

British Biophysical Society

Minutes of the 9th meeting of the Steering Committee

The 9th meeting was held at 6, Gray's Inn Square, W.C.1. on Friday 5th May 1961 at 2.30 p.m.

Present: Professor J. A. V. Butler (Chairman)
Professor D. D. Eley
Professor A. F. Huxley
Dr. J. W. S. Pringle
Professor J. T. Randall
Professor F. J. W. Roughton
Sir Gordon Sutherland
Dr. J. C. Kendrew (Secretary)

Apologies for absence were received from Dr. L. H. Gray and Dr. P.M.B. Walker.

1. Correspondence. The Secretary reported that he had received a letter from the Secretary of the Joint British Committee for Electron Microscopy, asking if the Society would be prepared to act as a sponsor of a one day symposium on the Physics of Sectioning and the Embedding Process, to be held on Friday 14th July at the University of Nottingham. The Committee agreed to share in the sponsorship of this meeting, and to circulate information about it to the membership in the next Bulletin to Members (if published in time).
2. Meetings of the Society
 - a. Report on the meeting at Birkbeck College, 25th April.

The Meetings Secretary reported that ten papers had been presented at this meeting, and that Professor Bernal had arranged for members to be shown the work of his laboratory. Thirty-seven members of the Society attended the meeting.
 - b. Future meetings
 - i. Nottingham Meeting, 26th July. The Meetings Secretary reported that so far seven members of the Society had registered for this meeting, and that no contributed papers had yet been offered. The programmes of the two symposia, on "Ploem transport in plants" and on "Electron transfer in biological molecules", were now complete, and it was decided that these should be circulated to the membership forthwith. h₁
 - ii. Meeting at the Royal Institution, 12th and 13th December, 1961. The Meetings Secretary reported that Sir Lawrence Bragg had agreed to act as host to the Society on this occasion, and that it was believed that Dr. David Green would be ready to act as Local Secretary. It was decided that there should be one symposium on Protein Structure,

together with a second symposium on a subject still to be determined. A sub-Committee was appointed to make the detailed arrangements; it was to consist of Professor Eley, Dr. Kendrew, Dr. David Green and one additional member who would be chosen when the subject of the second symposium was known.

iii. Edinburgh, April 1962. It was agreed to proceed with this meeting, and to ask Dr. P.M.B. Walker to make more detailed inquiries about it and to bring forward suggestions for symposia.

iv. Possible Meeting on Membranes. Professor Butler reported that the Biochemical Society would be holding a symposium on this subject on 9th March 1962 in Cambridge, and suggested that the British Biophysical Society might like to arrange a meeting in conjunction with this, dealing with the more physical aspects of the subject. Professor Roughton agreed to ask Dr. Glyn or Dr. R. H. Adrian to explore the possibilities of holding such a symposium, and said he would report back to the Committee.

c. General

i. It was agreed that the registration fee and the charges for accommodation of foreign visitors invited to speak at the Society's symposia would be paid automatically from the Society's funds.

ii. It was agreed that abstracts circulated to members of the Society should be accompanied by the following announcement:-

"The circulation of these abstracts does not constitute publication, and no reference may be made to them without the author's permission".

iii. The Secretary was asked to procure a Minute Book for the Society which would contain records of the Scientific Meetings of the Society, sets of abstracts, and minutes of business meetings.

3. Rules of the Society. The third draft of the rules of the Society was discussed, and various modifications were proposed. The Secretary was instructed to circulate a corrected version of these rules to the members of the Committee, and unless further points were raised it would be circulated to the membership before the Nottingham meeting, together with a statement that an opportunity of discussing the rules would be provided at that meeting with the object of arriving at a final version which would be ratified in December 1961, and that suggestions from members would be welcomed at this discussion.

4. Proposal to affiliate to the Biological Council. The Secretary reported that the Biological Council had invited the Society to affiliate to it. It was decided that this matter should be raised at the first Annual General Meeting of the Society.

5. International Biophysics Conference at Stockholm: Question of British Representative. Sir Gordon Sutherland was invited to approach Dr.

F. T. Farmer, Honorary Secretary of the Hospital Physicists Association, and Professor L. F. Lammerton, Honorary Secretary of the British Radiological Society, with a view to getting an agreed nomination of a British representative for proposal to the Council of the Royal Society. The Committee's candidate for this position was Professor Butler.

6. Papers on Applied Biophysics. The Meetings Secretary reported that he had been asked by a member whether contributed papers on topics in applied biophysics would be acceptable at meetings of the Society. It was agreed that such papers would be accepted at the discretion of the Organizing Committee of each meeting.
7. Applications for membership. A list of applicants for membership was tabled, and agreed in toto by the Committee.
8. Next Meeting. It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday, 26th July at 11.45 a.m. in Professor Eley's office in the New Chemistry Building, Nottingham University.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "A. Butler", with a horizontal line underneath it.