

in touch with the principal or superintendent of their schools regarding details of the examination. The tests also will be administered by colleges and universities to their own students and to other high-school graduates in the vicinity.

The following will be eligible to take the test on April 2:

High-school or preparatory school graduates who will have attained their seventeenth but not their twentieth birthdays on July 1, regardless of whether they are attending college;

High-school or preparatory school seniors who will graduate by July 1 and who will be seventeen but not twenty years old at that time;

Students who are not high-school graduates, but who are continuing their education at an accredited college or university (the same age limits as above).

THE COPERNICAN QUADRICENTENNIAL

PROFESSOR HARLOW SHAPLEY, director of the Harvard Observatory, has accepted the chairmanship of the Copernican Quadricentennial National Committee, now being formed under the sponsorship of the Kosciuszko Foundation, of which Dr. Stephen P. Mizwa is director, to facilitate plans for the nationwide commemoration of the four hundredth anniversary on May 24 of the death of the great Polish astronomer, Nicholas Copernicus, and of the publication of his masterwork, "*De Revolutionibus Orbium Coelestium*."

A meeting will be held on the evening of May 24 in Carnegie Hall, New York City, at which Professor Shapley will preside. A number of distinguished speakers, including His Excellency, Jan Ciechanowski,

Ambassador of the Republic of Poland to the United States, will take part.

One of the most interesting features of the quadricentennial will be participation by the nation's leading planetariums. The Hayden Planetarium, at the American Museum of Natural History in New York, of which William H. Barton, Jr., is curator, will present a special planetarium program during the month of May, depicting the Ptolemaic and Copernican conceptions of the solar system.

Arthur L. Draper, director of the Buhl Planetarium and Institute of Popular Science at Pittsburgh, plans to exhibit in the Hall of Astronomy whatever exhibits are available and pertinent.

The Fels Planetarium of the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia, of which F. W. Schlesinger is director and Dr. Roy K. Marshall is assistant director, are planning a planetarium demonstration of the solar system, paying tribute to the life and works of Copernicus. This lecture demonstration will be entitled "*Systems of the World*," based upon Galileo's famous "*Dialogue on the Two Chief Systems of the World*," written in 1632. Rare library copies, owned by the Franklin Institute, of the first and second editions of Copernicus's "*De Revolutionibus*" and a first edition of Galileo's "*Dialogue*" will be on display. The Polish flag will fly above this case of books and other forms of tribute will be paid to the Polish Allies. On the evening of May 24, it is planned to have a special "*Polish Night*" at the Planetarium.

Dr. C. H. Clemminshaw, acting director of Griffith Observatory in Los Angeles, and Mrs. Grace P. Johnson, director of the Museum of Natural History of Springfield, Mass., also will arrange planetarium programs.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. ARTHUR B. LAMB, professor of chemistry and dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences of Harvard University, was presented on March 5 with the William H. Nichols Medal of the New York Section of the American Chemical Society for 1943 at a joint meeting of the section and the Society of Chemical Industry. The medal was awarded in recognition of "his investigations in inorganic and physical chemistry, his leadership in defense against poison gas, and as a teacher, administrator and editor." Professor Lamb's address was entitled "*The Role of the Journal of the American Chemical Society in the Furtherance of Chemical Research in America*." He has been the editor of the *Journal* for twenty-six years. Among the speakers who paid tribute to Dr. Lamb and his work were Dean Frank C. Whitmore, of Pennsylvania State College; Professor James W.

McBain, of Stanford University, and Dr. Charles N. Frey, chairman of the New York Section, who presided.

THE three hundred and eighteenth meeting of the Washington Academy of Sciences, which was held on March 18, was devoted to the presentation by the academy of its awards for scientific achievement for 1942. They are as follows: In the biological sciences, to Robert S. Campbell, U. S. Forest Service, "in recognition of his distinguished service in range research, particularly in the development of range utilization standards"; in the engineering sciences to Walter Ramberg, National Bureau of Standards, "in recognition of his distinguished service in research on the static and dynamic strength of structural elements, particularly in relation to aircraft," and in the physi-