

THE OHIO JOURNAL OF SCIENCE

Vol. 66

JULY 1966

No. 4

MILESTONES: OHIO ACADEMY OF SCIENCE, 1891-1966¹

RALPH W. DEXTER, *Academy Historian*²

Kent State University, Kent, Ohio

1891. A state academy was suggested 3 November by William R. Lazenby at meeting of Ohio State University Biology Club and was founded as Ohio State Academy of Science 31 December at Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio; E. W. Claypole was elected first president, and W. R. Lazenby was elected first secretary.
1892. Academy was incorporated 12 March with 59 charter members; first summer field meeting was held at Akron in June; first annual meeting was held at Columbus in December; arrangements were made for papers and abstracts to be published in the *Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin* and the *Journal of the Cincinnati Society of Natural History*; first constitution was published; total of 116 members enrolled at end of first year; E. E. McMillin was elected first life member.
1893. First Annual Report was published; plans were made for a Natural History Survey of Ohio.
1894. Report of the Glacial Boulder Committee (G. F. Wright, Chairman) was published in the Annual Report.
1895. Summer field meeting was held jointly with Ohio Teacher's Association at Sandusky.
1896. Summer field meeting was held jointly with Indiana Academy of Science at Oxford; first efforts to initiate topographic survey of Ohio in cooperation with the U. S. Geological Survey.
1897. First effort was made for improvement of science teaching in public schools.
1898. First attempt to foster conservation laws resulted in passage of bill in Ohio Legislature for protection of game animals; Research Fund was established by Emerson McMillin with the first of a series of annual gifts of \$250 given to the academy until his death in 1922.

¹Manuscript received July 2, 1965.

²Acknowledgment is made to Dr. Richard A. Popham, President, and John H. Melvin, Executive Officer, of the Ohio Academy of Science, and to Dr. Lois Lampe, Ohio State University, for a critical reading of the manuscript.

Contrary to custom and in deference to the wishes of the Retiring President, the 1966 Presidential Address will not be published in *The Ohio Journal of Science* because it does not represent a scientific contribution. For those who may wish to see it, it has been printed in the May 13 issue of *The WRFD Commentator* (246 North High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43216), or a single copy may be obtained from Dr. Popham.

1899. Summer field meeting was held in conjunction with meetings of American Association for the Advancement of Science at Columbus; at annual meeting the audience was separated by subject matter for the first time; first research grants were awarded to four members; first committee report was issued on improvement of science education; first two *Special Papers* were published (No. 1, *Sandusky Flora* by E. L. Moseley; No. 2 *The Odonata of Ohio* by David S. Kellicott); membership reached 180.
1900. Bill for topographic survey initiated by the academy was passed by the Ohio Legislature; first appointment was made for trustees for research funds; first librarian was appointed (W. C. Mills); *Ohio Naturalist* was first published by the Biological Club of Ohio State University.
1901. A joint session was held with the Modern Language Association of Ohio.
1902. Forty papers were presented at annual meeting held in Columbus.
1903. *Ohio Naturalist* became official publication of academy; three *Special Papers* were published.
1904. First program committee was selected, with sectional representatives (Zoology, Botany, Geology, Anthropology, and Physical Science and Mathematics); first publication of *Proceedings of the Ohio State Academy of Science* appeared; special meeting of academy representatives was held with Allied Education Association of Ohio; *Ohio Naturalist* became official organ of Ohio Academy of Science.
1905. Last summer field meeting was scheduled and held jointly with the American Microscopical Society; a committee began working on plans for a natural history survey.
1906. Committee on Natural History Survey (Herbert Osborn, Chairman) gave first progress report and committee was enlarged; arrangements were made for revision of constitution.
1907. Membership reached 203; efforts were made to hold joint meetings with the Indiana Academy of Science, at intervals.
1908. Revised constitution was published, which made provision for separate sections; separate sessions were held for botany and geology; special program on "The Preservation and Development of Natural Resources of Ohio" was given by a committee on conservation which urged formation of a State Forestry Commission, a scientific investigation of water and aquatic resources, and creation of a State Conservation Commission; first patron was elected (C. E. Slocum).
1909. First three sections were created (Zoology, Botany, and Geology) with a vice president elected for each.
1910. New committee was appointed for Natural History Survey; F. A. Seiberling, President, Goodyear Rubber Company, spoke to Academy on "The Rubber Industry," and members visited rubber factories in Akron.
1911. Hon. Julius F. Stone gave an account of his personal trip through the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River; the presidential address was given by L. G. Westgate on "The Geological Progress of Twenty-five Years."
1912. Ohio Biological Survey was organized; Section of Physics was organized; T. C. Mendenhall was elected first honorary member.
1913. First *Bulletin of the Ohio Biological Survey*, initiated by the Academy, was published (*Syrphidae of Ohio*, by C. L. Metcalf); symposium was held on "The Quantum Theory of Matter and Energy."
1914. Name was officially changed to *Ohio Academy of Science* after ten years of informal use of modified name; *Ohio Naturalist* was enlarged in scope, and title was changed to the *Ohio Naturalist and Journal of Science*; presidential address was given by T. C. Mendenhall on "Some Pioneers of Science in Ohio."

