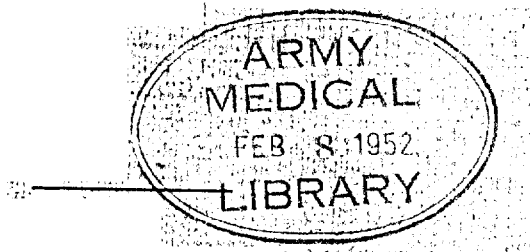


RECORDS

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rogram. One of the most interesting papers was that by W.E. Castle, "The Coming of Mendelism." Dr. Castle was one of the few who not only witnessed the coming of Mendelism but at a very early stage took an active part in genetic research, which he has continued to the present time, several years after his retirement from Harvard University. Another significant paper, entitled "The Heritage of Mendel," was prepared by Hugo Iltis who, unfortunately, was unable to attend. His paper was read by G.H. Shull, a long-time friend, and one of the first from this country to visit Brunn after the rediscovery of Mendel's work. In a ceremony entitled "The New World Honors Mendel," Manuel Elgueta, director of the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences, at Turrialba, Costa Rica, presented a scroll, appropriately engrossed, to the Genetics Society of America. This scroll will be placed in the Mendel Museum established by Dr. Iltis at Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, Va. A part of the museum collection, on loan to the Ohio State University, was on exhibition at the time of the meeting.

The main theme of the Golden Jubilee Program was the progress genetics has made in its first fifty years. Five eminent European geneticists, T. Caspersson, Boris Ephrussi, C.D. Darlington, Arne Huntzinger, and Julian Huxley, were speakers, contributing markedly to the success of the meeting. All the papers given on the invitation programs will be published this year by the Macmillan Company as a book, the scope and organization of which are revealed in the following summary:

Historical and Developmental Aspects of Genetics

- The Status of Heredity before 1900 - Conway Zirkle, University of Pennsylvania
- The Coming of Mendelism - W.E. Castle, University of California
- The Development of the Gene Theory - H.J. Muller, Indiana University
- The Relation of Genes and Chromosomes - A.H. Sturtevant, California Institute of Technology
- Mutation after Fifty Years - L.J. Stadler, University of Missouri
- The Heritage of Mendel - Hugo Iltis, Mary Washington College
- Old and New Pathways in Human Genetics - L.H. Snyder, University of Oklahoma

The Physical Basis of the Gene

- The Chemistry of Chromosomes and Nuclei - A.E. Mirsky, Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research
- Cytochemical Measurements in the Study of the Gene - T. Caspersson and Jack Schultz, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm
- Genetics and Immunology - M.R. Irwin, University of Wisconsin

The Physiology of the Gene

Chemical Genetics - G.W. Beadle, California Institute of Technology

Remarks on Cell Heredity - Boris Ephrussi, University of Paris
Genetic Studies in Bacteria - Joshua Lederberg, University of Wisconsin

The Role of the Genes in Cytoplasmic Inheritance - T.M. Sonneborn, Indiana University

Evolutionary Changes in Mendelian Populations - Th. Dobzhansky, Columbia University

Cytogenetics

Evolution of Cytogenetic Mechanisms in Animals - M.J.D. White, University of Texas

Genetics and the Chromosomes - C.D. Darlington, John Innes Horticultural Institute

Genetics, Medicine, and Man

Genetics and Disease Resistance - J.W. Gowen, Iowa State College

Genetics and the Cancer Problem - C.C. Little, Roscoe B. Jackson Memorial Laboratory

Genetics and the Food Problem

Genetics and Plant Breeding - Arne Muntzing, University of Lund

Hybrid Corn: Its Genetic Basis and its Significance in Human Affairs - P.C. Mangelsdorf, Harvard University

Genetics and Plant Pathology - J.C. Walker, University of Wisconsin

Genetics and Animal Breeding - J.L. Lush, Iowa State College

Genetics and Modern Thought - Julian Huxley, formerly Secretary-General UNESCO

Also as a part of the celebration the Golden Jubilee Committee secured the cooperation of the Public Affairs Committee in issuing pamphlet (No. 165) entitled, "Genetics - The Science of Heredity." These pamphlets were distributed with the complements of the Society to those attending the meeting.

