

## GENERAL SCIENCE

# Science Clubs Abroad

Six hundred foreign science clubs affiliated with Science Clubs of America form the nucleus for international expansion of this movement.

➤ GROUPS of young people will be studying and working in science in many countries during the coming school year as a result of the impetus given to international science clubs by a conference held at UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in Paris.

Representatives from nine nations and reports from many other areas were received during a two-day meeting (July 15-16). Leaders of science youth organizations working in many lands and languages became acquainted and exchanged experiences.

The American experience developed through years of experience with Science Clubs of America and the Science Talent Search formed the basis of the projected extension of science club work to all nations. The 600 foreign clubs already affiliated with Science Clubs of America form a nucleus for the international expansion of the movement.

In France, representatives of the national departments of education and colonial affairs, the French national radio, a leading science journal, a youth center and other interested organizations are discussing a joint sponsorship of the organization of science clubs for youth.

Czechoslovakia is planning science clubs in every secondary school during the coming year.

Denmark is expanding its youth science organizations and so is Holland.

For Latin America, UNESCO is planning a traveling exhibit to demonstrate the methods and advantages of science organization by young people.

Interest in science clubs was also reported from Poland, Switzerland, England and other nations.

Delegates and observers at the science clubs conference were presented the science Clubs of America emblem by Watson Davis, director of Science Service, who was elected chairman of the conference.

Director General Jaime Torres Bodet of UNESCO opened the conference, telling the delegates:

"Yours is the rare privilege of disseminating, humanizing and advancing the cause of science. It enables you to help train men who will be, not mere scientists, but citizens with deeper insight into the possibilities and dangers of the world today. Whether they make a name for themselves through far-famed discoveries or merely perform a more humble yet necessary task, the members of your clubs will have this

in common: They will together have fought against ignorance and prejudice, worked methodically with ever open minds, faithfully carried out their task, great or small, and with their deeper knowledge of the world about them, will better understand the bonds which unite mankind in a common destiny."

Dr. Pierre Auger, French physicist and cosmic ray authority, participated in the conference as the head of the natural sciences department of UNESCO.

Just as Science Service through Science Clubs of America supplies material and inspiration to between 12,000 and 15,000 science clubs in the USA each year, without charge, so an identical service without charge is being offered by Science Service to all science clubs, already organized or in the process of organization, in all countries.

An exhibition of science club work in various countries and a display of educational and industrial materials supplied to science clubs largely by American organizations was opened at UNESCO at the time of the conference.

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## FORESTRY

## Douglas Fir Bark Yields Waxes and Tannin

➤ WAXES for all sorts of waterproofing, and tannins for making leather, are available in large quantities in the little used bark of the Douglas fir stripped from the logs in the sawmills, a symposium on wood was told in Washington by Phimister B. Proctor of the Oregon Forest Products Laboratory. This symposium was sponsored by the National Research Council and the Office of Naval Research.

Taking part in the two-day symposium were many of the nation's experts on wood from industries, universities and the government. In spite of the development of new materials, such as plastics, wood is more important now than ever before. The scientists considered many questions relating to wood and its uses, particularly



**SCIENCE CLUBS ORGANIZED INTERNATIONALLY** — Dr. Jaime Torres Bodet, UNESCO director general, opens a UNESCO meeting in Paris to discuss an extension of the science club movement to all parts of the world. Left to right: B. Bendt-Nielson of Copenhagen, Denmark; Dr. Pierre Auger, head of UNESCO Natural Sciences Department; Dr. Torres Bodet; Borge Michelsen and Maurice Goldsmith, of UNESCO; and Jouko Haavisto of Helsinki, Finland.