1915. Twenty-fifth anniversary was celebrated at Ohio State University; series of lectures was given on progress over the past 25 years in each major science—Physics by Frank P. Whitman, Chemistry by William McPherson, Geology by Frank Carney, Botany by Bruce Fink, Zoology by Edward L. Rice, and Archaeology by G. Frederic Wright; historical sketch of the Academy was given by William R. Lazenby, founder; Constitution and by-laws were amended; the *Ohio Naturalist and Journal of Science* was renamed *Ohio Journal of Science*; libraries of Academy and Ohio State University Biology Club were deposited in the library of Ohio State University; total membership reached 254; number of papers read at meetings to date totaled 1124.
1916. Joint meeting was held with Ohio College Association and affiliated societies; annual spring meetings were initiated.
1917. Section was created for Physiology, Anatomy, Bacteriology, and Pathology.
1918. Name of new section was changed to Section of Medical Sciences; M.D.'s joined the section for the first time; symposium was held on "Science and the War"; Academy went on record as opposing the suppression of the teaching of German in public schools and colleges.
1919. Section of Psychology was organized; membership classification of Fellow was established.
1920. Academy became affiliated with American Association for the Advancement of Science; Committee was appointed to cooperate with state authorities to develop a policy toward the preservation of native flora and fauna; election of first Fellows held; Emerson McMillin was elected a patron.
1921. First report of Committee on Preservation of Wildlife published, and the name of committee was changed to Committee on State Parks and Conservation.
1922. Arrangements were made for publication of the annual presidential address in the *Ohio Journal of Science*; Conservation Committee recommended establishment of State Commission on Parks.
1923. Duties of Conservation Committee were broadened in an amendment to the constitution; honorarium was established for the Secretary; McMillan Prize was established.
1924. Name of Section of Physics was changed to Section of Physical Science.
1925. McMillan Grant Fund was established; membership reached 396.
1926. Physical Science Section began joint meetings with the Central Ohio Physics Club; organization of Advisory Council on State Parks and Conservation was announced by the state government, following recommendation of the Academy; Ethel M. Miller was placed in charge of Academy exchanges of publications.
1927. Advisory Committee was appointed to consult with State Forester on matters of wildlife conservation in state forests.
1928. Theme of annual meeting: Relation of Physics to Biology.
1929. First efforts were made toward establishment of a junior academy, under direction of C. G. Shatzer; Ohio Legislature provided for a State Commission of Conservation, partly in response to influence of the Academy.
1930. Arrangements were made to publish Annual Report of the Academy in the *Ohio Journal of Science*.
1931. Joint meeting of the Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky Academies of Science was held at Miami University; membership of Academy reached 663, with 162 Fellows; arrangements were made for *Ohio Journal of Science* to be published and controlled jointly by the Academy and the Ohio State University.

