

It is not necessary for me to express an independent appraisal of the WMO classification, but simply to agree with W. A. Baum (page 245) when he states that these distinctions are "... found abhorrent by most academic meteorologists." Nevertheless, these distinctions are used throughout the **Proceedings** and should not deter you from reading many of the excellent papers containing original suggestions for improving our higher education and training of meteorologists.

The **Proceedings** are divided into seven sections consisting of opening speeches and introductory lectures, education and training of Class I meteorological personnel, education and training of Class II meteorological personnel, training of research personnel, training methods and facilities, general problems of meteorological education, and reports by chairmen of the sessions.

The opening speeches contain the normal amenities associated with an international conference followed by several excellent speeches authored by Van Mieghem, Sutcliffe, and Garcia. Sutcliffe makes several excellent points especially when he notes on page 27 that, "Academics are scholars, intellectuals and research workers deeply devoted to the pursuit of learning and happy that students should gather wisdom at their feet by listening to such lectures as can be prepared without serious interference with their life's work. On the whole, when scientists or scholars are gathered together, the talk runs readily to matters of learning, but rarely for long to problems of teaching." The increasing interest in course evaluation in American universities suggests that this balance may be shifting toward teaching.

Sessions II and III are comprised of a series of papers on the university education and training of meteorologists. Representatives were heard from Canada, United Kingdom,

Hungary, United States, USSR, Kenya, Iran, United Arab Republic, Germany, Nigeria, Italy, and Barbados. These papers occupy half of the **Proceedings** and contain numerous hints for department chairmen and faculty interested in improving their meteorology curriculum.

Session IV was a brief series of four papers on the training of research personnel and representatives contributed from Iran, USSR, and the U. S.

Session V contained discussions on training methods and facilities and representatives from the U. S., USSR, Brazil, Iran, and Israel presented their ideas. Programmed audio-visual instruction (Jaffe, Israel) is a new and potentially very useful technique.

Session VI treated anything not previously covered and was appropriately entitled "General problems of meteorological education." The U. S., USSR, WMO, Yugoslavia, and Algeria were represented in these discussions. At this point, almost 300 pages into the **Proceedings**, you may be wishing for a succinct series of statements to isolate the many ideas and interrelated thoughts from the sessions. Hence, we have Session VII, Reports by the chairmen of the previous sessions. Session VII, contrary to its position in the book, should be read first. Here Sessions I-VI are summarized by Miller (U. S.), Gagin (USSR), Van Mieghem (Belgium), Dady (France), Garcia (WMO), Winn-Nielsen (U. S.), and Sutcliffe (U. K.). Their summaries provide the key to the reader searching for ideas, particularly new ones for application to his own research or teaching methods.

These **Proceedings** offer ideas and thoughts for the improvement of your own department curriculum, research, or teaching. In view of this, I would recommend the **Proceedings** to anyone who has concern for and a serious interest in the education and training of meteorologists.

—Richard E. Orville

## necrology

### Belton O'Neal Evans

1915–1971

Belton O. Evans, retired Major of the United States Air Force, died on 24 November 1971. Before his retirement from the Air Force in 1963, Maj. Evans was stationed at Chennault Air Force Base, La., where he supervised the operation of a weather station supporting domestic and intercontinental flights. He also served as forecaster and weather reconnaissance officer in the Air Force, which he joined in 1948.

Maj. Evans received the B.A. degree from the University of California at Los Angeles in meteorology in 1948. He joined the American Meteorological Society in 1961. Maj. Evans' last address was 1277 Chaucer Lane, N.E., Atlanta, Ga. 30319.

### Richard Patrick Nyren

1918–1971

Richard P. Nyren, retired United States Air Force major, died 5 November 1971. He studied engineering at Lowell Institute School from 1936–1943, and in 1952 received a certificate from the Massachusetts Vocational Teachers College. Maj. Nyren received his meteorological training at the Chanute Air Force Base Weather Officer School and the Advanced Weather Officer School in 1947 and 1948.

Before joining the Air Force, Maj. Nyren was an instructor in the Apprentice School of the Boston Naval Shipyard. After a career of over 25 years in the Air Force, stationed in such various places as Kansas City, Kans., and Alaska, he retired in 1966.

Maj. Nyren joined the American Meteorological Society in 1948 and was active in the Farthest North and Kansas City Chapters of the Society between 1960 and 1965. He is survived by his wife at 3 Louise Dr., Foxboro, Mass. 02035.