

R. Markle Foundation of New York. Each appointment carries with it a \$30,000 grant, to be paid to the medical school where the scholar will teach and do research. The grant will be spent at the rate of \$6000 a year and will be used for the scholar's support and to aid his research for the next 5 years.

There were 58 candidates nominated for the grants by medical schools this year. Five committees composed of educators and other professional men helped to select the 25 scholars, whose appointments will begin on 1 July.

The foundation was established in 1927 by the late John Markle, Pennsylvania coal operator, "to promote the advancement and diffusion of knowledge . . . and the general good of mankind." The scholar in medical science is now the fund's chief object of interest.

The new Markle scholars, most of whom are assistant professors or the equivalent, are as follows:

Gonzalo E. Aponte, Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, pathology; J. Thomas August, Stanford University School of Medicine, internal medicine; Dana C. Brooks, Cornell University Medical College, anatomy; Lamar E. Crevasse, University of Florida College of Medicine, internal medicine; John R. Evans, University of Toronto Faculty of Medicine, internal medicine; James J. Ferguson, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, internal medicine; and Robert A. Fishman, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, neurology.

John R. G. Gosling, University of Michigan Medical School, obstetrics and gynecology; Joseph A. Hinke, University of British Columbia Faculty of Medicine, anatomy; Charles H. Hollenberg, McGill University Faculty of Medicine, internal medicine; William D. Huffines, University of North Carolina School of Medicine, pathology; Frank L. Iber, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, internal medicine; and Stanley W. Jacob, University of Oregon Medical School, surgery.

Richard C. Lillehei, University of Minnesota Medical School, surgery; James F. Lind, University of Manitoba Faculty of Medicine, surgery; John G. Loesch, University of Illinois College of Medicine, psychiatry; Frank I. Marcus, Georgetown University School of Medicine, internal medicine; David S. Maxwell, University of California (Los Angeles) School of Medicine, anatomy; and Richard L. Naeye, University of Vermont College of Medicine, pathology.

Hubert C. Pirkle, University of Louisville School of Medicine, pathology; Frank R. Schmid, Northwestern University Medical School, internal medicine; Seymour I. Schwartz, University of Rochester School of Medicine, surgery; Daniel B. Stone, State University of Iowa College of Medicine, internal medicine; Ralph J. Wedgwood, Western Reserve University School of Medicine, pediatrics; and G. Rainey Williams, University of Oklahoma School of Medicine, surgery.

New Atomic Weight for Silver Announced by Standards Bureau

A more precise value for the atomic weight of silver has been determined by investigators at the National Bureau of Standards, U.S. Department of Commerce. The new value represents a major achievement in research and could affect the accepted atomic weights of other elements. In redetermining this important constant, a key value for gaging the atomic weights of other elements, the Bureau has obtained a value which differs significantly from that accepted in international scientific circles—107.873, as compared with the value of 107.880 that is now in use.

V. H. Dibeler, who with W. R. Shields and D. N. Craig conducted the research, points out that the experiments included the first comparisons with calibrated samples of known isotopic abundances. The redetermination was made as part of a recent redetermination of the faraday, a basic electrochemical constant.

Fuchs Interviewed in East Germany

Klaus Fuchs, who spent 10 years in British prisons for having given Western atomic secrets to the Soviet Union, is now deputy director of the East German nuclear research station in Rossendorf, near Dresden. Released from jail last summer, Fuchs is devoting himself to studying the reactions of known nuclear particles and directing construction of a pilot plant for industrial atomic energy.

At a recent press interview, when asked whether he would repeat his acts of espionage if he had a second chance, he is reported to have said: "It is hard to say. . . . The Soviet Union is on the right line. It is for peace. Whatever helps the Soviet Union is right."

The *New York Times* article of 18 February in which the interview was described mentions Fuchs' high praise of the young assistants who work under him at Rossendorf. He emphasized that they are "workers' children, educated under our system," and commented: "They would be the exception in capitalist countries. Here, they are the rule."

Like many other research and technical centers in East Germany, the Rossendorf institute has contacts with scientists abroad and exchanges scientific information. However, according to the *Times*, Fuchs expressed regret that there was very little exchange with American scientists, saying: "I hope that much more can be arranged in this direction."

News Briefs

Conquest award. The Columbia Broadcasting System's television program "Conquest," for which the AAAS serves as adviser, has received the 1959 award of the Edison Foundation as "the best science television program for youth."

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History of science. Yale University has announced that a department of the history of science and medicine is being established, which will offer both undergraduate and graduate courses, beginning next September. John F. Fulton, noted neurophysiologist and Sterling professor of the history of medicine, has been named chairman, and Derek J. deSolla Price, British scientist and historian, has been appointed to a newly created professorship in the history of science and has been named curator of scientific instruments. The new department will be part of both the Yale Graduate School and the School of Medicine and will replace the present history of medicine department, which operates chiefly within the medical school.

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Nuclear science institute. Fifty-one students, 47 from 18 foreign countries and four from the United States, are enrolled in the first session of the International Institute of Nuclear Science and Engineering that began last month at the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission's Argonne National Laboratory, Lemont, Ill. The institute replaces the former International School of Nuclear Science and Engineering, organized at Argonne in 1955. The curriculum at