

national Exchange of Persons, 2101 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington 25, D.C.

Monograph prizes. The American Academy of Arts and Sciences has announced that three \$1000 prizes are to be awarded to the authors of unpublished monographs—one each in the fields of the humanities, social sciences, and physical and biological sciences. A monograph is defined for the purposes of these awards as a “scholarly contribution to knowledge, too long for an article in a learned journal and too specialized for a general book.” Recipients of these prizes will be expected to make their own arrangements for publication.

The final date in 1960 for receipt of manuscripts by the committee on awards is *1 October*. Announcement of the awards will be made in December. Full details concerning these prizes may be secured on request by sending a stamped self-addressed envelope to the Committee on Monograph Prizes, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, 280 Newton St., Brookline Station, Boston 46, Mass.

Nature of man. A graduate scholarship competition will be conducted in conjunction with a seminar on science and the total nature of man, to be held 28–30 October at the Wainwright House, Rye, N.Y. Seminar participants will include K. F. Mather, E. W. Sinnott, J. Pelikan, K. Goldstein, A. Lowe, J. J. Sweeney, W. G. Pollard, R. N. Anshen, H. Margenau, R. Dubos, L. Eiseley, and H. R. Niebuhr.

Awards of \$1500, \$1200, and \$1000 will be made to the authors of the best essays submitted on the competition theme: “How Can New Frontiers of Science Further the Study of the Nature of Man?” Winners will be invited to attend the seminar.

The competition is open to graduate students only; they must state their institution of study, their status, and the name of their adviser. Essays must not exceed 5000 words and should include a summary paragraph of approximately 100 words. All papers should be sent to Mr. Weyman Huckabee, Secretary, Wainwright House, Rye, N.Y., by *1 July*. Awards will be announced by *15 October*.

The intent of the awards is to provide funds for continuing the formal education of the recipient. However, this provision does not apply to students who will complete their studies in *June 1960*.

News Briefs

Genetics symposium. A symposium on methodology in human genetics will be held at the University of Utah College of Medicine in Salt Lake City, 13–14 May, under the sponsorship of the Genetics Study Section of the National Institutes of Health. This is the first of three symposia on methodology in medical genetics. The succeeding meetings will be held at the Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, Me., 9–10 September, and at the University of Texas in Austin, 4–5 May 1961. The proceedings of each meeting will be published promptly as a separate volume.

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New book record. Scientists can keep track of newly published books in their special fields of interest through a monthly publication, the *American Book Publishing Record*, that has been released by R. R. Bowker Co., 62 W. 45 St., New York 36, N.Y. In the new magazine all entries from *Publisher's Weekly* are arranged by subject according to the Dewey Decimal Classification and indexed by author and title.

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Seismological observatory. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute has started construction of a new seismological observatory that will be a unit in the nationwide earthquake monitoring network reporting to the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.

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AEC indemnity problems. The Joint Committee on Atomic Energy has received its annual report from the Atomic Energy Commission on AEC indemnity arrangements and problems and on the activities of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards. The five parts of the report are “Indemnification of Licensees,” “Indemnification of Activities Conducted Under Contract With the Commission,” “Maritime Indemnity Problems,” “Problems of Foreign Indemnity,” and “Operations of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards.”

The Joint Committee hopes to hold public hearings on these subjects sometime during the week of *25 April*. Copies of the AEC report are available upon request to the Joint Committee.

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Nuclear power in India. India has accepted a Soviet offer to build a nuclear power station in that country. A scientific delegation headed by Homi J. Bhabha, chairman of the Indian Atomic

Energy Commission, will visit the Soviet Union in May or June to study the design and techniques of nuclear power stations operating there.

A United States delegation, led by Byron B. Kratzer, deputy director of the Atomic Energy Commission, is at present in India to explore the possibilities of U.S.-Indian collaboration in the development of peaceful uses of atomic energy.

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Sabin shifts to cancer. Albert B. Sabin of the University of Cincinnati will discontinue his work on poliomyelitis and viruses of other infectious diseases at the end of 1960 and turn his attention to cancer research. The university and Cincinnati Children's Hospital Research Foundation have received a joint grant of \$611,800 from the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare to support a 6-year research program headed by Sabin. He will study the possible relation of viruses to human cancer.

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Mortality data. Heart disease, cancer, strokes, and accidents accounted for 71 percent of all deaths in 1958, according to final data on 1958 mortality that have been released by the Public Health Service's National Office of Vital Statistics. The 1,647,886 deaths that occurred in 1958 constituted a national death rate of 9.5 per 1000 population, compared to a rate of 9.6 in 1957. The number of deaths and the rate per 10,000 population (figure in parentheses) for each of the four leading causes of death in 1958 follow: heart disease, 637,246 (367.9); malignant neoplasms or cancer, 254,426 (146.9); vascular lesions (chiefly strokes), 190,758 (110.1); and accidents, all forms, 90,604 (52.3) [motor-vehicle accidents, 36,981 (21.3)].

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Forest products. The golden anniversary of the U.S. Forest Products Laboratory, oldest research organization of its kind in the world, will be observed 2–4 June at Madison, Wis., where the institution was founded 50 years ago. Leaders in industry, government, and education will speak on various facets of research, past and future. In 1910 cooperative efforts of the University of Wisconsin and the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, brought the laboratory into existence when Congress refused various proposals to build a center for forest product research. The Forest Service was then headed by Chief Forester Gifford Pinchot.