

GENERAL SCIENCE

News From Science Clubs

► INTERESTING programs presented for and/or by science club members have been reported to the national office of Science Clubs of America, 1719 N Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

The Bronx High School of Science, New York, N. Y., launched its Jubilee Year with a celebration ceremony on Dec. 5. In embarking on its Silver Jubilee Year, the school takes as its theme "Young Scientists—A Vital Resource of the Nation." Throughout the year, the school will call attention to the indispensable role of the scientist in the future of America and the world and to the need for early discovery and development of scientific and mathematical talent in the youth of the nation. To assist other schools in their efforts to develop young scientists, the Bronx High School of Science will publish and distribute an account of its work and its program during its first quarter century. It will sponsor a Science Demonstration and Congress to be held at the school next April. The school's own students and other young scientists from the metropolitan area will be invited to attend and participate in a program on "Current Frontiers in Science." The Jubilee Year celebrations will come to a climax next May 25 at a gala ball to be held at the Statler Hilton Hotel. On that occasion, the school will honor several of its alumni who have won outstanding distinction in the world of science.

AAA Meeting

(Continued from p. 4)

empty and low magnetic fields are always, or nearly always, present."

The lower limit of the magnetometer making the magnetic field recordings was five gammas, a unit of magnetic measure. There were no changes of this magnitude near Venus that could be attributed to the planet's influence. The earth has a field of 30,000 gammas at the equator and 50,000 at the poles.

However, Venus could still have a magnetic field but one so weak that it was pushed closer to the planet than 21,594 miles by the solar wind, the low density clouds of charged particles continuously blowing in space. Nevertheless, the observations are consistent with the possibility that Venus does not have a magnetic field.

The Venus observations, as well as all others made of Venus and other planets, suggest that planets that rotate much less rapidly than earth have small magnetic fields. This is consistent with the theory that the earth's field is caused by the dynamo-like action of the earth's molten core.

Although Dr. Coleman made the official report, he did so also for Drs. Leverett Davis Jr. of California Institute of Technology, Edward G. Smith of the National Aero-

The American Museum of Atomic Energy, Oak Ridge, Tenn., observed October as Science Youth Month by playing host to 36 school groups from five states. Nearly 2000 students from schools in Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee received special guided tours of the Museum—the only museum in the country devoted solely to providing the general public with information on all phases of the nation's atomic energy research and development programs. Many of the groups, in addition to touring the museum, were taken on tours of unclassified facilities at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, under a special student-tour program.

A one-day "mass visit" of industrial and university physicists recently brought 2,348 high school students in the Detroit public schools face to face with some of the nation's leading scientists. Twenty-one physicists spent the day in 19 Detroit high schools. They gave talks to the students about both classical and modern physics, took part in laboratory demonstrations, and later on met with school authorities to discuss methods of improving physics teaching in the area. The scientists made the visits under the Visiting Scientists Program in Physics for High Schools sponsored by the American Association of Physics Teachers and the American Institute of Physics.

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navics and Space Administration's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, and C. P. Sonett of NASA's Ames Research Center, Ames, Iowa.

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ZOOLOGY

Coexistence Not Seen In War of Earthworms

► ALTHOUGH an American trend favors the European style, in earthworms the situation is reversed.

The European lumbricids are entrenching themselves into the grassroots of America, even driving out the native *Diplocardia* in central United States.

Although an uncertainty still reigns over the causes of competition between the native worms and the foreign intruders, a recent study outside of St. Louis indicates that the European lumbricids were present in numbers of up to 34 per cent of the population. They are prevalent in South Dakota, Illinois and Nebraska. The native *Diplocardians* have the edge in Louisiana, Texas and Oklahoma.

The St. Louis study was reported by Dr. James H. Stebbings, Johns Hopkins University, in the British science journal, *Nature*, 196:905.

• Science News Letter, 83:13 January 5, 1963

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