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schools, involving scientist substitutes for teachers upon special occasions, lectures by scientists in the schools, and visits to industries and colleges by students and teachers.

In 1950, science fairs throughout the nation on a local and regional basis had become so numerous that Science Service determined to inaugurate the National Science Fair. National Science Fair serves as a culminating activity of the Science Youth program during a school year. It is an effective experience for the finalists, a maximum of two from each of the approximately 200 regional fairs now affiliated with the National Science Fair. More important, it is an incentive to organizing local and regional fairs through the desire of each area to participate in a national activity.

The hope that any young scientist anywhere in the United States will be able to enter a local or area science fair preliminary to the possible participation in the National Science Fair is rapidly becoming achieved. Among the states that are completely covered with science fairs, so far as the territory from which they draw is concerned, are Indiana, Texas, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina; South Carolina, Delaware, Rhode Island.

The National Science Fair became international in 1958 through the entry of finalists from Japan's National Fair. Plans are under way for other countries, and areas in other countries, to enter in future years. It is possible in addition to the National Science Fair there will also be some form of international science fair justified in the coming years.

Science Service's service to newspapers which are widely published throughout the world, serves youth as well as adults in conveying promptly news and interpretation of the fast-moving developments in science and technology. In many cases the newspapers that cooperate in the National Science Youth program, supporting science clubs and science fairs locally, also utilize the news and feature reports of Science Service.

The SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, issued weekly to a growing audience that includes many science teachers as well as the general public, is also an effective medium for conveying science information to youth, both directly through subscription by the young scientists themselves and through their school groups and libraries.

Because experimentation is the essence of science learning, a series of experimental kits, issued monthly under the title THINGS of science, was inaugurated in the early days of Science Service's science youth activities. These have been widely used to introduce experimental science to beginners. Unless the student does experiments himself he cannot understand science effectively. The THINGS units, costing little, can be used individually and expended in the using. Since these kits also present new and novel materials from time to time they have been of great usefulness in informing professional scientists, industrialists and others about new scientific and technical developments.

For a specialized field, and especially for high school teachers, Science Service publishes CHEMISTRY magazine eight times a

year. There are other Science Service aids to education and science youth activities, such as books, color slides, etc.

Because nationally as well as locally the opportunities for aiding science youth are large, many national organizations are interested in science for youth. October is designated as National Science Youth Month each year and more than 30 national organizations join with Science Service in this event at the beginning of the new school year.

Added support for Science Service's National Science Youth Program will enable a greater service to be made to young scientists, their teachers, the educational system and the public. Among the organizations that have given grants for youth activities are the National Science Foundation, Westinghouse Educational Foundation, Sloan Foundation, Dupont, and Charles F. Kettering.

Since Science Service is a nonprofit institution, with trustees nominated by the National Academy of Sciences, the National Research Council, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the E. W. Scripps Estate, and the journalistic profession, contributions to Science Service are income tax deductible. They will pay great dividends in better scientists and citizens for the future years.

Science News Letter, October 10, 1959

EDUCATION

Eisenhower Urges Science Youth Participation

PRESIDENT Eisenhower has urged participation in National Science Youth Month, being observed this month, "in communities everywhere as a means of strengthening all phases of education, and stimulating in young students a strong regard for the traditions of intellectual excellence."

"National Science Youth Month," the White House statement said, "will be observed throughout October by numbers of Americans alert to the need to help young persons develop their scientific abilities."

"High school students and their science teachers will be joined by 33 national civic, professional, industrial, labor, and educational groups in the observance under the auspices of SCIENCE SERVICE."

"Encouragement of scientific education provides everyone with an opportunity to help develop a vital national asset. It can further give to all Americans an opportunity to share more fully in the adventure and excitement of science and to gain a more intelligent understanding of the increasingly scientific world in which we live."

Science News Letter, October 10, 1959

Do You Know

Food spoilage annually costs Americans more than the total defense program.

Aluminum is one-third lighter than steel.

Some bacterial cultures produce distinct fruity and oniony odors on chilled muscle of cod and haddock during early spoilage.