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INTERESTED OBSERVER—Dr. Carlos Vidal Box, chairman of the Spanish National Science Fair committee, inspects a student exhibit.

GENERAL SCIENCE

Science Fair in Spain

Exhibits from the far away Canary Islands and Spanish Morocco were included in Spain's first science fair for high school students held in Madrid.

► **THE FIRST SCIENCE FAIR** for Spanish secondary school students was held in Madrid (April 15 to May 1). A hundred displays of scientific projects made by the young scientists were seen by fellow students and the public.

Organized by the Spanish Ministry of Education, a half dozen of the most representative projects were selected by a jury of scientists for showing in the "Atoms in Action" exposition arranged by the U.S. and Spanish Atomic Energy Commissions, May 1 to 15.

The scientific experiments performed and displayed by the students composed the first such exhibition sponsored by the Spanish educational authorities.

The Spanish Ministry of Education responded to the request of the planners of the atomic exhibit to provide demonstrations prepared in the science classes of the schools throughout Spain and its possessions.

SCIENCE SERVICE, sponsor of the world-wide science youth program put at the disposal of the Spanish Education Ministry materials and methods facilitated by the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission.

The whole range of science from archaeology to zoology was represented in the student exhibits.

From schools in Madrid came exhibits in physics, electricity, geology, zoology and many other fields. From as far away as Spain's Canary Islands, several displays

were sent, one an experimental method of desalting the seawater to make it drinkable and another showing ancient pottery and human bones excavated from earlier civilizations. Spanish Morocco also sent student experimental displays.

While many visited the exhibition of their fellow student scientists, others attended lectures and demonstrations at the atomic museum especially erected at the University City to demonstrate the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

A reactor was seen in full operation and the wonders of the atom in medicine, industry and pure science were explained and shown.

Officials of the Spanish Education Ministry who arranged the fair in which all Spanish secondary schools were eligible to participate were: Secretary for Technology Antonio Tena Artigas, Dr. Aurelio de la Fuente, directing the Teaching Center, and Dr. Carlos Vidal Box.

U.S. Ambassador Robert F. Woodward and Dr. Leopold Arnaud and Dr. Richard Phillips, cultural attaches, represented the American Embassy.

The Spanish National Science Fair was the fifth to be held in connection with the AEC atomic exhibit in various countries, prior fairs having been organized with SCIENCE SERVICE cooperation by education ministries in Mexico, Chile, Colombia and Uruguay.

• Science News Letter, 85: 279 May 2, 1964

PSYCHOLOGY

Good Driver Drives Smoothly, Alertly

► A GOOD DRIVER is also a smooth driver, two Washington, D. C., psychologists believe.

The good driver sees what is going on around him, he knows how his car will behave, and he anticipates what is coming in the immediate future. Therefore he has less reason to make abrupt stops or turns to avoid unexpected obstacles.

These observations were reported by Miriam A. Safren, a research scientist, and Dr. Lawrence E. Schlesinger, associate professor of psychology, both of George Washington University.

Avoiding obstacles requires that the driver keep the zone in which he can come to a complete stop smaller than the field of his vision, they told the Eastern Psychological Association meeting in Philadelphia, Pa.

The driver should be ready for sudden obstacles such as parked cars, pedestrians and cars changing lanes beside him. He should adjust his speed to these conditions, as well as to fog and darkness.

To accomplish these, the psychologists said, the good driver must train his mind and his eyes. He can learn techniques of eye movement that help him see all of what is happening around him. These techniques differ from normal eye movements and must therefore be learned systematically.

The researchers suggested that drivers develop habits of planning and thinking in advance. If a driver plans to make a right turn in busy traffic, for example, he always should plan blocks ahead to be in the right lane.

• Science News Letter, 85:279 May 2, 1964



Science Service

AT THE OPENING—U.S. Ambassador Robert F. Woodward (left) and Director Aurelio de la Fuente Arana of the Spanish Ministry of Education Teaching Orientation Center participate in the opening of the First Spanish National Science Fair for secondary school science projects held at Madrid. Dr. de la Fuente headed the organizing committee.