

slightly soluble in the membrane and the solute does the diffusing, from a region where its concentration is high to one in which its concentration is low.

This explanation serves to amplify the explanation given by Osterhout and Murray, who say that the phenomenon is due to the fact that the "acid increases the solubility of water in the guaiacol phase," indicates the way in which this increased solubility is brought about, does away with the apparent violation of the laws of thermodynamics, and suggests possible limitations in the applications of this model to biological phenomena.

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### NATION-WIDE JUNIOR SCIENCE CLUBS

THE scientific attitude and scientific investigation have their beginnings in the lower grades of our secondary schools. Evidence of this appears in the desire of junior-high-school and high-school students to take part in scientific activities outside of regular school hours. The natural desire is to join a science club. Many of these science clubs are to-day well endowed in both leadership and facilities with which to work, so that they often make definite contributions to science. However, even before they finish their introductory work in science, secondary school students are being called upon to realize the application of scientific principles to every-day events, and to understand the position which science plays in the development of modern society.

During the past ten years, the American Institute of the City of New York has fostered the organization of its science clubs. This is a natural outgrowth of its efforts to relate science with society since 1828. Now, under the name of the American Institute Science and Engineering Clubs, it announces the expansion of its science clubs on a nation-wide basis to co-ordinate the scientific pursuits of American youth.

As a first step, the best youth organizations in the country have endorsed the plans. Already, educators everywhere are agreed that science is a natural and practical medium by means of which to stimulate and guide the thinking of young people. On October twenty-first, an introductory announcement of the new organization was sent to educators and their institutions, scientists, engineers and youth leaders, suggesting that they be sponsors of the clubs. This announcement presented the reasons for forming science clubs and explained how the American Institute Science and Engineering Clubs could perform the function of organizing existing and future clubs into one unit. The institute will supply upon request from these sponsors authoritative bulletins on "How to Organize a Science and Engineering Club," "How to Organize

a Science Congress," "How to Equip a Science Techniques Shop" and "How to Interest a Community in Science Club Work."

As a unifying influence and also as a clearing house of science news for youth throughout the country, the American Institute will publish monthly its own science newspaper, called *The Science Observer*. This journal will carry columns devoted to club activities, youth research projects and up-to-date news in science. A pictorial section will be a feature of the publication.

The present program of the institute clubs calls for its annual science congress on December 29, at which the well-known Christmas lectures will be presented.

In March the annual science fair will be held in the American Museum of Natural History. To this come some of the most significant products of the scientific activities of the clubs and individual students. Four groups of exhibits designed to relate science with modern life are presented: Transportation, communication, production and public welfare are each a class under the engineering group. Plants and animals, medicine and biochemistry, heredity and evolution form the biological sciences. In the third group, the physical sciences, such as geology, astronomy and pure physics and chemistry, are represented. Of great interest will be the leisure-time activities exhibits of the fourth group. Prizes to a total of \$3,000 are awarded to scores of exhibits at the fair.

Through the medium of traveling organizers, a speakers bureau and eventually short-wave radio, the work of the institute clubs will be organized as one national unit. Sponsors and other interested leaders may receive full information by writing to the American Institute, 60 East 42nd St., New York City.

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### OPPOSITION TO AN INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF PSYCHOLOGY IN VIENNA

WHEN the twelfth International Congress of Psychology, to be held in 1941, was awarded to Vienna, it was not supposed that within a few months Austria was to be annexed to Nazi Germany. The *Anschluss* took place on March 11, 1938. The reaction among American psychologists was immediate and unequivocal.

Six weeks after the *Anschluss* of Austria there occurred the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association at the University of Wisconsin on April 22. Resolutions were adopted after considerable discussion urging the removal of the 1941 congress away from Austria, because "Germany is now governed by a Nazi dictatorship, which has subordinated the integrity of science and of scientists to