

Dr. Harold Urey awarded American Institute of Chemist's gold medal

May 12, 1972

Dr. Harold C. Urey, professor of chemistry emeritus at the University of California, San Diego, will receive the gold medal of the American Institute of Chemists during the Institute's 49th annual meeting May 18-20 in Niagara Falls, New York.

The medal, the organization*s highest honor, is awarded annually for "stimulating activities of service to the science of chemistry or the profession of chemist or chemical engineer in the United States." Urey, who has been awarded honorary degrees by 25 universities and colleges, has received medals and awards from numerous institutes and societies throughout the world. Among them was the National Medal of Science, presented to him by President Lyndon Johnson in 1965.

Urey received the Nobel Prize in chemistry in 1934 for his discovery of heavy hydrogen, He received his B.S. from the University of Montana in 1917 and his Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley in 1923. During World War II, Urey served as one of three program chiefs in the Manhattan project, which conducted research fundamental to the development of the atomic bomb,

Serving earlier on the faculties of Johns Hopkins and Columbia universities, he joined the faculty at UCSD in 1958 as professor of chemistry-at-large. In July, 1970 he became professor emeritus of chemistry, and on December 1, 1970 was honored with a newly created title, "University Professor." Only four other UC professors in the nine-campus system share this distinction,

Urey and his wife, Frieda, reside in La Jolla.

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