INVENTION

Drama and Radio Methods Used to Demonstrate Science

Spotlights and Soft Music Help to Focus Attention As Research Parade Gives Hint of Future Achievement

SCIENCE is turning to the movies, the radio and the stage for hints as to how to demonstrate its latest achievements.

One of the features of the Centennial Celebration of the American Patent System to be held on Monday, Nov. 23, is a new kind of scientific demonstration program during which there will be made known important scientific achievements that promise to raise the standard of living for the future.

This preview of science is being arranged by Science Service with the assistance of leading scientists throughout the country. It will be called "Research Parade."

In a new mode, combining the techniques of stage, movies and radio with those of the lecture platform and scientific meeting, Research Parade will dramatize typical science achievements of today that may be applied to industry, home and health tomorrow. There will be continuity of idea and method. Much of the explanation will be accomplished by a voice that will bind the demonstrations together in a manner similar to that of the news reel commentator. Spotlights will be used to focus the attention of the audience upon the demonstrations. Music will be used as overture and at other times.

More than a thousand leading inventors, industrialists, patent lawyers and scientists are expected to attend the celebration, another feature of which is a "patented dinner," all the food and drink of which is covered by patents.

Watson Davis, Director

The Research Parade is being arranged and directed by Watson Davis, director of Science Service.

Dr. V. K. Zworykin, the inventor of the system of television used by Radio Corporation of America, will demonstrate how the electron image tube can be applied to microscopic research.

High frequency sound and its unusual effects will be shown by Dr. R. W. Wood, chemist and physicist of Johns Hopkins University.

Possibilities of direct current transmission of electric power which promise important developments in this important field will be announced by Dr. Albert W. Hull of the General Electric Company.

How the dangers of auto headlight glare may be avoided in the future is to be demonstrated by Dr. L. W. Chubb of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company.

The great enigma of the forest, the chemical called lignin, will be subject of the U. S. Forest Products Laboratory's presentation by Dr. Carlile P. Winslow.

Artificial rubber will be shown by the E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company, while glass in new forms will be spectacularly displayed by Dr. J. C. Hostetter of the Corning Glass Works.

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BOTANY

More Than 200 New Plants Patented Under New Law

DESPITE the fact that over 200 plant patents have been granted by the U. S. Patent Office since such patents on flowers, fruits and vegetables became legal in 1930, the field of patented plants is virtually untouched.

Material prepared in connection with the coming Centennial Celebration of the American Patent System on Nov. 23, 1936, shows this fact as a logical conclusion.

Here are some of the future possibilities of the effect of plant patents on everyday life:

1. Forest trees as an annual crop, like oats and potatoes.
2. Oranges and bananas grown outdoors in Maine.
3. Apples and peaches six inches in diameter.

Such apparent fantasies appear remote at the present time, but much less so than the idea of the radio or airplane seemed to the old patent examiners in 1836, when the present patent system was just beginning.

Queen Elizabeth, it is disclosed, granted what were virtually the first plant patents—except in name—in the famous monopolies given to favored individuals for exclusive rights to flax, hemp, currants and medicinal and dye plants.

In the early American colonies monopolies of any form were extremely unpopular. Most of all the dislike was centered on any plant which was considered the gift of nature for all to use as they liked. No one, at that time, foresaw possible research and invention aimed primarily at bringing new and different plant forms, intentionally and for profit.

Thus agitation for plant patents continued from 1868 until 1930 before it was finally enacted into law.

Here are a few of the patented fruits, flowers and vegetables which you can buy today:

Apple, apricot, avocado, blackberry, carnation, cherry, chrysanthemum, dahlia, gardenia, gladiolus, grass for golf greens, grape, grapefruit, peach, pecan, plum, rose, strawberry and waterlily.

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ENGINEERING

Philharmonic Orchestra Joins Factory in Symphony

A TWENTIETH century symphony of music in which one of the nation's leading philharmonic orchestras will play the accompaniment for the myriad sounds that come from the production of an American motor car, will be presented in Washington, Nov. 23, as part of the Centennial Celebration of the American Patent System.

The linking of the music of the Detroit Philharmonic Orchestra and the hammering, welding, stamping, fitting and finishing of automobile production will be achieved in a sound motion picture which is expected to be chosen for a place on the program of industrial motion pictures to be presented in the Department of Commerce auditorium in connection with the coming patent centennial.

The industrial films to be chosen for the program will be selected by a committee of judges of the Washington Junior Board of Trade of the Junior Chamber of Commerce from a list of 15 submitted to E. Willard Jensen, chairman of the arrangements committee of the centennial, and to N. D. Golden, chief of the motion picture section of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.

Other films in- (*Turn to page* 335)

and keep one's feet on physical ground through the whole process."

If in mathematics the need is for better training rather than more of it, the opposite is true in chemistry training for industrial physicists. Most industrial laboratories do not employ physicists as such because few physicists have had sufficient chemistry. Yet the industrial chemists do much work which is strictly physics. In smaller companies, especially, the scientist desired must know science rather than merely chemistry or physics.

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cluded in the group are those showing in detail the vaporization and explosion of a drop of gasoline in an automobile engine cylinder; the operation of the cooling system of an automobile; simple methods and precautions by which fire and highway accidents can be avoided; the "New Frontiers" of the electrical industry; the operations of modern gas, electrical, and transportation facilities; the making of steel; and the drama of invention and research remolding the life of American people.

One special film will tell the story of chemistry in modern life as portrayed through the development of artificial dyes, fabrics, explosives, paints, and hundreds of other products by tearing down and recombining the basic molecules of matter.

Lowell Thomas, Boake Carter, and John S. Young are listed among the well-known commentators of the present day who supply the descriptive sidelights on the films.

Showing of the selected films will be open to the public on the centennial celebration day, Monday, Nov. 23, following which some of them will be dispatched on a nation-wide tour sponsored by the Junior Chamber of Commerce. Plans of the group also call for presentation of prints of these films to the National Archives as a nucleus for its collection of outstanding motion pictures of the present age.

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A slice of iron meteorite with a small diamond projecting from its surface is an unusual specimen recently brought to scientific notice.

Among the industrial by-products which are seen as possible livestock feeds are walnut oil meal, tomato cannery waste, grape meal, and hempseed meal.