NOTES

A Note on Walford's Transformation

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WALFORD[2] determines the asymptotic maximum of growth of an organism (or population) in the following manner. If size measure at successive ages N is plotted along an abscissa and size measure at successive ages N+1 along an ordinate, the points of intersection will form a linear function, say L_1, with slope less than unity. The line N=N+1, say L_2, will be the line of no growth; i.e. if size at age N+1 is the same as size at age N, no growth has occurred. The intersection of these two lines represents the desired asymptotic maximum for growth.

But L_1 is a line whose parameters are estimated from random variables and therefore which is itself a random variable. Often the slope of L_1 is so similar to that of L_2 that the random fluctuation of L_1 makes the desired point of intersection uncertain.

In general, if N+k, k a positive integer, is plotted against N, the same asymptotic maximum will occur, but L_1 will have slope sufficiently deviant from that of L_2 to permit confidence in the asymptotic maximum. k is chosen as the smallest integer assuring sufficient deviation.

[1] University of Hawaii and Pacific Oceanic Fishery Investigations. Manuscript received August 7, 1958.

[2] WALFORD, LIONEL A. A new graphic method of describing the growth of animals. *Biological Bulletin* 90(2): 141–147.

News Note

THE TENTH PACIFIC SCIENCE CONGRESS

The Pacific Science Congresses are held under the auspices of the Pacific Science Association. The Association was founded in 1920 by the holding of the First Pan-Pacific Scientific Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii.

A number of institutions and organizations, from 1900 on, planned and worked towards the systematic exploration of the Pacific, but the direct action resulting in this first Pacific science congress came from the Committee on Pacific Investigations of the U.S. National Research Council and its predecessor under the National Academy of Sciences, the Committee on Pacific Exploration.

The work of the Committee between 1916 and 1919 brought out the complexity of the problem, and a plan for a conference at which representative scientists from Australia, New Zealand, Java, China, Japan, Canada, continental U.S. and Hawaii, and the Philippines might be present.

The committee accepted the proposal that the conference might meet in Honolulu in 1920 under the auspices of the Pan-Pacific Union—a Hawaii organization devoted to developing friendly relations among the different nationalities of the Pacific. The program of the conference was arranged through