

centage is due in a large measure to the educational campaign conducted by the American Chemical Society with the active cooperation of the Selective Service System constituted by law for such purposes, as its name implies.

Having outlined the problem and recorded two and one-half years of experience, I can reply now to the questions you have propounded.

If your suggested committee is to handle and give advice regarding the classification of chemists and chemical engineers, essentially the same as the committee which has been formed to advise in cases of physicists (Local Board Release 159), the American Chemical Society is prepared to function. We can readily present to you suggestions for its make-up from among the best chemists and chemical engineers in America—men who will serve without compensation from the War Manpower Commission or from the Government.

However, if it is the War Manpower Commission's proposal to form a committee of heterogeneous "engineers" to function for all "engineers," including those specifically trained chemically, we prefer to continue to serve America and the country's qualified chemical engineers as we have been doing. We do not believe that a heterogeneous committee of electrical, mechanical, civil, radio, sanitary and other engineers can hope to envision the problems of the chemical industry or those of the chemical engineers themselves, as could a committee composed of members of the chemical profession; nor do we believe that the War Manpower Commission or Selective Service itself would have equal confidence in its findings.

THE COPERNICAN QUADRICENTENNIAL

At the celebration in New York City on May 24 of the four hundredth anniversary of the death of Copernicus, messages were read from President Roosevelt and the President of Poland, Wladyslaw Raczekiewicz, now in London. Copernican citations were conferred upon a group of pioneers in science and civilization, nine of whom were Americans and one Chinese.

President Roosevelt's message was read by Professor Harlow Shapley. The President wrote:

Not only must great men and great nations be allowed to attain freedom. Liberty must be made progressively available to small states, to communities, and to the individual himself if humanity is to march forward into light and life. We must always remember that the creation and sweep of great liberalizing ideas may be the work of a single isolated individual, as in the case of Copernicus.

Dr. James Rowland Angell, president-emeritus of Yale University, was chairman of the committee on citations. Those honored with citations were:

Dr. John Dewey, "who has stimulated and enriched the thinking of his time in education, philosophy and in all arts of life."

Walter (Walt) Disney, "whose animated cartoons have delighted audiences the world over."

Professor Albert Einstein, "whose revolutionary concept of space, time and energy has transformed both science and philosophy."

Henry Ford, "for opening a new horizon to manufacture."

Dr. Ernest O. Lawrence, of the University of California at Berkeley, "inventor and builder of the most powerful engine of transmutation of the elements."

Dr. Thomas Hunt Morgan, of the California Institute of Technology, "author of a revolution in our knowledge of the causes and mechanisms of inheritance."

Igor I. Sikorsky, "pioneer aeronautical engineer who has created a helicopter of revolutionary implications."

Dr. Wendell M. Stanley, of the Rockefeller Institute at Princeton, N. J., "discoverer of a crystalline protein having all the characteristics of disease-producing virus, a concept revolutionary for the study and control of virus disease."

Orville Wright, "who fashioned wings for man and showed him how to navigate the ocean of the air."

Dr. James Y. C. Yen, of Chungking, who invented "a simple, easily mastered system of written Chinese whereby the book of knowledge has been opened to millions of previously illiterate minds."

PRESENTATION OF THE FIRST CHARLES L. MAYER AWARD

PRESENTATION of the first Charles L. Mayer Award of \$2,000 was made to Dr. Charles Huggins at the annual dinner meeting of the Board of Directors of the National Science Fund of the National Academy of Sciences, which was given on May 19 at the University Club, New York City. Dr. William J. Robbins, chairman of the fund, presided at the dinner and, following the citation for the award made by Dr. Peyton Rous, Dr. Frank B. Jewett, president of the National Academy of Sciences and a director of the fund, presented the award to Dr. Huggins. The citation reads:

The work for which Dr. Huggins is to receive the first Charles L. Mayer Award makes possible the alleviation of cancer of the human prostate in a large proportion of instances, with perhaps a permanent control in some cases. But its implications are more than practical; they stress a principle which has been little regarded. In searching for means to combat cancer most workers strive to exploit the difference of tumor cells from normal ones, and sometimes with success, as in the treatment of cancers of the skin by Roentgen rays, the tumor cells succumbing to exposures which healthy elements survive. Dr. Huggins has proceeded in the diametrically opposite way; he has played upon what is normal in the malignant cells, the remaining good in them as one might say, and they have responded. This response is a fact which reveals. Hence, with your permission, I will speak briefly concerning it. And with apologies to Dr. Huggins, for there are few occasions which put a scientist more justifiably on tenterhooks than when another attempts in his presence to point to the place in nature of his discoveries.