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<i>Science and our Nation's Future:</i> DR. ARTHUR H. COMPTON	207
<i>The Concept of Integrative Levels and Biology:</i> DR. ALEX B. NOVIKOFF	209
<i>Obituary:</i> <i>Sir Arthur Eddington:</i> PROFESSOR HENRY NORRIS RUSSELL. <i>Recent Deaths</i>	215
<i>Scientific Events:</i> <i>Archeological Work of the National Geographic Society; Biological Abstracts; The Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the American Meteorological Society; Awards of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers</i>	216
<i>Scientific Notes and News</i>	218
<i>Discussion:</i> <i>The Torque or Rotating Action in a Beam of Light:</i> PROFESSOR GORDON FERRIE HULL. <i>Temperature Induced Sterility and Evolution:</i> PROFESSOR RAYMOND B. COWLES. "Starring" in <i>American Men of Science in Relation to the Status of Chemistry:</i> PROFESSOR ROGER J. WILLIAMS. <i>Mold Preventive for Book Bindings:</i> DR. DUNCAN C. HETHERINGTON. <i>Fanciful Portraits of Ancient Mathematicians:</i> PROFESSOR G. A. MILLER	220
<i>Scientific Books:</i> <i>Radio's Men of Science:</i> DR. W. F. G. SWANN. <i>Electrical Communication:</i> DR. A. E. VIVELL. <i>Photomicrography:</i> DR. W. G. KINSINGER	224
<i>Reports:</i> <i>The Research Board for National Security:</i> DR. KARL T. COMPTON	226
<i>Special Articles:</i> <i>Oral Penicillin:</i> DR. WALSH McDERMOTT and OTHERS. <i>The Role of Fecal Thiamine and Co-carboxylase in Human Nutrition:</i> DR. BENJAMIN ALEXANDER and GRETA LANDWEHR. <i>Deamination of Amino Acids by the Human Oral Flora; Its Role in Dental Caries Immunity:</i> DR. ROBERT G. KESEL, JOSEPH F. O'DONNELL and ERNST R. KIRCH. <i>The Preparation of Highly Purified PR8 Influenza Virus from Infected Mouse Lungs:</i> DR. C. A. KNIGHT <i>Scientific Apparatus and Laboratory Methods:</i> <i>Sterility Test for Penicillin Employing Cysteine for Inactivation:</i> DR. RICHARD J. HICKEY. <i>A Method for the Culturing of Excised, Immature Corn Embryos in Vitro:</i> DR. A. J. HAAGEN-SMIT, R. SIU and GERTRUDE WILSON	228
<i>Science News</i>	10

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SCIENCE AND OUR NATION'S FUTURE¹

By Dr. ARTHUR H. COMPTON

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

THE nation is now calling for all its scientific strength. On the battlefields of Europe and the Orient and on the seven seas new weapons are turning the tide of battle. On both sides of the conflict determined men fight with courage and skill. If we are to win a decisive victory we must have weapons not only greater in quantity but superior in quality. Superior quality requires skilled labor and great industries with knowledge of the best techniques. It requires ingenious inventors with fertile imaginations. But basic to all is required the science that makes possible the new inventions.

When the war is won the task of maintaining a strong leadership in science will still be with us. After the hates and injustices that the war has brought, the safety of the United States in a postwar

¹Address during the New York Philharmonic Symphony-United States Rubber Company broadcast, January 14, 1945.

world will demand eternal vigilance. But not even vigilance is enough. If we are in earnest in striving for a peace with freedom to work for the best we know, there is only one course for us to follow. This course is to maintain with the nations friendly to us such strength that we shall not be challenged while we seek to build a world in which war will be considered as a disaster rather than as the only hope for the improvement of a people's lot.

How shall we maintain order while this peace-loving world is being built? Only by keeping ourselves strong and working for friendly relations with our neighbors.

It will require a long time thus to make the world forget war. If we are to retain our leadership it will be only through superiority in those things that make a modern nation great. Foremost among those things is science.

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