
Miscellany

Publications

Methods available for the preparation of both primary and secondary standards of radioactivity are reviewed in a circular issued recently by the National Bureau of Standards. In addition, the applications of these standards to problems in physics are discussed. Primary methods are defined as those by which the initial standardization is made or in which a fundamental quantity such as disintegrations per second or rate of energy emission per gram is measured. Secondary methods are defined as those in which a calibration is related to an earlier primary calibration or in which a fundamental quantity is measured in terms of a similar property that has already been measured for another radioactive nuclide, such as radium in equilibrium with its products. The results of international comparisons of radioactivity standards that have been made in the past five years are summarized in one section. The publication (*Preparation, Maintenance, and Application of Standards of Radioactivity*, by W. B. Mann and H. H. Seliger, NBS Circular 594, June 11, 1958, 47 pp., 35¢) can be ordered from the Superintendent of Documents, US Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

The Soviet journal *Biofizika* is being published in complete English translation by the Pergamon Institute under contract with the National Institutes of Health, Public Health Service. The translated journal, *Biophysics*, first made its appearance beginning with the calendar year 1957 and is one of the eight Soviet medical and biological journals published in translation for the National Institutes of Health. It is being distributed without charge to some 400 medical school libraries and research agencies in the US and is offered by the Pergamon Institute to other subscribers for \$30 per year. Orders should be sent to the distributors at any of the following addresses: 122 East 55th Street, New York 22, N.Y.; 4 & 5 Fitzroy Square, London, W.1.; 24 Rue des Ecoles, Paris 5.

Another translation program has been announced by the Instrument Society of America and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, under whose auspices a complete English translation of the leading Soviet automatic control journal *Avtomatika i Telemekhanika* will be published and distributed. The journal had previously been published by Consultants Bureau, Inc., starting with the January 1956 issue, and sold at a subscription price of \$185 per year. Under the new arrangement the translated journal will be published with

the help of a grant made to MIT by the National Science Foundation and will be distributed by the Instrument Society at a general subscription rate of \$30 per year and a special rate of \$15 per year for libraries of academic and other nonprofit institutions. Consultants Bureau will continue to do the translating and printing. Subscription orders should be addressed to the Instrument Society of America, 313 Sixth Avenue, Pittsburgh 22, Pa.

A new section of the *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary* covering "Scientific and Industrial Measuring Instruments" has been published by the International Electrotechnical Commission as Section 20 of the vocabulary. The definitions are given in French and English, the terms alone in German, Spanish, Italian, Dutch, Polish, and Swedish. Copies of the section (IEC Publication 50) may be obtained for a price of \$3.60 from Dept. DD-8, American Standards Association, 70 East 45th Street, New York 17, N. Y.

A new quarterly journal entitled *Research Management*, a publication of the Industrial Research Institute, appeared during the spring. The journal, which is a joint undertaking of IRI and Interscience Publishers, Inc., will contain about 64 pages per issue and is intended to discuss the latest ideas regarding research management "from the research administrator's point of view". It will cover various aspects of industrial research management ranging from the organization and functional operation of research departments to the problems of evaluating the results of research and of selling research to management. Subscriptions are priced at \$7.50 per year and may be obtained from Interscience Publishers, Inc., 250 Fifth Avenue, New York 1, N. Y.

A standard for devices that convert sounds from electric to acoustic systems (American Standard Z24.24-1957, *Procedures for Calibration of Electroacoustic Transducers, Particularly for Use Under Water*) has been published "to establish procedures of measurement, terminology, and means for data presentation". Prepared by the American Standards Association Committee Z24, which is sponsored by the Acoustical Society of America, the standard is available at \$2 per copy from the American Standards Association, 70 East 45th Street, New York 17, N.Y.

New data sheets on Kodak nuclear track materials and on spectrum analysis and "spectroscopic" plates and films have been issued and may be obtained by writing to Special Sensitized Product Sales, Eastman Kodak Co., Rochester 4, N. Y.

NSF Weather Research Program

Under the terms of an act of Congress that was signed into law by the President on July 11, the National Science Foundation has been "authorized and directed to initiate and support a program of study, research, and evaluation in the field of weather modifica-