

# News of Science

## New AAAS Advertising Manager

Earl J. Scherago, former Chicago district advertising manager for *Analytical Chemistry*, has been appointed advertising representative for the two AAAS journals, *Science* and *The Scientific Monthly*, effective 1 July. Scherago, a Cornell University chemistry major, whose graduate studies were divided between bacteriology and electron microscopy, previously served for 5 years as technical representative for the Aloe Scientific Co., distributors and manufacturers of laboratory instruments. The Association has established an advertising office at 11 W. 42 St., New York 36, which will be under Scherago's direction.

## Petition to the President

Four physicians have announced that a petition urging fundamental changes in the Federal security program has been presented to President Eisenhower. It is signed by more than 1500 leading medical men. Paul Klemperer, professor of pathology at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, Edwards A. Park, emeritus professor of pediatrics at Johns Hopkins University Medical School, Bela Schick, emeritus professor of pediatrics at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, and John F. Fulton, professor of the history of medicine at the Yale University School of Medicine released the text of the petition on 12 June. At that time they stated:

"The petitioners, who include some of the most eminent figures in American academic and research medicine, protest the harmful effects of the Program in discouraging 'the participation of highly qualified physicians in research projects and programs vital to the health of the nation.'"

The petition cites the case of John Punnett Peters [*Science* 121, 838 (24 June)]. It does not deal with specific aspects of the Peters case, but the petitioners strongly uphold the principles stated in Peters' appeal to the court. The four physicians who released the statement said that since the court did not deal with the constitutional matters contained in the brief, it becomes all the more important that the President make

the fundamental and necessary modifications in the security program so that the nation's health will in no way be jeopardized by arbitrary and restrictive procedures. The petition reads in part:

"As citizens, we are deeply troubled by these departures from traditional American methods of adjudication, which are rightly regarded as essential elements of our democratic heritage. As physicians, we are more particularly concerned by the discernibly harmful impact of such proceedings upon our special field of work. . . .

"We therefore urge you, Mr. President, to give serious consideration to this petition which we hope may be instrumental in initiating needed changes, to the end that a security program may be devised which while fully protecting the security of our nation, more adequately safeguards the interests of individuals— who, after all, compose the nation."

The petition was initiated by 53 prominent physicians, and it was subsequently signed by medical men in 38 states, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, and Alaska. Although the document was submitted to the President some weeks ago, the signers withheld public announcement of their action until the Supreme Court had ruled on the related matter in the case of Peters. This delay in public release was motivated by a desire not to prejudice a pending judicial matter.

The initiating sponsors of the petition are Murray H. Bass, Mount Sinai Hospital, New York; Allan M. Butler, Harvard; William B. Castle, Harvard; Benjamin Castleman, Harvard; Stanley Cobb, Harvard; Katherine Dodd, University of Arkansas; J. Russell Elkinton, University of Pennsylvania; John F. Fulton, Yale; James L. Gamble, Harvard; Alfred Gellhorn, New York; Harry Greene, Yale; Charles M. Grossman, Portland; Emile Holman, Stanford; Charles A. Janeway, Boston; Paul Klemperer, Columbia; Louis Leiter, New York; Leo Mayer, New York; J. Howard Means, Boston; Max Michael, Jr., State University of New York; Carl V. Moore, Washington University; Hugh Morgan, Vanderbilt; Edwards A. Park, Johns Hopkins; Ephraim Shorr, New York; William C. Stadie, University of Pennsylvania; Eugene A. Stead, Jr., Duke; Joseph Stokes, Jr., University of

Pennsylvania; Somers H. Sturgis, Boston; Alfred H. Washburn, University of Colorado; Paul D. White, Boston; W. Barry Wood, Jr., Washington University; I. Ogden Woodruff, New York; S. Bernard Wortis, New York; Edward Young, Boston.

Russell L. Cecil, Cornell; David Crocker, Western Reserve; Dana L. Farnsworth, Harvard; James M. Faulkner, Boston University; Jacob Fine, Boston; Harry Goldblatt, Cleveland; Louis S. Goodman, University of Utah; Harry H. Gordon, Johns Hopkins; Chester M. Jones, Harvard; Samuel A. Levine, Boston; H. Houston Merritt, Columbia; Richard M. Peters, University of North Carolina; Grover F. Powers, Yale; Lawrence J. Roose, New York; Bela Schick, New York; Benjamin Segal, New York; Milton J. E. Senn, Yale; Kenneth Sterling, Syracuse; Jay Tepperman, Syracuse; Maurice B. Visscher, University of Minnesota.

## Scopes Anniversary

Thirty years ago this summer world attention was focused on Dayton, Tenn., where a young science teacher, John T. Scopes, was on trial for teaching evolution, a crime under the laws of the state. William Jennings Bryan, three times the Democratic candidate for President and a fundamentalist believer in the Bible, served as chief counsel for the prosecution. Chief counsel for the defense was the agnostic, Clarence Darrow, then the nation's greatest criminal lawyer. Assisting Darrow was Arthur Garfield Hays, the eminent attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union who died last year.

Early in 1925 the ACLU announced that it wanted to test the Tennessee anti-evolution statute, and it was a Tennessee friend of the union, George Rappleyea, who persuaded Scopes to press his case. The \$10,000 needed to finance the defense was raised chiefly through an appeal to members of the AAAS.

Scopes was convicted and fined \$100, but the Tennessee antievolution law, which is still on the statutes, has been dead ever since. Darrow may have lost his case, but he won a victory that has a permanent place in history.

A successful play about the Scopes trial, *Inherit the Wind*, opened recently in New York. In his review, Walter Kerr of the New York *Herald Tribune* said: "The intellectual positions are there, 'the right to think' versus the right of the State to make laws prohibiting discussion. . . . The outcome of the battle . . . is known; if the battle itself, in other forms, continues to be fought in 1955, there is still no suspense about the nature or validity of the point. . . ."