

tax credit for every \$1 given to institutions of higher learning by individuals and corporations. In the case of an individual, this credit would be limited to 10 percent of his adjusted gross income if he takes the standard deduction or uses the short form for his tax return, or 30 percent if he itemizes his deductions; in the case of a corporation the limit would be 5 percent of taxable income. Within these limits it would, in effect, cost the taxpayer nothing to contribute to education. Chancellor Furnas estimates that a plan such as that proposed by Congressman McDowell will yield approximately \$2 billion for higher education.

Under provisions of the bills introduced earlier this year by Thompson and Murray, the flow of funds to education would be increased by allowing all taxpayers to subtract from their tax payments 91 percent (52 percent for corporations) of the amount they had contributed to institutions of higher education within an upper limit of 15 percent (10 percent for corporations) of their adjusted gross income.

Administration Opposed

Reports on the bills from the governmental departments will almost without question be unfavorable. Previously proposed legislation, particularly that concerned with tax credits for college tuition, has revealed the Administration's position on such measures. The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare has opposed such tax credit measures on the grounds that they are inconsistent with good public policy. In the department's view, support of bills such as the McDowell and Thompson proposals would constitute an abdication of responsibility. Public funds, the department feels, should be disbursed by the elected representatives of the people—the Congress—on the basis of criteria set up to meet the educational needs of the country as a whole. Otherwise, in the administration's view, there would be no guarantee that particularly needy educational institutions would receive the support they require. Tax revenues that are now being used to support such nationwide programs as that set up through the National Defense Educational Act would, the department feels, be donated to institutions preferred by the individual taxpayer.

The Treasury Department opposes tax credit bills of this type on the simple grounds that they deprive the federal government of funds due it under present income tax laws. If, as Furnas sug-

gests, a bill based on his proposals will bring in \$2 billion to educational institutions, it will also divert that much revenue from the government.

Opposition on these grounds, which apply equally to the McDowell and Thompson bills, will probably result in strongly unfavorable reports from the departments. How will these reports influence the two committees to which the bills have been referred? To judge from past response to measures of this nature, only a heavy and concerted drive in Congress could make the current bills into law. There is little evidence that such a drive is in preparation.

Committees Named for Science Writing Awards

Ten representatives from the fields of journalism, science, and education have been named to administer the recently established AAAS-Westinghouse Science Writing Awards. The ten, who will compose the screening and judging committees, will select the best science writing, exclusive of that in medicine, to appear in the nation's newspapers and general magazines during the current contest year. The writer of the best science story in each of the two types of publications will be awarded \$1000. The awards will be presented at the annual meeting of the AAAS in Chicago in December.

The judges are: Graham DuShane, editor of *Science*; Earl English, dean of the school of journalism at the University of Missouri; Caryl Haskins, president of the Carnegie Institution of Washington; James A. Linen, publisher of *Time*; Morris Meister, president of Bronx Community College; Alan T. Waterman, director of the National Science Foundation; and J. Russell Wiggins, vice president and executive editor, *Washington Post and Times Herald*, and president of the American Society of Newspaper Editors.

The screening committee has the following members: Hillier Kriegbaum, department of journalism, New York University; Sidney Negus, department of biochemistry, Medical College of Virginia; and James Stokley, school of journalism, Michigan State University.

The AAAS-Westinghouse Science Writing Awards were established to give recognition and encouragement to outstanding science writing, to stimulate public interest in science, and to foster a deeper understanding of the significance of science by the general public.

The AAAS, the National Association of Science Writers, and Westinghouse cooperated in setting up the awards, which are supported by a grant from the Westinghouse Educational Foundation.

Entries in the newspaper competition must have been published between 1 October 1958 and 30 September 1959; in the magazine competition, entries must have appeared in editions dated between October 1958 and September 1959 inclusive. To be eligible, all entries must be posted before midnight, 10 October 1959, and must have been published in a newspaper or magazine within the United States.

Inquiries about the competition and requests for entry blanks by entrants or their editors should be addressed to: Graham DuShane, Administrator, AAAS-Westinghouse Science Writing Awards, 1515 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington 5, D.C.

"Takuyo Maru," Another "Lucky Dragon"?

Last July the Japanese Coast Guard vessel *Takuyo Maru* abandoned a scientific survey in the South Pacific after encountering radioactive rain 186 miles outside the danger zone for the United States Eniwetok nuclear test area. Now Hirokicho Nagano, 34, chief engineer of the survey ship, has died of leukemia. The Associated Press quotes Japanese officials as having said on 5 August:

"We cannot announce the cause of death now because it is a very delicate matter that could cause international repercussions. There will be an announcement later."

A spokesman for the Atomic Energy Commission reports that the medical question of whether or not the leukemia can be traced to the incident is under investigation. At the time of the accident, American and Japanese physicians examined the crew and found no evidence of harmful radiation, although some of the men had suffered a decrease in white blood corpuscles. Nagano was one of these.

There have been no continuing medical studies because the levels of exposure were considered to have been very low. However, a definite figure is not available since the *Takuyo Maru* did not carry instruments for measuring radioactivity. In fact, last summer Japanese newspapers were sharply critical because the vessel had been sent into the area without a Geiger counter.

