

JAPAN PRIZE NEWS

THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
FOUNDATION OF JAPAN (JSTF)

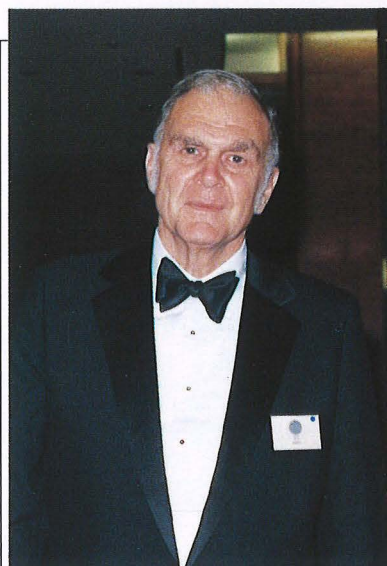
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No.6
September 1989



DRS. ROWLAND AND COREY AWARDED FIFTH 1989 JAPAN PRIZE

Brilliant Achievements in Research in Environmental Science and Technology and Medicinal Science



Dr. F. Sherwood Rowland

The awards ceremony for the 1989 Japan Prize, the most prestigious and honored scientific prize in Japan, was held on April 12 at the National Theater in Tokyo. The prize is presented annually by the Science and Technology Foundation of Japan to world scientists and researchers making notable contributions to the peace and prosperity of mankind.

The two fields of science and technology designated for the prize this year were "Environmental Science and Technology," and "Medicinal Science." Two scientists from the United States were chosen to be the recipients from among the combined total of 407 recommendations that were received from around the world.

Dr. F. Sherwood Rowland (The University of California at Irvine) was selected as the winner in the "Environmental Science and Technology" category for his work in clarifying the mechanism by which chlorofluorocarbons destroy the ozone layer. The prize in the "Medicinal Science" category was awarded to Dr. E. J. Corey (Harvard University) for his pioneering contributions to the syntheses of prostaglandins and their related compounds which are of great therapeutic value.



Dr. E. J. Corey

JAPAN PRIZE

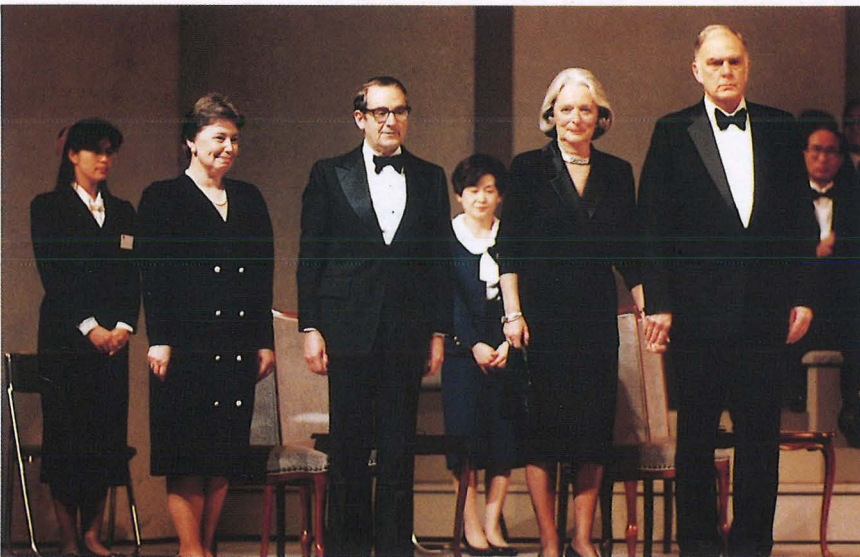
THEIR MAJESTIES THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS ATTEND GALA AWARDS CEREMONY AT NATIONAL THEATER IN TOKYO

“All nations must now put their strength together...”—Dr. Rowland

Their Majesties The Emperor and Empress headed the list of prominent guests who attended the gala awards ceremony at the National Theater in Tokyo, with some 1,100 persons in all, including national ambassadors to Japan, science attachés, noted scholars and researchers, representatives of political and financial circles, and members of the press.

