	PENNSYLVANIA	
Allentown	Schmoyer, Laurence Frederick	17 Allentown H. S.
	SOUTH DAKOTA	
Vermillion	Winter, John Mack, Jr.	17 Vermillion H. S.
	TEXAS	
Austin	Barnes, Virgil Everett, Jr.	17 Austin H. S.
	VIRGINIA	
Norfolk	*Mitchell, Merle Almazetta	15 Booker T. Washington H. S.
	WISCONSIN	
Oshkosh	Grant, Michael Peter	16 Oshkosh H. S.

Science Clubs of America is the international organization for science groups, in schools and out. Today more than 15,000 clubs are affiliated here and abroad, with a membership of more than one-third of a million young people.

The judges of the Science Talent Search are: Dr. Harlow Shapley, Harvard College Observatory and president of SCIENCE SERVICE; Dr. Harold A. Edgerton, vice president, Richardson, Bellows, Henry & Co., New York City; Dr. Steuart Henderson Britt, vice-president and director of research, Needham, Louis and Brorby, Inc., Chicago; and Dr. Rex E. Buxton, psychiatrist of Washington, D. C. Drs. Edgerton and Britt design the examination.

Complete details of the national and the 26 State Science Talent Searches are available from Science Clubs of America, 1719 N St., N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

Science News Letter, January 31, 1953

GENERAL SCIENCE

Science Decisions Ahead

➤ PRESIDENT EISENHOWER in the next four years will have to deal with forces of science more powerful than all the billions of dollars at his disposal.

He may be able to turn these powerful forces toward constructing a peaceful and prosperous world. Or he may have to turn them toward constructing the most terrible weapons man has ever seen.

Ex-President Truman set the goal for his successor in his farewell message to the people: "Think what can be done, once our capital, our skills, our science—most of all atomic energy—can be released from the tasks of defense and turned wholly to peaceful purposes all around the world.

"There is no end to what can be done."

Right now the nation, in its universities, in its industrial research laboratories and in its government, has the greatest scientific plant in all history. The new president will have much to say as to how the more than two billion dollars a year the government devotes to scientific research is spent. Now most of it goes into development of new weapons and improvement of older weapons and military equipment.

Facing him is a decision about the H-bomb. Should the Atomic Energy Commission go all out now on stockpiling H-bombs, or should construction of A-bombs continue to have importance? Here the scientific merges with the strategic. The question becomes one of the most efficient use of scarce fissionable material.

The new President will also have to decide how much of the Atomic Energy Commission's efforts should be directed toward development of the peaceful uses of atomic energy. Should the attempt to build an economical reactor to produce power for industry be speeded? What part should private industry play in the development of atomic power for factories?

These questions will be discussed in Congress, too. Right now Congressional opinion seems to be in favor of allowing private industry to develop atomic power by giving it the right to own fissionable materials. This will necessitate a change in the present law.

Science News Letter, January 31, 1953

PLANT PATHOLOGY

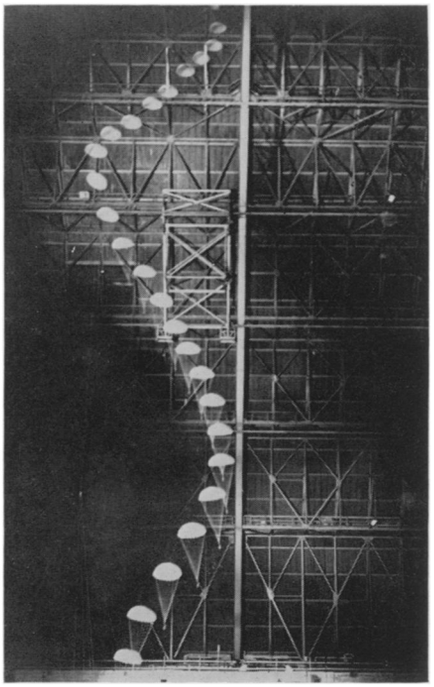
Zanzibar Clove Crop Is Attacked by Fungus

➤ THE CLOVE crop of Zanzibar, which provides nine-tenths the world's supply of this spice, perfume and medicine, is being destroyed by the sudden-death disease.

Two scientists from Britain's Rothamsted Experimental Station, investigating this disaster to Zanzibar's principal crop, have found that it is due to a fungus of an undescribed species of *Valsa,* which attacks the root system and then spreads to the whole tree.

Young trees are comparatively resistant and seedlings are immune, it is revealed in the report sent to *Nature* (Jan. 17) by F. J. Nutman and F. M. Roberts.

Science News Letter, January 31, 1953



PHOTOGRAPHIC PARACHUTE STUDY—The free-fall tendencies of various kinds of parachutes can be studied, using a series of timed stroboscopic exposures, taken at night under powerful spotlights.

AERONAUTICS

Parachutes Get Workout In Big Airplane Dock

➤ MAKESHIFT ELEVATOR shafts have given way to a spacious building at the Goodyear Aircraft Corporation, Akron, Ohio, as a site for testing new parachutes for jet-age aviators.

The building, an airplane dock, is the largest in the world without interior supports. It supplants silos, elevator shafts and outdoor tower installations, and reduces the number of expensive actual flight tests that new-design parachutes must go through.

From its 200-foot high ceiling, the largest military and civilian types of parachutes can be dropped. The building shelters the 'chutes from interfering wind currents and lets scientists study their flight paths, drag, stability, weight-carrying capacity and opening characteristics.

The controlled "atmosphere" permits a series of scientific photographs to be taken as the parachute blossoms into fullness and lowers its weight to the floor. The enclosed building also lets one parachute be compared to another under the same conditions.

The parachutes are being tested under an Air Force contract by a team of engineers from Goodyear Aircraft's research and development department. Tests are being run on such types as the standard flat-circular parachute in common use today, and the ribbon and guide-surface parachutes.

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