Nagano's death may well grow into

an international issue such as that precipitated by the death in 1954 of Aikichi Kuboyama, one of 23 men aboard the Japanese fishing boat *Lucky Dragon*, which was dusted with radioactive fallout from a United States nuclear test at Bikini. In compensation, the United States paid Japan \$2 million.

The impact of the current incident is intensified by the timing, for announcement of the death came just before the anniversary on 6 August of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, which killed at least 100,000 people. Now, 14 years later, 90,000 are still under medical care. The tragic moment, 8:15 A.M., is marked in Hiroshima by tolling bells and a mass meeting at a memorial built in an area known as Ground Zero. This year, as in others, the bells also signify the opening of the World Convention Against Nuclear Weapons, attended by delegates from all over the world.

Radiation in Industry

An international conference will convene in Warsaw, Poland, on 8 September to discuss the application of large radiation sources in industry, particularly in industrial chemical processes. The meeting, which is being organized by the International Atomic Energy Agency, will last 5 days and will be attended by more than 200 delegates from all parts of the world. This will be the first major scientific conference to be held by the agency to promote the peaceful use of nuclear radiation.

The U.S. Atomic Energy Commission has announced that the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies is coordinating U.S. participation. A committee set up by ORINS recommended papers for oral presentation; however, all abstracts were transmitted to the IAEA, which made the final selection. Approximately 20 papers from the U.S. will be read.

Scientists in the News

Colonel FRANK M. TOWNSEND, the senior pathologist of the U.S. Air Force, has been appointed director of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, Washington, D.C. He succeeds Captain WILLIAM M. SILLIPHANT, M.C., U.S. Navy.

RONALD SINGER, professor of anatomy at the University of Capetown, Union of South Africa, will serve for a year as visiting associate professor in the

department of anatomy at the University of Illinois College of Medicine. He succeeds C. W. M. PRATT, lecturer in anatomy at Cambridge University, England, who has returned home after a year's stay. Singer is serving at Illinois in the absence of JAMES C. PLAGGE, who is completing his second year with the International Cooperation Administration as a medical educator in Saigon, Vietnam.

JOHN P. GILLIN, professor of anthropology and research at the University of North Carolina, has been appointed dean of the Division of Social Sciences and professor of anthropology at the University of Pittsburgh, effective 1 September.

HENRY E. BENT, dean of the graduate faculty and professor of chemistry at the University of Missouri, will head the graduate fellowship program of the National Defense Education Act, effective in September. The graduate fellowship program is designed to increase the number of college teachers and to expand and promote wider geographical distribution of graduate-school facilities.

ROBERT PERLOFF, director of research and development at Science Research Associates, Inc., Chicago, Ill., has been appointed associate professor of psychology at Purdue University.

NORMAN H. RICKER, formerly senior research physicist at Carter Oil Company, Tulsa, Okla., has been appointed professor of physics at the University of Oklahoma, Norman.

NORMAN H. SULKIN, professor of anatomy and acting chairman of the department of anatomy at the Bowman Gray School of Medicine, Wake Forest College, Winston-Salem, N.C., has been appointed chairman of that department.

ARNOLD A. ZIMMERMANN, professor of anatomy at the University of Illinois College of Medicine, will retire on 1 September as professor emeritus. A noted embryologist and anatomist, he received his D.Sc. in Geneva, Switzerland, in 1921. He had been affiliated with the Hooper Foundation in California, the Mayo Clinic, and the Loyola College of Medicine in Chicago before joining the University of Illinois in 1929. His research has included studies on the embryology of the lymphatic system, the comparative anatomy of vascular systems, developmental cardiac

anomalies, and the development of the rattle in rattlesnakes. Zimmermann will continue to teach, in the department of anatomy at Baylor University Medical School and at the University of Texas Dental Branch in Houston, Tex.

HILARY KOPROWSKI, professor of research medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, has been awarded the 1959 Alvarenga Prize of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia for his research on the development of a living attenuated virus vaccine against poliomyelitis.

JOSEPH H. BURCKHALTER, head of the department of pharmaceutical chemistry at the University of Kansas School of Pharmacy, has been appointed professor of pharmaceutical chemistry at the University of Michigan's College of Pharmacy, effective September 1960. He will succeed F. F. BLICKE, who will retire on 30 June 1960.

JACOB L. GEWIRTZ, psychologist with the Laboratory of Psychology, National Institute of Mental Health, Bethesda, Md., will be on leave of absence, beginning 1 October, to serve as visiting professor of psychology at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel.

BLUE A. CARSTENSON, training consultant to the California State Hospital, Stockton, and the California Department of Mental Hygiene, has been appointed specialist for education on aging in the Office of Education, U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Washington, D.C. He will also serve as technical director for the education panel of the White House Conference on Aging.

JACOB H. CONN, practicing psychiatrist and assistant professor of psychiatry at the Johns Hopkins University Medical School, has been elected president of the National Society for Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis.

Colonel JOHN A. NORCROSS, U.S. Air Force, has been appointed industrial physician in the health protection branch of the Atomic Energy Commission's Division of Biology and Medicine.

STANLEY L. LEE, director of hematology at Maimonides Hospital, Brooklyn, N.Y., has been appointed associate professor of medicine at the State University of New York Downstate Medical Center, Brooklyn.