

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE DIGEST
Literature and News

NEWS ITEMS

515 President Johnson Affirms Need for Water Fluoridation: Eisenhower and Kennedy Took Same Stand.

There is no doubt that today the President of the United States has at his command the keenest and most critical scientific advice in our nation. Evidence of this is clear in the progress being made not only in health research through federally financed projects, but also in the fields of nuclear energy, aerospace problems, interplanetary exploration, jet propulsion and in survival under the most extreme environmental conditions. Particularly significant is the fact, therefore that President Lyndon B. Johnson has joined the growing number of statesmen who ask that we take advantage of the unquestioned value and safety of adjusting properly in our public water supplies the content of fluoride, which was termed, in Connecticut Medicine 29, 106 (Feb. 1965), a mineral nutrient which we must have to enable us to construct a dental enamel that is maximally resistant to decay. In his statement to the nation on the occasion of Children's Dental Health Week, for the second week of February 1965, the President asked parents to help bring the benefits of water fluoridation to their communities. "I urge all parents to join dentists and health organizations in the support of dental health education in our schools and in the encouragement and adoption of such preventive measures as fluoridation of community water supplies to reduce painful and costly tooth decay among our children." In his plea for fluoridation of water supplies, President Johnson joins the efforts of both his predecessors, Dwight D. Eisenhower and John F. Kennedy, to point up the value of what has been hailed as one of the greatest public health advances of the 20th century.

.. Conn. Health Bull. 79, 71 (March, 1965)

516 Biological Symposium.

On July 12-14, the University of Michigan will present its summer Biological Symposium on Biological Excitability and Membrane Phenomena, one of the newest areas of scientific investigation. The topic is one of learning how and how cells—in nerves, muscles and endocrine systems—can "communicate" with each other. Program chairman Dr. Lawrence B. Mellett of the department of pharmacology, said this communication phenomenon "may ultimately explain many actions of drugs and anesthetics, and offer greater understanding of a number of diseases in which living tissue is no longer excitable." The 1964 Nobel Prize in Biology and Medicine was awarded to investigators working in this field and Dr. Mellett said, it has become one of the most vigorous new areas of study and research. The symposium is the 16th annual summer meeting sponsored by the University of Michigan and is part of the General Biological Sciences program of the University of Michigan News Service.

517 Permanent Commission and International Association on Occupational Health.

The Permanent Commission and International Association on Occupational Health will hold its 15th International Congress on Occupational Health September 19-23, 1965, in Vienna, Austria. All professional people interested in the field of occupational and environmental health are invited to attend this conference and contribute to it. The scientific program will include such topics as Organization of Occupational Medicine, Industrial Hygiene, Occupational Disease, Toxicology, Occupational Psychology and Physiology, Traumatic Medicine and Rehabilitation, Chronic Attritional Disease and Rehabilitation, and Occupational Health Nursing. For further information regarding the Congress and procedures for presenting papers write to Dr. Christian Frieberger, Universitat Wien, Sensesgasse, 2, Wien IX Austria.

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