1932. Section of Geography was created; first District Science Conference for high school students was held in Springfield under direction of C. G. Shatzer.
1933. Section of Chemistry was created; weekly radio programs on science (June through April) were sponsored by the Academy.
1934. Name of Section of Physical Science was changed to Physics and Astronomy (name of co-sponsor was changed to Ohio Physics Club).
1935. Symposium was held on "Chemistry in Biology"; resolution was passed to encourage the Ohio Division of Conservation to enforce laws protecting birds of prey.
1936. Plans were laid for a semicentennial celebration; membership dropped to a low of 385.
1937. Contributions by the American Association for the Advancement of Science to the Research Fund began; invitational address, "Science and Higher Learning," was given by Otis Caldwell, General Secretary, A.A.A.S.
1938. Section of Mathematics was created; Academy membership increased to 500.
1939. Constitution was revised; Council was organized; interest in a junior academy was renewed.
1940. Fiftieth anniversary celebration (Golden Anniversary) was held at Ohio State University; symposia were held on "Hearing," "Basic Factors in Conservation," "Radiation and the Cancer Problem," "The Nervous System," and special programs were held for Chemistry-Physics, Genetics in Speciation, and Botany; the presidential address, "A Present-day Examination of the Postulates of John Dalton," was given by William L. Evans. Other special addresses were given on "Sound Patterns" by Harvey Fletcher, "Forests on a Changing Earth" by R. W. Chaney, "Application of Airplane Photography to Geographic Studies" by J. L. Rich, and "Industry and Science" by Charles F. Kettering; history of the Academy was outlined by James P. Porter. Junior Academy of Science was created under the direction of Charles W. Jarvis with a trial meeting of 65 students. During the 50 previous years of the Ohio Academy of Science, 3,829 papers and lectures had been given at Academy meetings.
1941. Exchanges with the *Ohio Journal of Science* reached 435 (153 domestic; 282 foreign); first Academy Historian, William H. Alexander, was appointed.
1942. Section of Anthropology was created.
1943. Honorary membership was revived (limited to five at one time), and three persons were elected—W. H. Alexander, E. S. Moseley, and Herbert Osborn; members who joined the armed services of the United States were given cost-free memberships for the duration of the war.
1944. Name of Section of Botany was changed to Section of Plant Sciences; a complete and historical account of the Research Fund of the Academy was published in the Annual Report by Herbert Osborn.
1945. Revised constitution, published in the Annual Report, incorporated recent amendments; annual meeting for 1945 was canceled because of wartime restrictions on travel.
1946. Committee was appointed to revive the Junior Academy.
1947. Plans for reorganization of the Junior Academy were proposed by Frederick H. Kreckler and his committee; membership reached 700.
1948. Section of Science Education was created, the Junior Academy was reactivated, and the *Ohio Academy of Science Newsletter* was founded under the guidance of F. H. Kreckler.
1949. First Annual District Science Day meetings (five districts) were held, and first Annual State Science Day took place at Denison University under the plan of organization.

1950. Name of Section of Anthropology was changed to Section of Anthropology and Sociology; Subsection of Conservation was organized; informal organization of Ohio Flora Committee was established; membership reached 1,080.
1951. *Ohio Journal of Science* Award for Excellence in Research was established; Committee for Ohio Flora was formally organized with E. Lucy Braun, Chairman; "A Brief History of the *Ohio Journal of Science*" was published by Glenn W. Blaydes.
1952. Section of Conservation was created at meeting held at Kent State University; first *Ohio Journal of Science* Award for Excellence in Research was given to E. R. Caley; symposium on "The Trapping of Solar Energy," Energy," sponsored by Section of Chemistry, was published in the *Ohio Journal of Science*.
1953. Subsection of Genetics was created jointly by Sections of Zoology and Plant Sciences; a director of public relations was authorized; 15 members of the Junior Academy were awarded Ohio Academy of Science scholarships; Ohio Section of American Physical Society met with the Section of Physics and Astronomy (which has been traditional); Ohio Psychological Association met with the Section of Psychology; Ohio Folklore Society met with the Section of Anthropology and Sociology; Ohio Wildlife Management Association met with the Section of Conservation; C. F. Kettering gave personal gift of \$500.
1954. Revised constitution was approved; annual series was initiated for winners of Junior Academy conservation projects to appear before the Section of Conservation for interviews.
1955. Treasury of the Junior Academy was united with that of the Senior Academy to concentrate all financial matters in the hands of the Academy Treasurer; first Director of Public Relations was appointed; certification of science teachers was discussed at length; C. F. Kettering gave personal gift of \$750; membership reached 1,223.
1956. Ohio Flora Project officially was created by the Ohio Flora Committee; arrangements were made for first committee on training and certification of science teachers; C. F. Kettering made personal gift of \$1,000.
1957. Grant of \$12,000 was obtained from National Science Foundation for support of Ohio Woody Plant Project, E. Lucy Braun in charge; G. G. Acker was appointed Executive Secretary for the Junior Academy; H. A. Cunningham was appointed chairman of the first committee on training and certification of science teachers; Paul Rothemund was appointed chairman of first committee on institutional and corporation members.
1958. Ten District Science Day meetings were held on tenth anniversary of the Junior Academy; Local Science Day programs became affiliated with the Junior Academy; title of *Newsletter* was changed to *Ohio Academy of Science News*; committee was appointed to study matter of employing a full-time Executive Secretary; C. F. Kettering Foundation gave \$15,000 for support of Academy program.
1959. Kenneth B. Hobbs was appointed as first full-time Executive Secretary; central office for Academy was established at Battelle Memorial Institute; a new seal was designed for the Academy; Science Day Award was given for the first time; entries to the State Science Day Program was limited for first time by space restrictions; first brochure was issued to publicize program of the Junior Academy; new series of *Bulletin of the Ohio Biological Survey* was established.
1960. Section of Genetics was created; membership reached total of 1,537; office of president-elect was created; grant was received from National Science

Foundation for operation of Science Day Program and to establish the Visiting Scientists Program under direction of W. A. Manuel; C. F. Kettering Foundation gave second grant of \$15,000 for support of Academy program; Distinguished Service Citation was awarded to F. H. Krecker for his service to the Junior Academy.

