

FRED L. ADAIR FOUNDATION FORMED

The American Committee on Maternal Welfare, Inc., has established the Fred Lyman Adair Foundation as a fund-raising subsidiary to collect funds for research and education in better medical care for women, particularly in reference to reproduction, and for infants before and after birth. The Foundation was established to honor Fred L. Adair, M.D., a leader in obstetrics in Chicago and former Mary Campau Ryerson professor, and chairman of the department of gynecology and obstetrics of the University of Chicago, and long time president of the American Committee on Maternal Welfare.

Establishment of the Foundation was announced at a farewell dinner on November 8 to Dr. and Mrs. Adair, about to leave Chicago for permanent residence in Florida.

The American Committee for Maternal Welfare, organized in 1919 and incorporated in 1934, is a national organization that acts as a clearing house and coordinating agency for the 26 separate medical, public health, and nursing groups whose representatives make up its membership. Its offices are at 116 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago.

NATIONAL NURSING AGENCIES MOVE

The National Organization for Public Health Nursing, together with the American Nurses Association and the League for Nursing Education, which had occupied quarters at 1790 Broadway, New York 19, along with other member agencies of the National Health Council for the last ten years, moved late in December to a new address at 2 Park Avenue, New York 16, N. Y.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

Frankly admitting Alcoholics Anonymous as its "guiding star," the New York City chapter of Narcotics Anonymous has put out a leaflet, *Our Way of*

Life: An Introduction to N.A. This outlines its purposes and the way it works—"an informal society of former addicts who aim to help fellow sufferers recover their health . . . banded together in groups . . . they have no constitution, no by-laws, no officers, no dues or assessments. . . ." The only requirement for membership is an honest desire to stay off "opiates, sedatives, and alcohol." The recognition of the same mental and emotional sickness that is represented by alcoholism is evident in this new allied group. P. O. Box 68, Village Station, New York 14.

SAFEGUARDING DRINKING WATER SUPPLIES AFTER ATOMIC EXPLOSIONS

A water decontamination unit has been developed and tested by the Health Physics Division of Oak Ridge National Laboratory, in Tennessee which, according to the reports, can effectively meet the problems of civilian defense agencies of providing safe drinking water supplies to cities following an atomic bomb blast.

According to an announcement made in December by R. A. Lauderdale and A. H. Emmons, both members of the Waste Disposal Research Group of the Health Physics Division, preliminary data indicate that a water containing at least one microcurie per milliliter of mixed fission products (2×10^6 disintegrations/min/ml) can be treated in a compact and relatively inexpensive unit to produce a drinking water with activity of less than 10^{-4} $\mu\text{c/ml}$. This level of contamination is well below the concentration considered by many authorities to be safe for use under emergency conditions (10^{-2} $\mu\text{c/ml}$) that might result shortly after an atomic explosion. The unit contains anion and cation exchange resins used in conjunction with other adsorbents that have been found to be specific for certain isotopes, such as ruthenium and cesium, which normally leak through the ion exchange resins. In the initial tests the water was