

ANALYSIS OF SESSION ATTENDANCE AT SPRING MEETING

One of the questions that arose during the Council's study of the relationship of the Society to the Federation was, "How many members attend sessions other than those of the APS and how many members of other Societies attend APS sessions." There have been speculations and a great deal of guessing but no factual data with which to answer this question.

The Federation is also anxious to obtain factual information on the total attendance at various types of sessions as well as cross attendance between Societies and has agreed to conduct a survey at the 1961 Spring meeting. It will be done somewhat as follows.

Each Society will have a different colored badge that can be spotted easily in an audience. Those registering will be issued a colored badge corresponding to the Society of their choice. Each session chairman will have a co-chairman or an assistant who will take several spot checks of attendance during the session by noting the numbers of different colored badges in the audience.

Each registrant will be issued a post card upon which he is to record the sessions he attended each day. At the end of the week the card is to be mailed to the Federation office in Washington, D.C.

If the Spring meetings continue to grow as they have in the past few years some plan of staggered meetings, prolonged meetings, etc. must be devised. If staggered meetings are to be planned, with which Society should the APS meet simultaneously -- with which Society or Societies does the APS have the greatest crossover? The data collected in this survey may help form the basis for some plan for future meetings. If the data are to be meaningful it is imperative that everyone cooperate. Questionnaires and report forms always are a nuisance but if the APS is to provide its members with better meetings your cooperation is earnestly requested.