

BRITISH BIOPHYSICAL SOCIETY

The twenty-sixth meeting of the Committee took place at 2.30 p.m. on Thursday, February 6th, 1969 at the Institute of Biology, 41 Queen's Gate, London S.W.7.

Present : Dr. E.M. Bradbury (Meetings Secretary)  
Dr. D.M. Blow  
Professor R.E. Burge  
Dr. P. Fatt  
Dr. J.B. Finean (Secretary)  
Professor R.A. Kekwick  
Dr. A.C.T. North  
Professor M.R. Pollock  
Dr. E.G. Richards  
Dr. M.P. Tombs (Treasurer)  
Professor P.H.B. Walker.

Professor R.E. Burge was asked to be acting Chairman for the meeting.

69/1. Professor Burge suggested, and it was agreed unanimously, that Dr. A.R. Peacocke should be invited to join the committee as a co-opted member. The election of a Chairman was deferred until the next meeting of the committee.

69/2. The minutes of the 25th meeting of the Committee were approved and signed by the Acting Chairman.

69/3. The Treasurer reported that the Society had approximately £1,000 in its Current Account and £500 on deposit and that he intended to transfer a further £500 to deposit account. He forecast an income for the year of about £1,200 and administrative costs of £350. At the present time the one day meetings were costing more than the Main Meetings of the Society largely because of the cost of printing abstracts. He was exploring a cheaper way of printing abstracts. The Treasurer proposed, and it was agreed, that Registration Fees for meetings might be refunded if requested prior to the meeting but only in exceptional circumstances afterwards.

69/4. Reports on Meetings.

The number of registrations for the Christmas Meeting 1968 was about 250. Expenses were lower than anticipated and income exceeded expenditure by about £100. Facilities at University College were criticised by several members of the committee.

The one-day meeting of the Physical Biochemistry in January had been transferred from Birmingham to London (King's College) at the suggestion of several Cambridge members. About 50 people attended the meeting.

69/5. Future Meetings.

Dr. Finean reported that arrangements for the Spring Meeting 1969 in Birmingham were almost complete. The practice of holding a Conference Dinner was re-affirmed and one would be held at the Birmingham Meeting. The travel expenses for this meeting were expected to be low and Dr. Finean reported that he had obtained a grant

of £50 for local hospitality. He proposed that for this meeting there should be no registration fee for members and for non-members a fee of £1. The committee agreed.

The next meeting of the Physical Biochemistry Group will be in June, organised by Dr. M. Green. A request for travel expenses (£40.) to enable a European speaker to attend this meeting was turned down. The committee reaffirmed that travel expenses for one day meetings in England should be no more than £10. to £12. For one day meetings in Scotland travel expenses for two speakers from England might be provided.

Professor Pollock reported that the one-day meeting planned for Edinburgh in May was now in some doubt partly because of a Royal Microscopical Society meeting on a similar topic in March. The Committee felt that this need not interfere and Professor Pollock agreed to pursue the matter further.

The Main Meetings at Christmas 1969, and Spring 1970, were already planned. Further suggestions were invited for the next committee meeting.

A suggestion from the British Polymer Physics Group for a joint one-day meeting in September on "Structural Aspects Common to Synthetic and Biological Macromolecules" was given preliminary approval.

69/6. International Congress, Cambridge, Mass. 1969.

The Secretary reported that the number of people interested in a Charter Flight was insufficient and that consideration was being given to group travel. It was hoped that most people would travel out as a group and alternative return travel arrangements were being worked out by Cooks (Travel Agency). The Wellcome Trust had given a grant of £1,000 to assist British participants and this would be added to the £2,500 available through the Royal Society. Allocations would be made by a sub-committee of which the Secretary was a member.

69/7. Memorandum on Physical Biochemistry.

Professor Kekwick reported that replies had been received from several bodies to which the memorandum had been sent. The Royal Society had indicated that they would be willing to sponsor a meeting to emphasize this field.

69/8. Publications.

The Secretary agreed to remind members of the availability of Quarterly Reviews of Biophysics and Progress Biophysics and Molecular Biology at reduced rates.

The suggestion from the editor of F.E.B.S. Letters that they might publish extensive reports of British Biophysical Society Meetings was discussed. Although there were some misgivings about the scheme it was agreed that such reports might be made available for the Christmas Meeting 1969, and the Spring Meeting, 1969 at the discretion of the Organiser who would nominate the reporter and seek the approval of the speakers.

69/9. Representation on other committees.

Biophysics Committee of the Royal Society - the Secretary  
Parliamentary & Scientific Committee - The Secretary  
Joint British Committee for E.M. - Dr. H.E. Huxley  
(Continuing), Dr. P. Highton.  
United Kingdom - Crystallographic Council - Dr. D.M. Blow  
Editorial Board of Biochemical Journal - Dr. A.C.T. North  
(Continuing), Dr.M. Green.

69/10. The Secretary was asked to convey the congratulations of the Committee to Professor Bernard Katz, F.R.S. on the announcement of a Knighthood in the recent Honours List.

69/11. Summer School.

Professor Walker reported that he and Professor Pollock would organise a Summer School in Edinburgh during the second week of September, 1970. The School would emphasise Molecular Hybridization Techniques and would take 15 to 20 members. The committee confirmed that these arrangements were in accord with general policy for such schools.

69/12. Professor Burge suggested that the Committee should discuss the teaching of biophysics and career prospects for biophysicists at the next Committee Meeting.

69/13. Membership.

The Treasurer proposed the names of 52 new members of the Society.

69/14. Next Meeting.

It was agreed to hold the next Committee Meeting at the Institute of Biology, 41, Queen's Gate, London S.W.7. at 2.30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 21st, 1969.

A.R. Pearson  
Chairman  
May 21, 1969