Strauss Points To Need For Control Of Nuclear Arms

By JOHN HAMILTON

“I am convinced that it is our possession of these atomic weapons that has made possible the peace of the last seventeen years,” said Admiral Lewis Strauss, former head of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, speaking in Hamman Hall last Thursday.

ADMIRAL STRAUSS went to express his horror of the growing destructiveness of atomic weapons. Calling attention to other weapons which present a threat “no less grim than that of a world poisoned by radioactivity,” he warned that science is advancing faster than man’s ability to control it.

Recalling such past attempts at international nuclear control as the Atoms-for-Peace and Geneva conferences, he blamed their failure in part on the absence of humanistic scholars.

EXPRESSING the hope that humanists could at least show what we would lose by war, the Forum speaker proposed a conference of international scholars to seek solutions to disarmament problems.

Admitting that he did not know what such a conference might produce, he called it “an attempt (Continued on Page 8)
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by rational man to try any means before resigning himself to the dark ages.”

Admiral Strauss also related incidents from his new book, “Men and Decisions.”

IN ANSWER to a question concerning high-altitude nuclear testing he replied that he does not consider the effects to the Van Allen Radiation Belt harmful and that scientists are glad to have learned these effects before, rather than during, a nuclear war.

Admiral Strauss, who had come to Houston for the Houston Post “Books and Authors” Luncheon, was introduced by his friend and former AEC associate, President K. S. Pitzer.