that a small committee had been set up to consider the points raised, to consult with the Officers of the Royal Society, and to make recommendations at a further general meeting.

62/14 Applications for membership

Applications for membership (appended to these Minutes) were accepted.

62/15 Next meeting

The next meeting of the Committee would take place on Wednesday, 18th July, 1962.

JTKandall