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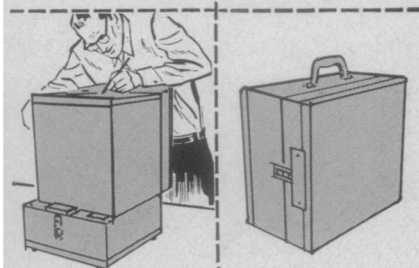


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GENERAL SCIENCE

Science Service Charter Urged by Fair Directors

► THE DIRECTORS of 219 science fairs throughout the United States went on record as advocating passage by the Senate of a bill chartering SCIENCE SERVICE to conduct science youth activities. The bill has already passed the House of Representatives.

Reiterating their stand of last year, those who operate the science fairs urged the continuance and expansion of this youth effort. More than 400 finalists participated in the NSF-I this year.

The bill the fair directors approved is H.R. 824, introduced by Representative Francis E. Walter (D-Pa.).

• Science News Letter, 83:324 May 25, 1963

GENERAL SCIENCE

National Science Fair Goes to Detroit in 1968

► DETROIT, Mich., will be the host city of the National Science Fair-International, May 8-11, 1968.

The invitation to hold the international event in Detroit was offered and accepted at the Albuquerque meeting of the National Science Fair Advisory Council. The excellent facilities available for the fair and the scientific activities in the area won the vote of the council.

The annual event is conducted by SCIENCE SERVICE with a different city as cooperative host each year. Preparations are under way for the 15th NSF-I in Baltimore, Md., in 1964. St. Louis will be the site of the Fair in 1965, Dallas in 1966 and San Francisco in 1967.

• Science News Letter, 83:324 May 25, 1963

PUBLIC HEALTH

Study Effects of Radium Levels in Drinking Water

► THE EFFECTS of high amounts of radiation in the drinking water for selected communities in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin will be studied during the next five years.

Dr. Luther L. Terry, Surgeon General of the U.S. Public Health Service, said the project is being conducted in cooperation with the Atomic Energy Commission. It will involve some 50,000 persons out of a population of 800,000.

The investigation is one of several being conducted or supported by PHS and AEC on radiation levels and their effects on health. Studies by the AEC's Argonne National Laboratory in Illinois have shown that water taken from deep wells in several areas of the Midwest contains more than usual amounts of radium.

Radium is a radioactive substance occurring naturally in the environment, and is a minor part of most water supplies. Its most common form is radium-226, which has a "half-life" of 1,620 years. This means that the amount of radioactivity of any given quantity of radium-226 decreases by one-half in this period of time. It tends to concentrate in bones and teeth.

• Science News Letter, 83:324 May 25, 1963

Questions

ASTRONOMY—What star is the brightest visible in the summer evening skies? p. 330.

BIOCHEMISTRY—What chemical essential to the human body has been recently synthesized? p. 323.

GENERAL SCIENCE—Where will the 1968 National Science Fair-International be held? p. 324.

MEDICINE—What cancer drug is now under investigation? p. 322.

PSYCHOLOGY—Why is paddling of school-children not recommended by psychologists and sociologists? p. 322.

SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

VOL. 83 MAY 25, 1963 NO. 21

Edited by WATSON DAVIS

The Weekly Summary of Current Science, published every Saturday by SCIENCE SERVICE, Inc., 1719 N St., N.W., Washington 6, D. C., NORTH 7-2255. Cable Address: SCIENSERV.

Subscription rates: 1 yr., \$5.50; 2 yrs., \$10.00; 3 yrs., \$14.50; ten or more copies in one package to one address, 7½ cents per copy per week; single copy, 15 cents, more than six months old, 25 cents. No charge for foreign postage. Change of address: Three weeks notice is required. Please state exactly how magazine is addressed. Include postal zone number.

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Printed in U.S.A. Second class postage paid at Washington, D. C. Established in mimeograph form March 13, 1922. Title registered as trademark, U.S. and Canadian Patent Offices. Indexed in Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature, Abridged Guide, and the Engineering Index. Member of Audit Bureau of Circulation.



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The Institution for the Popularization of Science organized 1921 as a non-profit corporation.

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