

**Organization of Inland
Biological Field Stations**

**Newsletter
No. 12
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Report on Symposium Plans

During my trip to Washington last week, I found that our symposium plans would have to be modified, and I am requesting by this letter that we follow a plan as outlined below. The reasons are several, but primarily Bio-Med in the NSF is desirous of obtaining information that is current on inland and marine field stations, that will be helpful in trying to obtain a set line-item figure for support of these sorts of facilities, and for museums over the country. Thus information is mandatory, and I committed myself to helping prepare a new report that will hopefully help obtain funds for the future.

In so doing, it became apparent that the report could best be handled by requesting AIBS to propose to NSF that funds be made available for the preparation, and for the symposium that would then follow. The time table would be something like this: the report would be worked on this winter, and be presented by late spring. The information then would be made available to field station personnel, and a symposium held in August (at the time of the AIBS meeting) rather than November as we had originally thought best. This would mean that the results of the discussions could be made available to NSF prior to the time their budget request goes in, in September; you can see that November would be too late to be effective.

Please respond to this new schedule, remembering that the later symposium probably would not be funded, whereas the earlier one might. Also, it would be helpful to get your reactions to my having made the commitment to help prepare the report without getting your permission.

Finally, I wish to report that the results of the balloting for adherence with AIBS are: Yes - 15, No - 10. I readily admit that this figure does not represent anything like a great majority of eligible voters, but unless more ballots are submitted to change the picture very soon, I shall have to declare the balloting closed and that we do indeed affiliate with AIBS.

M. Dale Arvey

Be on the lookout for questionnaire requesting your needs in all phases of development, research, and teaching. Please answer.