

THE FOURTH SCIENCE TALENT SEARCH

Forty high-school seniors, with a natural aptitude for science, will have an opportunity to earn at least a part of their college education this year when the Science Clubs of America sponsors its fourth annual Science Talent Search. Open alike to boys and girls, the search will enlist the aid of more than forty thousand high-school teachers and principals, who will supply students with necessary information for entering the competition and who will administer the tests.

As a result of these tests the sum of \$11,000 in Westinghouse Science Scholarships will be granted to at least ten and possibly to forty students, who will be named delegates to a five-day Science Talent Institute at Washington next March when the final competition for the scholarships will be held. All expenses will be paid. Scholarships may be applied toward a course in science or engineering at any college or university approved by a scholarship committee named by Science Service, which administers the search through the Science Clubs.

The Science Talent Search is conducted with the financial aid of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, which provides the scholarship awards as a contribution to the advancement of science in America. Any boy or girl who is a senior in a public, private or denominational secondary school may compete in the examinations.

The students who will be asked to attend the Science Talent Institute in Washington will be chosen on the basis of their showing in a series of qualifying requirements, including a statement written by the student on his own interests and ambitions; a written statement from his teacher on the student's aptitudes, ability and extra-curricular activities; a transcript of his scholastic records; and a thousand-word essay on the subject "My Scientific Project."

A three-hour science aptitude examination, designed to disclose the student's ability to understand and to reason, rather than to test his actual knowledge of science, will be given in the schools between December 1 and 27.

One boy and one girl will each receive Westinghouse Grand Science Scholarships of \$2,400 (\$600 per year for four years). Eight other contestants will receive 4-year scholarships of \$400 each (\$100 per year for four years). Additional scholarships amounting to \$3,000 will be awarded at the discretion of the judges. These are Dr. Harlow Shapley, director of the Harvard College Observatory; Dr. Stuart Henderson Britt, of Washington, and Dr. Harold A. Edgerton, director, Occupational Opportunities Service of the Ohio State University. Those unable to use their scholarships before entering war service will find them waiting for them when they return to civilian life.

Complete details can be obtained by writing to Science Service, 1719 N Street, N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

AWARDS SPONSORED BY THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF NUTRITION

NOMINATIONS are solicited for the 1945 award of \$1,000 established by Mead Johnson and Company to promote researches dealing with the B-complex vitamins. The recipient of this award will be chosen by a committee of judges of the American Institute of Nutrition, of which Dr. Arthur H. Smith, of Wayne University, is secretary, and the formal presentation will be made at the annual meeting of the institute at Cleveland on May 8, 1945.

The American Institute of Nutrition also will make the Borden Nutrition Award in recognition of distinctive research by investigators in the United States and Canada which has emphasized the nutritive significance of the components of milk or of dairy products. The award, which may be divided between two or more investigators, will be made primarily for the publication of specific papers, but the judges may recommend that it be given for important contributions over an extended period of time. Employees of the Borden Company are not eligible for this honor.

The formal presentation will be made at the annual meeting of the institute at Cleveland on May 8. To be considered for the award, nominations must be in the hands of the chairman of the nominating committee by January 15. The nominations should be accompanied by such data relative to the nominee and his research as will facilitate consideration for the award. Dr. Frederick J. Stare, Harvard Medical School, Boston, is chairman of the nominating committee.

AWARDS OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

DR. JAMES BRYANT CONANT, president of Harvard University, chairman of the National Defense Research Committee, as already announced in *SCIENCE*, was presented with the Priestley Medal of the American Chemical Society at a general meeting of the society in New York City, "in recognition of service to science and to the nation."

The American Chemical Society prize of \$1,000 was presented to Dr. Arthur C. Cope, associate professor of chemistry at Columbia University. Dr. Cope was cited for "outstanding research in organic chemistry."

