

THE FRANCIS AMORY SEPTENNIAL PRIZE OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

IN compliance with the requirements of a gift under the will of the late Francis Amory, of Beverly, Mass., the American Academy of Arts and Sciences announces the offer of a septennial prize for outstanding work with reference to the alleviation or cure of diseases affecting the human genital organs, to be known as the Francis Amory Septennial Prize. The gift provides a fund, the income of which may be awarded for conspicuously meritorious contributions to the field of knowledge "during the said septennial period next preceding any award thereof, through experiment, study or otherwise . . . in the diseases of the human sexual generative organs in general." The prize may be awarded to any individual or individuals for work of "extraordinary or exceptional merit" in this field.

In case there is work of a quality to warrant it, the first award will be made in 1940. The total amount of the award will exceed ten thousand dollars, and may be given in one or more awards. It rests solely within the discretion of the academy whether an award shall be made at the end of any given seven-year period, and also whether on any occasion the prize shall be awarded to more than a single individual.

While there will be no formal nominations, and no formal essays or treatises will be required, the committee invites suggestions, which should be made to the Amory Fund Committee, care of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, 28 Newbury Street, Boston, Massachusetts, U. S. A.

BROADCASTING BY SCIENCE SERVICE

SCIENCE SERVICE is broadcasting regularly on a definite schedule, presenting a 15-minute program each Thursday afternoon from 4:00 to 4:15. The program is carried by the Columbia Broadcasting System sustaining network.

The plan of the programs is to present each week a well-known speaker, who is interviewed on the air by Watson Davis, director of Science Service. The programs deal with new and interesting developments in science, and the interview is made as simple and clear as possible, since many school children are among the listeners. A copy of the program is offered to any one requesting it by mail; and the requests range from several hundred to over a thousand each week.

Science Service regards radio as an important medium for interesting the public in the aims and achievements of scientific research. It began its broadcasting activities in 1924 and has been continuously on the air ever since.

Shortly after WCAP, operated by the Chesapeake

and Potomac Telephone Company, opened its studio in 1924, officials of the station approached the National Research Council with a request for scientific talks at weekly intervals. The Research Council asked Science Service to cooperate, and a committee was appointed to take charge. The first programs were talks by Washington scientific men. In 1926, the station was sold to the RCA, and the science talks continued for a time over station WRC and about 20 other leading stations. Between 1926 and 1930, guest speakers were presented more or less irregularly.

Meanwhile, however, in 1926, Science Service began a Science News of the Week program, prepared as a mimeographed talk for use by local announcers. This program, available to individual stations, has been widely used ever since that year, particularly by educational stations.

In 1930, Science Service began its regular weekly presentation by well-known scientific men over the nationwide network of the Columbia Broadcasting System. These programs were in the form of talks until December, 1935, when the interview type of program was introduced, under the radio editorship of Miss Emily C. Davis, of the staff of Science Service. Science Service does not act as sponsor for any single broadcast or series of broadcasts. Its radio activities are entirely scientific and educational.

THE CHEMISTS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

DR. WALTER S. LANDIS, vice-president of the American Cyanamid Company, with which he has been associated since 1912, has been elected president of the Chemists' Advisory Council, Inc., and Dr. William T. Read, dean of the department of chemistry at Rutgers University, has been elected vice-president. M. R. Bhagwat, who has been secretary of the Chemists' Unemployment Committee, is secretary, and Robert T. Baldwin, secretary of the Chemists' Club of New York and treasurer of the American Chemical Society, is treasurer. The council is the outgrowth of the Chemists' Unemployment Committee, formed six years ago to alleviate distress among unemployed chemists and chemical engineers. It will function nationally as a permanent agency to promote the general welfare of these groups. Headquarters have been established at 300 Madison Avenue, New York City. The council will take over the work of the Chemists' Unemployment Committee, of which Frank G. Breyer, of Singmaster and Breyer, consulting chemists and chemical engineers, is executive chairman. Chronic difficulties in the chemical profession will be studied, and an attempt will be made to suggest methods of reducing the number unemployed in the industry. The council will also serve as a fact-finding committee and central registration office for chemists and chemical engineers.