

came not only the important fact that 200,000 students of college ability did not intend to enroll in colleges during the present academic year, but also a body of other data as well.

### Edison Foundation Awards

■ The Thomas Alva Edison Foundation inaugurated its presentation of annual awards to encourage more wholesome influences for youth in the mass media at a dinner that was held on 13 Dec. at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York. Awards that were given for encouraging the interest of young people in science and in scientific and engineering careers were as follows: the best science film for youth, *The African Lion*, Disney Studios; the best science television program for youth, *Mr. Wizard*, Don Herbert of the National Broadcasting Company; and the best science radio program for youth, *Adventures in Science*, Watson Davis of Science Service.

Two other awards that relate to science were the one that was given for the best children's film, the Swedish film *The Great Adventure*, and the special citation that was made to the American Broadcasting Company for outstanding work in drawing public attention to the shortage of scientists and engineers.

### News Briefs

■ The U. S. Food and Drug Administration has granted permission for the use of Aureomycin as a preservative for uncooked poultry. This is the first time use of an antibiotic has been permitted on a food. Approval was given when no more than seven parts per million of Aureomycin remain on treated uncooked poultry. The decision to allow this amount of residue was based on evidence that cooking of poultry destroys this concentration of the antibiotic.

■ The first technological research center in Colombia has been established in Bogotá with the aim of broadening the nation's economic structure. The center was set up by the Agricultural Industrial and Mining Credit Bank of Colombia, with the aid of Armour Research Foundation of Illinois Institute of Technology.

■ Dag Hammarskjöld, Secretary-General of the United Nations, on 8 Dec. sent to President Eisenhower a copy of the first of the 16 volumes of the Proceedings of the International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy to arrive from the printers. He has likewise sent a copy to Homi J. Bhabha of India. This first volume to be published is vol. 3 on power reactors.

■ The Soviet Union has legalized abortion for the first time in almost 20 years, according to an announcement on 30 Nov. in the government newspaper *Izvestia*. There has been a new annual population increase of 3 million persons that has more than offset the wartime depopulation.

Abortion in the Soviet Union has had a varied history. Between the Bolshevik Revolution and 1936, abortion was freely practiced, especially in major cities. With the onset of a more conservative trend, a legal ban was rigidly enforced. At present, it is felt that the government's drive to increase the birth rate through bachelor's taxes, family allotments, and other devices has met with success.

### Scientists in the News

EDGAR S. MCFADDEN, agronomist at Texas A & M Agricultural Experiment Station, was awarded the John Scott medal for his origination and development of the first rust-resistant bread wheat. The award is administered by the Philadelphia Board of Directors of City Trusts and is given to "ingenious men and women who make useful inventions."

It has been stated that because of McFadden's work, 25 million people are eating who otherwise would be dead or dying of starvation and that during the war years he saved American farmers an estimated 400 million dollars. McFadden received the medal, accompanied by a premium of \$1000, on 27 Dec. during the AAAS annual meeting in Atlanta, Ga. Presentation was made at the close of the general symposium on Atomic Energy and Agriculture.

EDMUND W. SINNOTT, dean of the Yale University Graduate School and president of the AAAS in 1948, will retire on 30 June. Sinnott, a scientist, educator, and author, is a specialist in botany. In recent years he has become widely known for his attempts to synthesize the results of scientific research and religious thought into a unified philosophy, a philosophy that evaluates the role and responsibilities of scientists in modern life.

Sinnott is a graduate of Harvard University. He joined the Yale faculty in 1940 as Sterling professor of botany and chairman of the university's botany department. Five years later he became the first director of the university's Division of the Sciences, and at the same time assumed the post of director of the Sheffield Scientific School. Despite his heavy administrative load, he has continued to conduct research and to hold a limited teaching schedule.

Sinnott received his Harvard degrees

in 1908, 1910, and 1913. From 1908 to 1912 he was Austin teaching fellow and assistant in botany at Harvard, and for the next 2 years he served as instructor in the Harvard Forestry School.

From 1915 to 1928 he was a member of the faculty of Connecticut Agricultural College, serving as professor of botany and genetics, after which he moved to Barnard College as professor of botany. He joined the Columbia University faculty in 1939, the year before he went to Yale.

Sinnott, in addition to his long connection with the AAAS, is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi, American Philosophical Society, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He was president in 1945 of the American Society of Naturalists, and in 1937 he was president of the Botanical Society of America. He also served on the Board of Managers of the New York Botanical Gardens from 1933 to 1940, and from 1926 to 1932 was editor-in-chief of the *American Journal of Botany*.

ALLEN O. GAMBLE has been appointed project director of the National Register of Scientific and Technical Personnel in the National Science Foundation. For the past 9 years Gamble has been with the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, where he directed the recruitment, examination, training, and performance-reporting programs of the NACA.

ROBERT R. WILLIAMS, chairman of the Williams-Waterman Fund for the Combat of Dietary Diseases, Research Corporation, New York, received the annual William Procter prize for scientific achievement on 29 Dec. during the AAAS meeting in Atlanta, Ga. The \$1000 award, which is administered by the Scientific Research Society of America, was presented to Williams immediately after he had delivered an address at the AAAS general session that was sponsored by RESA. He spoke on "Chemistry as a supplement to agriculture in meeting world food problems."

FREDERICK BELLINGER, chief of the chemical services division of the Engineering Experiment Station at Georgia Institute of Technology, has been selected by the United Nations to serve as an adviser to the Egyptian Government in the establishment of an industrial research program under a project arranged by UNESCO.

RUSSELL F. MILLER, former research assistant at the University of Wisconsin, has been appointed associate professor of biochemistry at Virginia Polytechnic Institute.