Dr. Conant was Sheldon Emery professor of organic chemistry at Harvard University when he became president of the university in 1933. He had taught chemistry at Harvard since he completed his work for the doctor's degree in 1916. In 1932 he won

the William H. Nichols Medal of the New York Section of the American Chemical Society for "notable achievement in original research." He was the recipient of the Charles Frederick Chandler Medal of Columbia University in 1932, and of the Medal of the American Institute of Chemists in 1934. After receiving the Priestley Medal Dr. Conant delivered an address on "Science and the National Welfare."

Previous recipients of the Priestley Medal, named for the discoverer of oxygen and given every three years, have included the late Dr. Ira Remsen, president of the Johns Hopkins University; the late Dr. Edgar F. Smith, provost of the University of Pennsylvania; the late Dr. Francis P. Garvan, president of the Chemical Foundation of New York; Dr. Charles L. Parsons, of Washington, D. C., secretary of the American Chemical Society; the late Professor William A. Noyes, of the University of Illinois; Professor Marston T. Bogert, of Columbia University; and Dr. Thomas Midgley, Jr., of the Ethyl Gas Corporation, president of the American Chemical Society.

The investigations of Dr. Cope were said to be of timely value in the field of plastics and drugs. He is now engaged in war work, one of his principal tasks being the orientation and coordination of a program involving chemists and biologists. The citation reads in part:

The interest of Dr. Cope in organic chemistry has been wide. The more than thirty papers which he has published are characterized not only by sound and mature experiments with difficult reactions, but also by a high order of independence of thought. Of the several valuable studies, the series on vinyl and allyl types is classical.

The highly creative work involved in the synthesis of vinyl substituted active methylene compounds and the rearrangement of allyl groups in these types is of the greatest importance theoretically in throwing new light on the general field of condensation reactions and rearrangements. These studies are also of timely value in the broad fields of plastics and drugs.

The American Chemical Society Prize, provided by Alpha Chi Sigma, national scientific fraternity, was founded in 1931 by the late A. G. Langmuir. Previous recipients were Linus Pauling, Oscar Knefler Rice, F. H. Spedding, C. Frederick Koelsch, Raymond M. Fuoss, John Gamble Kirkwood, E. Bright Wilson, Jr., Paul Doughty Bartlett, Lawrence Olin Brockway, Karl A. Folkers, John Lawrence Oneley and Kenneth Sanborn Pitzer.

THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY AND THE UNIVERSAL OIL PRODUCTS COMPANY

OWNERSHIP of the Universal Oil Products Company

of Chicago, one of the leading research and development companies of the country, will pass to the American Chemical Society under the terms of a gift announced at the annual dinner of the American Chemical Society by Dr. Thomas Midgley, Jr., president of the society.

The value of the Universal Oil Products Company is estimated at from \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000. The income, which will be used for research under the direction of the society, is approximately \$1,000,000 a year. The owners of the company have offered to give all their stock and securities to the society. The board of directors has accepted the offer in principle, and has appointed a special committee to complete the final details.

The Universal Oil Products Company is owned by six of the largest oil companies of the United States. These are the Phillips Petroleum Corporation, the Shell Oil Company, the Standard Oil Company of California, the Standard Oil Company of Indiana, the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey and the Texas Company. Dr. Midgley stated further that

when the gift is completed the American Chemical Society will become a hundred per cent. owner of the company. The gift is made with the provision that the entire income therefrom shall be used by the society at its discretion for research in the fields of science relating to the oil industry.

Results of the research will be published and made available to the public without payment. The donors will have no rights to such results greater than those of the public at large.

The society will use the income to foster public welfare and education, aiding the development of our country's industries, and adding to the material prosperity and happiness of our people.

The owners of the Universal Oil Products Company have advised the American Chemical Society that they have assured the company that no plan will be adopted involving its dissolution, nor will any action be taken that will affect its welfare. It will continue with its research and development efforts and continue to render the same service to the refining industry, especially its licensees, who number approximately one hundred. In other words, there is no intention to jeopardize the existence of the company nor the services it renders.

The Universal Oil Products Company is presently devoting its entire efforts to a large part of the aviation gasoline program which comes under its jurisdiction and supervision. This program involves six basic processes of which there are approximately seventy-five installations in successful operation in the different refineries scattered throughout the nation.