The Golden Jubilee, the largest meeting ever held by the Genetics Society, was one of the most enjoyable, partly in consequence of the excellent physical facilities assigned to the society by AIBS and the local committee. Except for the first evening gathering, all lectures were held in the new auditorium of the State Archaeological Museum with a seating capacity of 600, which was expanded to about 900 by making use of the wide foyers. The Genetics Society is happy that this particular auditorium was allocated to us on this important occasion and thanks are due the Ohio State Archaeological Museum, the staff of AIBS, and the local committee for their careful planning.

Report of Committee 9

The report of the special committee of 9 (consisting of Committee Counteract Anti-Genetics propaganda plus the Executive Committee) was to have been presented by Bentley Glass, the Chairman of the Committee. Instead a telegram from the chairman read, "Delayed by train wreck. Will you present report of Special Committee. Thanks. Bentley Glass." The report of the committee was then presented by the Vice-President, M.R. Irwin. This report had previously been circulated to all the members in a letter dated August 25, 1950. The letter was as follows:

August 25, 1950

Dear Fellow Member:

The Genetics Society's Special Committee of Nine, appointed in accordance with the resolution passed at the Business Meeting of the Society in December, 1949, has considered as fully as possible the proposals for "a committee to speak for the Society in matters affecting the freedom of science." Many things have transpired since the discussion last December which led to the appointment of the Committee, and opinions may well have changed. Certainly the fluid international situation, with its impacts of various sorts upon our science, requires us to act with foresight and to remain free to alter our program as new conditions arise.

In the considerations of the Special Committee, three things became uppermost: first, the need for vigorous and outspoken defense of scientific freedom and for refutation of all misrepresentations of genetics is a crucial and continuing problem; second, any committee of our Society should, in true democratic spirit, have the right and responsibility to speak out for itself and make public its findings and conclusions; third, no committee ought to assume the responsibility of defending scientific freedom and combating anti-genetics propaganda in behalf of the Society except that committee be truly representative of the great majority of opinion within the Society and enjoy the utmost confidence of the members. With these things in mind, the Special Committee of Nine recommends as follows:

A Standing Committee on Public Education and Scientific Freedom should be established by the Society.

- A. This Committee should have power to take action on all public matters of concern to the Society. It should have the right and responsibility to publish or to make statements for publication, but with the requirement that it speak and publish solely as a Committee of the Society and not in the name of the Society as a whole.

- B. The scope of the Committee should include not only freedom of science and anti-genetics propaganda, but should extend to the contribution of genetic knowledge to debates about atomic energy and atomic bombs, and the bearing of medical and commercial practices, such as the use of radiations on the genetic welfare of the people. The Committee should be left free to exercise its judgment as to the most advisable program in the light of the current, changing world picture.
- C. The Committee should not only make statements of fact in reference to debated points, but should plan and execute a long-range policy of public education in the methods, principles, and applications of genetics.

This might include sponsorship of a series of popular books (of the Penguin type), articles in general and popular scientific magazines and the Sunday magazine sections of newspapers, radio and television programs, etc. This public education upon fundamentals might well become the soundest long-range activity of the Committee and the one designed to create that basis of knowledge and judgment which would be the strongest defense against quacks and communists. The Public Affairs Pamphlet "Genetics, the Science of Heredity," to be distributed as a part of the Golden Jubilee of the science of Genetics at the Columbus meeting and prepared under the auspices of the Society's Golden Jubilee Committee, is precisely the type of thing men

- 2. The Standing Committee on Public Education and Scientific Freedom should be as thoroughly representative of the majority opinion of the Society as possible. It is therefore recommended that it be composed as follows:
 - A. The Chairman of the Committee shall be the President of the Genetics Society.
 - B. Either the most recent past-President of the Society or the Secretary of the Society, as may be determined by vote of the Society, shall be a second member.*
 - C. Three additional members shall be elected for terms of three years each by mail ballot of the membership of the Society; except that initially one member shall be elected for one year, one for two years, and one for three years, that every year thereafter one specially elected member of the Committee will retire and be replaced.
 - D. Nominations will be made for the election of these members of the Committee in the customary way (one nomination for each member to be elected being made by the Nominating Committee of the Society and one by the members of the

*The Committee is not in unanimous agreement on these points.

