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To the Members of the Junior Academy

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Iowa Academy of Science

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The Junior Academy of Science

(Sponsored by the Iowa Academy of Science)

This section of the Science Bulletin is devoted to High School Science Clubs of Iowa who are organizing the Junior Academy of Science of Iowa. This organization is to give the clubs affiliating the advantages that can come from a state organization. Its success depends upon the response of the high school clubs themselves. It is to be your organization and this section of the Bulletin is to serve as a means for the exchange of ideas between clubs and to give suggestions as to aids and helps for programs. Contributions from clubs are desired.

The interest shown in the Junior Academy is gratifying. The actual work of organizing is just started with the beginning of the second semester of the school year. The following clubs have already signified their desire to become charter members: The Science Club of the Teachers College High School, Louise Hearst and Don McCavick, sponsors; the Alpha Beta Kappa Science Club of Cedar Falls High School, Don Pettit, sponsor; The Nature Club, Dubuque Senior High School, Ross Harris, sponsor; and The Nature Club, Grant High School, Cedar Rapids, sponsored by Steven Pattee. This is a good beginning. Affiliate your club with the organization as soon as possible if you wish to secure the benefits this year and in order to have a successful organization for next year. Any kind of a club devoted to high school science or mathematics is eligible for membership. It can be devoted to science in general or to some particular phase such as physics, chemistry, biology, birds, nature, etc. For further information write to C. W. Lantz, Teachers College, Cedar Falls, Iowa.

Academy of Science on April 29 and 30. The chapters of the Cedar Falls High School and Teachers College High School will be hosts. A program of interest to high school students is being planned. The exact time of meeting, which will be either Friday night or Saturday morning so as to accommodate the high schools, and the details of the program will be announced later. An exhibit of projects for which awards will be given is planned. Plan now to have your club represented and enter some project in the exhibit. There are many things to be discussed. The organization must be perfected, officers elected, and plans made for next year. We should have a state insignia and pin. Work out a design and have it ready to submit.

NATIONAL NEWS OF HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE CLUBS

At the recent meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in New Orleans, Dr. Otis W. Caldwell of Columbia University reported before the Academy Conference on the work of science clubs in different states. He is now compiling a report on this work which will be available for distribution to the clubs of Junior Academies. We will have this report for distribution to chapters within a short time. The A. A. S., the largest organization of scientists in America is encouraging the work of the Junior Academies. One advantage of becoming a member is that your club will have the advantage of contact with other clubs over the United States.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE JUNIOR ACADEMY—

THE STATE MEETING OF THE JUNIOR ACADEMY

The first meeting of our organization will be held at Teachers College, Cedar Falls, in connection with the annual meeting of the Iowa

The purpose of the Iowa Academy of Science is to aid in the advancement of science throughout the state. When the American Association for the Advancement of Science suggested that the state academies sponsor

a movement among high school science clubs to organize into state-wide units, the Iowa Academy welcomed the opportunity offered by this situation to serve science.

Already such organizations have been established in athletics, in dramatics and in music to say nothing of the many social activities of the high school student and it is time that science, which today dominates the thinking of the modern world, should claim its share of the student's activities. Further, the Iowa Academy which is composed of the leading scientists of the state, is the logical channel through which this activity should be guided.

The science club movement is well under way and the Academy has much to offer it by a close association. The Academy offers the Junior Academy its central organization as a nucleus around which to build. It has a personnel of distinguished men whose experience and enthusiasm should and can be made a source of strength to the associated clubs. It will be a clearing-house for ideas, programs and information which will be a benefit to the members of the Junior Academy. From its experience it can help the Junior Academy in its organization and success.

By joint meetings contacts can be made between students and the leading scientists of the state that will be mutually beneficial. By recognizing student achievement the Academy hopes to stimulate scientific interest among high school students which will have a lasting influence on their appreciation of and application in scientific endeavor.

It is not the purpose of the Academy to dominate the Junior Academy, as a careful reading of the proposed constitution of that organization should make clear. The Academy wishes rather to act as "guide, philosopher and friend." It is with this spirit that the Academy has taken up the task of assisting the Junior Academy movement and it is in this spirit that we hope the high school clubs of the state will come in with us and make the cause of science felt throughout the state. We shall endeavor to co-operate and assist in every manner within our power to

strengthen and advance science among our junior membership.

Yours sincerely,

Joseph C. Gilman,
Secretary of Iowa
Academy of Science

PROJECTS IN BIOLOGY

The following are suggested projects in biology. Next month the issue will be devoted to physics and chemistry. Write for further information.

1. Health posters. These can be prepared by students to show proper health habits and practices.
2. Posters on civic biology.
3. Bacterial plate cultures illustrating the occurrence of bacteria and their relation to hygiene and sanitation. (See Conn.—Bacteria, Yeasts, and Molds in the Home).
4. Life history studies of animals.
5. Collections of insects.
6. Collections of native weeds.
7. Collections of fruits and seeds illustrating dispersal.
8. Bird calendars and migration charts.
9. Charts showing economic importance of birds.
10. Collections of materials showing trees of your vicinity.
11. Photographs of nature subjects.

SUGGESTIONS FOR BIOLOGY OR NATURE CLUBS

The very first requirement for a successful club of this nature is enthusiasm for and an interest in the world of living things. The sparks for kindling enthusiasm must come from off the hearth of the sponsor. While the students must be guided they should be led to feel that it is their program that they are working out and not that of a teacher who grants credit for participation. Voluntary membership makes possible a better qualified group of students whose hearts are "in it" while compulsion will bring in those who will eventually spoil things for those who are naturally interested.

It is well for the sponsor to have in mind some very definite objectives to be accomplished. These may