The ceremony began with a rendition of Handel's “Water Music” performed by

the Shinsei Japan Symphony Orchestra. Chairman of the Foundation Dr. Kisaburo Yokota gave the opening address, and Dr. Takashi Mukaibo, chairman of the Selection Committee, introduced the winners and explained the rationale for their selection. Chairman Yokota then presented the two winners with the Japan Prize certificates of merit, commemorative medals, and the cash awards of 50 million yen.



ADDRESS BY THE EMPEROR (excerpts)

“Both professors, with their records of achievement in environmental and medicinal fields, have made remarkable contributions to the advancement of science and technology and to the welfare of all mankind. I sincerely hope that in the future, advances in science and technology continue to proceed in a positive direction for the sake of all the people in the world.”



PRESS CONFERENCE FOR THE AWARD WINNERS

Dr. Rowland and Corey attended a joint press conference at the Japan Press Center. Following closely upon the International Environmental Conference held recently in London, the interest in chlorofluorocarbon regulation was high, and the press concentrated their questions on Dr. Rowland.



COURTESY CALL ON THE GOVERNOR OF TOKYO

The two award winners and their wives paid a courtesy visit on Tokyo Governor Shunichi Suzuki. The two men, who are very fond of Japan, earnestly posed questions about the Japanese capital city of Tokyo and they enjoyed a lively conversation with the governor.



JAPAN PRIZE

A VARIETY OF EVENTS ACCOMPANY JAPAN PRIZE WEEK —INCLUDING COMMEMORATIVE LECTURES—

“Science brings people together...”—Dr. Corey

After the awards ceremony a banquet was held at the New Otani Hotel in Tokyo, with 500 celebrities from around the world giving the event a truly international flavor.

The banquet began with an opening address by Chairman Yokota, followed by dinner and the introduction of the award winners together with a short resumé of their careers and achievements. A representative from the government, Director General Moichi Miyazaki of the Science and Technology Agency, then delivered greetings and proposed a toast, which was followed by a toast to the wives of the recipients, citing the “invaluable contribution of a spouse’s support.”

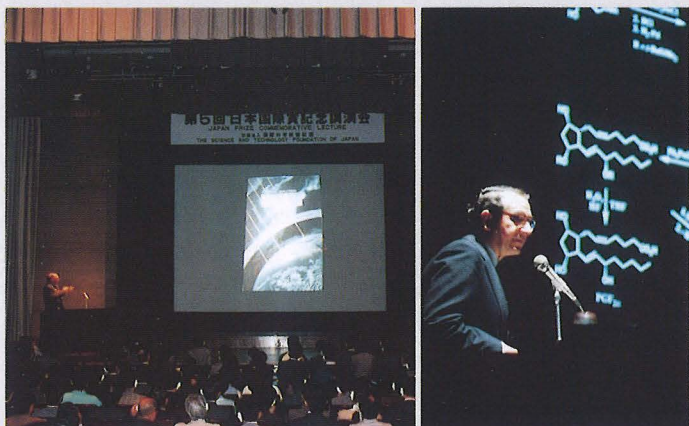
Finally, Dr. Rowland expressed his gratitude: “Having received this warm welcome, this has turned into an unforgettable day.” Dr. Corey also displayed his appreciation: “Science is fulfilling its role of bringing people together.” The speeches were greeted with a warm round of applause from the guests, and a congenial atmosphere pervaded the banquet.

The week during which the award ceremony was held was designated as “Japan Prize Week.” The recipients visited the Imperial Palace, took part in commemorative lectures and academic meetings in Tokyo and Kyoto, and paid courtesy calls on the governors of Tokyo and Kyoto.



COMMEMORATIVE LECTURE MEETINGS

The winners gave commemorative lectures to capacity audiences both in Tokyo at the Asahi Hall and in Kyoto at the National Kyoto International Hall. Leading scientists, technicians, researchers, and numerous members of the general public attended.



HOLIDAY IN KYOTO

Finding respite from their busy schedules, the recipients enjoyed a tour of Nijo Castle. Strolling through a Japanese garden under cherry blossoms in full bloom, the two doctors enjoyed the beauty of traditional Japan to the fullest.



JAPAN PRIZE

THE JAPAN PRIZE

The Japan Prize is an international award presented to scientists and researchers who have recorded notable, creative achievements in science and technology, contributed to the progress of these fields, and helped to promote peace and prosperity for mankind.

