

GENERAL SCIENCE

New A.A.A.S. President

Dr. A. J. Carlson, well-known Swedish-born professor of physiology at the University of Chicago, elected head of leading science association.

➤ THE VICTORY address of organized science in America may be delivered two Christmas seasons hence by a rugged, Swedish-born immigrant who has become one of the best-known of American researchers and teachers in physiology, Prof. Anton J. Carlson of the University of Chicago.

Prof. Carlson has just been elected president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, it is announced at executive headquarters of the Association. Normally, he would preside over a great midwinter joint meeting of the Association and a score or more of affiliated scientific societies, during the holiday week at the close of this year. A year later he would present a major address as retiring president.

The Association is holding no midwinter meetings for the duration; and even if Germany collapses during 1944 it is improbable that the load on the country's transportation system could be eased sufficiently by the end of the year to justify the holding of large conventions. But by the close of 1945, when his retiring presidential address will be due, it is just possible that the thousands of top American scientists may again be able to get together, celebrate the victory which their efforts have helped to bring, and discuss plans and hopes for the future.

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Science Future Bright

By PROF. ANTON J. CARLSON,
President, A.A.A.S.

➤ DESPITE man's global violence today, at no time in human history have the prospects of science, in the sense of increasing understanding and potential service to man, been brighter than they are for tomorrow. But if we expect man to adjust rationally and speedily to the new phase of our environment created by science, we must begin to give, through education, health, freedom and justice, as much attention to man as we

are now giving to chemistry, physics and the gadgets of engineering. For such a possible Victory Meeting, Prof. Carlson can supply a fitting keynote speech. He has an unbroken record of utter and outspoken hostility to the interference with research and suppression of teaching in the Nazi-Fascist lands. Uncompromising search for all the facts, and complete freedom to report and interpret them, constitute the first article of his scientific creed.

Prof. Carlson was born on a farm in Sweden, near Göteborg, in 1875. At sixteen, he emigrated to America, and for a time earned his living as a carpenter in Chicago. He attended Augustana College in Illinois, graduating there in 1898. In 1902 he received his Ph.D. from Stanford University.

Practically the whole of his research and teaching career has centered at the University of Chicago, where for 40 years his "What is the evidence?" has been a standing challenge to succeeding generations of students. Of recent years, he has disagreed from time to time with the educational policies of President Robert M. Hutchins, and has come to be informally recognized as leader of the faculty group representing the "loyal opposition." The very vigor of clashing opinions, however, has in itself been evidence of full enjoyment (and employment) of freedom of speech at the University of Chicago.

Science News Letter, January 15, 1944

are now giving to chemistry, physics and the gadgets of engineering.

Provided the coming peace is worthy of that name and does not engender greater injustice, violence and misery than are inherent in war itself, science can render even greater service in the regeneration of civilization than it is now giving to the war effort. But this calls for even greater persistence, perspicacity and patience on the part of all workers in science than has been displayed by us in the past.

We must raze the ivory tower, en-

deavor to render all our new knowledge understood by all the people, and show by our actions that the men of science at least are largely guided by verified facts and reasons.

Science News Letter, January 15, 1944

PSYCHIATRY

Guidance Clinic Set Up To Control Alcoholism

➤ A NEW STEP toward control and prevention of habitual drunkenness, both now and after the war, is being taken, it appears from an announcement by Yale University.

The announcement is of the opening next month of a diagnostic and guidance clinic for inebriates, first of the kind in this country. The clinic and a similar one to be opened soon in Hartford, Conn., are sponsored jointly by the Yale Laboratory of Applied Physiology and the Connecticut Prison Association.

Dr. Howard W. Haggard of Yale will be in general charge with Dr. Ralph Banay, psychiatric consultant of the New York State Parole Board and former chief psychiatrist of Sing Sing prison, serving as medical director.

The clinics will not be sobering-up stations for drunks, it was emphasized. Nor will treatment for inebriety be given at the clinics.

Instead, a staff of psychiatrists, psychologists and social workers will study each patient, determine his type and the kind of treatment he requires, and



NEW PRESIDENT—A bust of Dr. A. J. Carlson, professor of physiology at the University of Chicago, who has just been made president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.