Society through a nominating ballot); except that in order to avoid delay in initiating the Committee in 1950, these members will be nominated from the floor and elected by ballot.

Two nominations should be made for each member to be elected, except for the initial year, when five should suffice.

Each nominee should be asked to furnish a brief statement regarding his views on the work and function of the Committee so that members may be informed prior to voting.

The Committee on Public Education and Scientific Freedom should, like the Committee to Aid Geneticists Abroad, be empowered to seek funds from members of the Society and other sources, so as to enable it to meet, and to prepare, publish and circulate materials in the interest of public education in genetics or dealing with issues of scientific freedom; these funds should be supplemented if necessary from the Treasury of the Society to the amount of \$100.00 annually. It is suggested that the above recommendations be considered individually, part by part, and only finally as a whole, inasmuch as acceptance or rejection of the whole ought not to depend upon strong reaction to some one part.

Signed:	Robert C. Cook	W.R. Singleton
	Th. Dobzhansky	L.H. Snyder
	M.R. Irwin	T.M. Sonneborn
	H.J. Muller	Curt Stern
	Bentley Glass, Chairman	

Since time was running short and since all members of the Society had received a copy of the report printed above it was thought not necessary to read the entire report of the committee but vote on the different sections of the report separately. The first item voted upon was 1. A standing committee on Public Education and Scientific Freedom should be established by the Society."

After but brief discussion on the motion to adopt point 1 the motion was lost 60-86 with many abstaining. Then the discussion, which should have preceded the voting began. Muller, Cook, Huskins and several others joined in the discussion. The concensus of the meeting seemed to be that a mistake had been made in rejecting point 1.

Around 2:30 pm a motion was made by Stadler that the meeting adjourn. This being seconded was put to a vote and was rejected by a big majority. Huskins introduced a motion that "a committee should be appointed to work out statements to be approved or rejected by the Executive Committee and that the members of the Society stand behind the Executive who makes statements." This motion was seconded. The following amendment was introduced by Lederberg: "That the committee be empowered to express the Society's abhorrence to the dictation of scientific principles by the Soviet Union."

This amendment was seconded and passed.

However, when it seemed to be the wishes of the members that the action on point 1 be reconsidered the motion under consideration was withdrawn, by Huskins, Lederberg and the ones seconding the amendment and motion.

Then Luria made a motion that point 1 be reconsidered. This was seconded and carried. Voting then proceeded on the different points of the report of the special committee. Items A, B and C under point 1 were not voted upon at the meeting.

Under point 2, Item A was amended to read "The president shall be a member of the committee which shall elect its own chairman." This was then approved by the Society.

Point 2B was approved by the Society with the proviso that the Secretary of the Society shall be a member of the committee.

Point 2C was approved as printed above.

Point 2D was approved with a minor change in the procedure for election of the committee the first year. The change in the last sentence of the first paragraph is as follows: "These members will be nominated from the floor at the annual meeting of the Society and elected by mail ballot."

Point 3 was approved as printed. Following the approval of the individual items a motion was made that the entire proposal be approved. Seconded and carried.

The nominations from the floor, in order nominated were Sturtevant, Muller, Lederberg, Cook, Glass, Luria, Stadler, Huskins and Plough.

The next item of business was action upon a recommendation of the Executive Committee that the Society furnish 1350 copies of the abstracts for publishing in Genetics. This action was approved.

For the meeting place in 1951 the secretary reported that the Executive Committee had recommended that we meet again with A.L.B.S., the 1951 meeting to be held in early September at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. This action was approved.

M. J. D. White then made a motion that the Society extend a vote of thanks to the local representatives of the Columbus meetings, Dr. David C. Rife and R. G. Jaap.

Motion seconded and carried by acclamation.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.