

suggested that science was concerned with the future and not the past. Today new techniques are available and are still being developed by means of which young men and women with all sorts of aptitudes can be advised more wisely than was ever true before.

Thus young men and women with the many skills and abilities required by our nation can receive proper education and training. This means that in the future young men and women with the help of their parents and teachers can make wiser selection of a life's work than was formerly the case. Thus new and satisfied workers can be fitted into the ever changing pattern of the economic and free social life of our republic.

Widespread Use Urged

Yes, this Annual Talent Science Search is typical of the future and not of the past. It foreshadows the part that science is bound to play in the years ahead in helping free American boys and girls to select and be educated for proper vocations and professions.

Let me express the hope that those of you here tonight, as you become great and outstanding physicists, engineers, chemists, or other experts, will continue to remember the importance of supporting the use of scientific methods in guiding and advising free American citizens.

Proper manpower utilization alone will allow our nation to maintain its strength. By such utilization we can become more individually productive and also have to the greatest degree possible the personal satisfactions that come from performing well the tasks in society which we have selected and for which we are well fitted.

Thus the proper solution of manpower problems by our country will in the future allow more and more people to experience the deep satisfactions that come from effective teamwork and the real accomplishment of specialized tasks in our free society.

Therefore, again, to you who have participated in a most personal way in a successful manpower selection program, I give you my warmest congratulations and best wishes for effective and productive lives as

professional scientists. May your future educational success and your continued scientific research activities be more than worthy of the outstanding promise that you have already shown.

Science News Letter, March 7, 1953

BIOPHYSICS

First A-Bomb Survivors Live "Life of Reilly"

➤ SOME OF the injured survivors of the first atomic bomb explosion in history, at Alamogordo, N. Mex., July 16, 1945, are now living the "life of Reilly" entirely at government expense.

They are six or seven cattle that suffered radiation burns on their skins because they happened to be 15 or 20 miles away when the big bomb went off. About 40 of them, two bulls and the rest cows, were rounded up by the Atomic Energy Commission after the explosion for observation and experiment as to any possible lasting effects, to them or to their young.

There were no lasting effects, Dr. Cyril T. Comar, laboratory director and research coordinator of the University of Tennessee-Atomic Energy Commission farm, Oak Ridge, Tenn., told SCIENCE SERVICE.

In the first years after the Alamogordo bomb, the cattle were given quite a going-over, Dr. Comar says. The radiation burns were the result of the "fall-out" of radioactive particles from the vast cloud produced by the A-bomb. They did some damage to the hair follicles and to the pigmentation of the skin, but the effects did not penetrate below the skin, Dr. Comar says. The only result is that they have patches of gray hair where the burns were.

Young were bred from the cattle exposed to the bomb, Dr. Comar reports. The young were no different, either in quantity or quality, from the young of normal cattle from the same general area.

Now many of the calves are being used for other research on the farm. All except six or seven of the original cattle have either been sold or have died.

"We look at the original survivors once in a while," Dr. Comar says, "but otherwise we don't pay much attention to them any longer."

Science News Letter, March 7, 1953

PALEONTOLOGY

Dawn Age Fossils Clue to Primate Past

➤ THE BONES of a 60,000,000-year-old "dawn age" primate, possibly a link between monkeys and the lesser animals, have been moved to the Smithsonian Institution from southwestern Wyoming, where they were discovered.

The lemur-like animal, an undescribed species of the extinct genus *Notharctus*, was about the size of a Rhesus monkey and probably lived in trees, the Smithsonian Institution said.

Fossil primates are rare but valuable finds to students of prehistoric life, the paleontologists. The animal group of primates includes lemurs, monkeys, apes and man himself, and so primate fossils throw light onto the evolutionary history of man.

Bones rarely become fossilized in forested areas; and as primates are mostly tree-dwellers, prehistoric remains of them are not often found. Primate fossils in temperate North America are only found in any numbers from Eocene deposits of 60,000,000 years ago, representing a time when tropical conditions existed here.

Science News Letter, March 7, 1953

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