



NEWS

and VIEWS

National Academy Honors

At the April meeting of the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, the Henry Draper medal for 1947 was awarded to Professor Hans A. Bethe, of Cornell University, in recognition of his contributions to astronomical physics, especially for his researches on the generation of energy in the sun and stars.

Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer, director of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton, New Jersey, was elected a member of the council for three years.

Prince Louis de Broglie, Professor of Theoretical Physics at the University of Paris (Sorbonne), was made a foreign associate.

The following were elected members of the Academy: Lloyd V. Berkner, Carnegie Institution; Felix Bloch, Stanford University; Hallowell Davis, Washington University; John R. Dunning and W. Maurice Ewing of Columbia University; Haldan K. Hartline, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania; Donald H. Menzel, Harvard University; Francis Schmitt, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Glenn T. Seaborg, University of California; Edward Teller, University of Chicago; and Charles A. Thomas, Monsanto Chemical Company.

British Atom

According to recent announcements, the atomic pile at Harwell Research Station in England will start operating very shortly. The "Gleep" (Graphite Low Energy Pile) is already in operation at Harwell, yielding 160 samples of radioactive chemicals a month. It is hoped that increased production from the new pile will provide enough atomic byproducts for Britain's own immediate needs and a possible surplus for export to the Continent.

Honors, Appointments, Awards

Dr. Alfred E. Badger, of the research staff of Libby-Owens-Ford Glass Company, has been elected a Fellow of the British Society of Glass Technology.

At a special meeting of the Board of Governors of the Argonne National Laboratory, Dr. John T. Tate, University of Minnesota, was elected to serve as Chairman of the Board of Governors for the year 1948-49. Dr. F. Wheeler Loomis, University of Illinois, was elected Chairman of the Council of participating institutions.

Dr. Churchill Eisenhart, Chief of the Statistical Engineering Laboratory, National Bureau of Standards, has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society of Great Britain.

The following have been recipients of Research Corporation grants: Isadore Amdur, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (a study of atomic and molecular inter-

action potentials); J. H. Dawson, Pennsylvania State College (a qualitative and quantitative study of liquid turbulence); Robert B. Dean, University of Oregon (forces of attraction between molecules of vapors and monolayers on water); Robert H. Dicke, Princeton University (a precision measurement of the gyromagnetic ratio of quasi-free electrons); Lawrence M. Langer, Indiana University (a study of the beta disintegration process); Walter C. Michels and A. L. Patterson, Bryn Mawr College (properties of solids); and S. H. Nedermeyer, University of Washington (development of ultra-fast counters and techniques for measuring ultra-short time intervals).

Retires

Dr. J. Howard Dellinger, Chief of the Central Radio Propagation Laboratory of the National Bureau of Standards, retired on April 30, after forty years of government service.

Dr. Dellinger joined the Bureau of Standards staff in 1907 and became Chief of the Radio Section when it was established in 1919. During the second world war he directed the work of the Interservice Radio Propagation Laboratory for the Armed Services Joint Communications Board.

Club Activities

For its regular monthly meeting the Lehigh Valley Physics Club joined the Lehigh Section of the American Chemical Society on April 16 to hear Dr. Walter R. Smith, chief research chemist for Godfrey L. Cabot, Inc., Boston, Massachusetts. Speaking on the subject "Some Adsorption Studies on Carbon Black," Dr. Smith discussed the properties displayed by this material in printing inks and in various natural and synthetic rubbers. He pointed out that although many of these properties may be interpreted on the basis of particle size, the nature or activity of the surface is also a factor. His interpretation of these factors was based on x-ray diffraction studies, on results obtained with the electron microscope, and on exact calorimetric evaluations of heats of adsorption.

At the spring meeting of the Kentucky Association of Physics Teachers, the following officers were elected for 1948: president, J. G. Black, Eastern Kentucky State College; vice-president, R. A. Loring, University of Louisville; secretary-treasurer, L. W. Cochran, University of Kentucky; representative on executive committee, D. M. Bennett, University of Louisville.

The Electron Microscope Society of America announces its officers: president, Perry C. Smith, RCA Victor Division, Radio Corporation of America; vice-president, Dr. Francis O. Schmitt, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; secretary, Dr. Charles J. Burton, American Cyanamid Company; treasurer, Mrs. Mary S. Jaffe, General Electric Company.

At the annual meeting of the Wisconsin chapter of the American Association of Physics Teachers, the following officers were elected: president, Professor J. G. Winans,