Two separate fields of science and technology are designated for the award each year, with an independent selection committee selecting the winners from candidates recommended on a global basis.

In recognition of their achievements, the winners receive a Japan Prize certificate of merit, commemorative medal, and cash award of 50 million yen (for each category). The awards ceremony and congratulatory banquet are held in April, and with members of political and economic circles, scientists, and prominent persons from all fields, the guests number well over a thousand.

This year marked the fifth time that the Prize has been awarded. Those honored in these five years are as follows:

1985 (First)

Information and Communications

Dr. John R. Pierce (USA)

Biotechnology

Dr. Ephriam Kachalski-Katzir (Israel)

1986 (Second)

Materials Science and Technology

Dr. David Turnbull (USA)

Medical Technology

Dr. Willem J. Kolff (USA)

1987 (Third)

Improvements of Biological Functions

Dr. Henry M. Beachell (USA)

Dr. Gurdev S. Khush (India)

Electro-Optics

Dr. Theodore H. Maiman (USA)

1988 (Fourth)

Energy Technology

Dr. Georges Vendryes (France)

Preventative Medicine

Dr. Donald A. Henderson (USA)

Dr. Isao Arita (Japan)

Dr. Frank Fenner (Australia)

Dr. Luc Montagnier (France)

Dr. Robert C. Gallo (USA)

1989 (Fifth)

Environmental Science and Technology

Dr. F. Sherwood Rowland (USA)

Medicinal Science

Dr. E. J. Corey (USA)

SELECTION OF 1990 JAPAN PRIZE WINNERS BEGINS

The two fields designated for the sixth Japan Prize in 1990 are the "Technology of Integration—Design, Production, and Control Technologies" and "Earth Science." Remarkable achievements are consistently being achieved in the fields of science and technology, but for the sixth Japan Prize two comprehensive fields of science and technology which defy application of existing boundaries in the academic world were selected. The preparations for the selection of next year's winners are already under way with numerous letters of recommendation gathered from nations around the world.

Technology of Integration —Design, Production, and Control Technologies

After scientific research has yielded inventions, discoveries and new understanding, a number of technological steps must still be taken before these results can be transformed into products that will enhance the quality of human life. Appropriate products must be designed and methods developed to produce them efficiently. Furthermore, control technologies governing their production and operation will also have to be established. Indeed, there are already many examples of significant contributions to the welfare of human society made by this cluster of technologies that might be termed the "technology of integration."

The technology of integration is based upon a wide variety of disciplines such as the mathematical and computational sciences, information science, systems engineering, control theory, robotics, material processing and machining, and production engineering. The prize will be awarded for achievements in the integration of technologies that results in products of significant use to mankind, or in the basic disciplines listed above that are necessary for such integration, or in the design, production, and control technologies that are used in this integration.

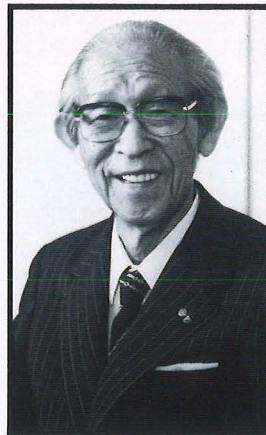
Earth Science

The advancement of earth science has deepened our comprehension of a wide variety of natural phenomena that have profound impact on our daily lives, such as weather, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions.

The term "Earth Science" should be interpreted as referring to a comprehensive science which focuses on the earth as a planetary mass, encompassing both basic and applied research in all related fields.

The prize will be awarded for achievements not only in the established fields of geoscience such as geology, seismology, meteorology, oceanography and so on but also in newly developed multi-disciplinary fields such as global tectonics, atmospheric and space sciences, radiometric and magnetic chronologies, earth resource sciences, surveying technology, etc.

OBITUARY



Konosuke Matsushita, president of the Science and Technology Foundation of Japan, passed away on April 27 at the age of 94. President Matsushita was founder of the Matsushita Electric Industrial Co. Ltd. and donated funds toward the establishment of the Japan Prize. He served as the president of the Science and Technology Foundation of Japan since its founding in 1985.