1961. *The Woody Plants of Ohio* by E. Lucy Braun was published under auspices of Ohio Flora Project and the National Science Foundation; title of Executive Secretary for the Junior Academy was changed to Director of the Junior Academy; *Handbook of Science Days and Directory of Science Days* in Ohio was published; first general session for the Junior Academy at the annual meetings was organized; third grant of \$15,000 was received from C. F. Kettering Foundation; affiliation with Ohio College Association was arranged; Frederic H. Krecker Awards were given for first time.
1962. John H. Melvin was appointed Executive Secretary; patron membership was given to the C. F. Kettering Foundation; state-wide meeting was held for scientists and industrialists on "Radioisotopes as New Tools for Ohio Industry," cosponsored with the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, Battelle Memorial Institute, et al.; series of lectures was given to talented high school students in the Cincinnati area, cosponsored with the American Association for the Advancement of Science; Junior Academy took part in the Ohio State Fair in Columbus for first time; total membership reached 1,916; dues were raised to \$6.00.
1963. Government Advisory Committee (R. P. Goldthwait, Chairman) was appointed for first time; Newsletter *OASIS* (Ohio Academy of Science Information Sheet) was founded; constitution was revised; Academy received \$23,000 from National Science Foundation for 1962-63 Visiting Scientists Program; received \$7,735 from National Science Foundation for support of Junior Academy Program; received \$12,073 from Southwestern Ohio Industrial Foundation for science scholarships awards; received \$5,000 from Kettering Foundation for support of Academy program.
1964. Plans were made for support of undergraduate research, and provisions were made to include such studies at the annual meetings; State Science Day was operated on Saturday separate from the Senior Academy meeting; Academy received \$5,000 from Department of Health, Education, and Welfare for a Science Youth Congress at Youth Center, Ohio State Fairgrounds, in Columbus, June 1964; student research program was established at Center of Science and Industry (selected exhibits from State Science Day); special committee for "follow-up" study of winners at State Science Day exhibitions was established; an educational consultant (Hobart H. Bell) was employed; a liaison person (George W. Burns) between the Academy and the Center of Science and Industry was appointed; Academy received grants from National Science Foundation to continue the Visiting Scientists Program and the Junior Academy Program, and to organize an Undergraduate Development Program (J. H. Melvin and H. H. Bell, Directors); membership reached 2,203, and 61 corporation and institution members were enrolled; cash flow exceeded \$100,000 for the year.
1965. First reports based on undergraduate research were given at Annual Meeting held at Ohio University; title of Executive Secretary was changed to Executive Officer; arrangements were made to mimeograph Annual Report and distribute to membership rather than publish it in the *Ohio Journal of Science*; reestablishment of Section of Mathematics was voted by Council.
1966. Seventy-fifth Anniversary Celebration was held at Ohio State University; special events were held at various Ohio colleges and universities in celebration of 75th year of the Ohio Academy of Science.

SOURCES

- Alexander, W. H.** 1941. The Ohio Academy of Science (mostly historical). *Ohio J. Sci.* 41(4): 287-311.
- Blaydes, G. W.** 1951. A brief history of the Ohio Journal of Science. *Ohio J. Sci.* 51(4): 205-206.
- Dexter, R. W.** 1960. The summer field meetings of the Ohio Academy of Science (1891-1905). *Ohio J. Sci.* 60(5): 262-265.
- . 1961. Science education and the Ohio Academy of Science—an historical review. *Ohio J. Sci.* 61(4): 235-241.
- . 1962. Conservation and the Ohio Academy of Science—an historical review. *Ohio J. Sci.* 62(5): 274-280.
- Kreckler, F. H.** 1950. The Ohio Junior Academy of Science. *Ohio J. Sci.* 50(6): 301-304.
- Lazenby, W. R.** 1915. Historical sketch of the Ohio Academy of Science. *Proceed. Ohio Acad. Sci.* 6(5): 277-283.
- Ohio Academy of Science.** 1893-1903. Annual Report (published by the Academy).
1904-1930. Proceedings (published by the Academy).
1931-1965. Annual Report (published in the *Ohio J. Sci.*).
- Osborn, H.** 1944. The research fund of the Ohio Academy of Science. *Ohio J. Sci.* 44(5): 213-218.
- Rice, E. L.** 1916. Ohio Academy of Science quarter-centennial anniversary. *Ohio J. Sci.* 16: 109-112.
-