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MINUTES

122nd MEETING

ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR BIOLOGY AND MEDICINE
U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

REPOSITORY 326 US atomic
Energy Commission
COLLECTION Biology & Medicine
BOX No. 2
FOLDER 7

U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
1717 H St. N. W., Washington, D. C.
January 12-13, 1968

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DOE ARCHIVES

The AEC Advisory Committee for Biology and Medicine met on January 12-13, 1968 at the AEC "H" Street Office. Committee members present were Drs. Earl L. Green (Chairman), Philip P. Cohen, (Vice-Chairman), William F. Bale, Arie J. Haagen-Smit, Robert D. Moseley, Jr., Morell B. Russell, James B. Wyngaarden, Harvey M. Patt (Scientific Secretary), and Miss Rosemary Elmo (Executive Secretary). Dr. Lemuel C. McGee was unable to attend. Present also was Dr. John R. Totter, Director, Division of Biology and Medicine. Dr. Spofford English, Assistant General Manager for Research and Development, Mr. Enzi DeRenzis, of his staff, and Mr. Herbert A. Stanwood, Jr., Assistant Director for Administration, DBM, were also in attendance during a portion of the meeting.

The following items were considered: 1) the UCLA problem; 2) the proposal for continuation of the radium dial workers study; 3) Lawrence Award nominees in radiobiology for 1968; 4) the future role of the Division of Biology and Medicine, and of the ACBM.

UCLA PROBLEM. The ACBM was briefed by Drs. English and Totter. The picture at UCLA has taken on new dimensions and extension of the present contract as well as appointment of a new director are contingent upon a satisfactory resolution of the situation there. In consequence of a recent study by the staff of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy and a subsequent hearing conducted by Mr. Holifield, it was proposed that the ACBM appoint a special subcommittee for the purpose of visiting UCLA and reviewing pertinent questions, both of an administrative and scientific nature. A subcommittee consisting of Drs. Cohen (Chairman), Green, and Moseley plans to visit UCLA on January 22-23. The group will be accompanied by Dr. Totter and Mr. Stanwood. It met with the JCAE staff on January 13 for additional background information.

RADIUM DIAL WORKERS. Dr. Robley D. Evans has proposed a continuation of the radium dial workers' follow-up upon his retirement from the MIT faculty. Information pertaining to this was sent by Dr. Totter to the ACBM several weeks ago. Dr. Totter inquired whether the desirability of continuation of such an extensive study should be reviewed by the ACBM or by an ad hoc group constituted by the National Academy of Sciences. The Committee recommended the latter but noted that DBM should suggest possible members of the ad hoc group to the Academy. It was suggested further that the Division of Radiological Health, U. S. Public Health Service, should be asked to join with the AEC in the request to NAS for an advisory panel.

LAWRENCE AWARD. Dr. Green did not participate in the discussion, the Committee being chaired by Dr. Cohen. The credentials of the various candidates were reviewed and the following were recommended for the

1968 Award (radiobiology) in order of priority: 1) John B. Storer, 2) Warren K. Sinclair, 3) Paul E. Morrow.

ROLE OF DBM AND ACM

The Committee discussed in rather general terms the possible future role of the DBM and, in doing so, it also considered its own role. Apropos of the latter, it was felt that the ACBM has been too preoccupied with "reacting to problems" and that more thought should be given to the anticipation of problems and of areas of inquiry that might be relevant to the interests of the Commission. The possible effects of krypton from fuel reprocessing was cited as an example of "looking ahead". It was suggested that DBM should designate topics and areas of possible future interest that might merit review in depth by the Committee. The ACBM in turn should do likewise. A meeting of the ACBM and DBM program directors was also suggested as a possibly useful way of delineating problems and charting future directions. What is needed is an informed judgement of the future uniqueness of the DBM program in relation to national goals.

The Minutes of the 121st meeting were approved as circulated. The 123rd meeting will be held on March 8-9, 1968, at either Western Reserve or Michigan State University.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Harvey M. Patt
Scientific Secretary
Advisory Committee for Biology
and Medicine, AEC