

letin about eight times per year for the guidance of the chapter officers. New editions of *The Handbook for Chapter Officers* and the *Information Booklet* were authorized for early publication.

The next national convention of the Society was authorized for mid-October, 1962 or 1963 with a mid-western chapter as host.

Consideration was given to prospective charter grants for chapters at about ten strong colleges and universities during the 1960-61 year.

The meeting of the Council for the next year will be held on April 24, 1961, prior to the Washington meeting of the American Physical Society.

Marsh W. White

Pennsylvania State University

Electrical Insulation

THE annual Conference on Electrical Insulation of the National Academy of Sciences—National Research Council will take place October 17-19 at the National Bureau of Standards, Washington, D. C. In addition to technical sessions, there will be round-table discussions on dielectric breakdown in gases, liquids, and solids and fundamental aspects of new dielectric liquids (October 17) and on electrical discharges on insulation and fundamental aspects of new solid dielectric materials (October 18). Other program highlights include the presentation of the Whitehead Award and subsequently the J. B. Whitehead Memorial Lecture by Arthur R. von Hippel, whose subject is "In Search of Understanding". A banquet speech, "An Inside View of the Proximity Fuze Development", will be given by R. D. Huntoon. The chairman for local arrangements is the Conference secretary, Philip J. Franklin, Diamond Ordnance Fuze Laboratory, Washington, D. C., from whom further details can be obtained.

Society of Rheology

THEORETICAL and experimental papers dealing with such topics as normal stress effect, flow birefringence, rate of shear dependent viscosity, dynamic mechanical properties, creep, engineering applications of rheology, and theory of viscoelasticity will be presented at the 31st Annual Meeting of the Society of Rheology to be held from October 31 to November 2 in Pittsburgh, Pa. Registration and six technical sessions will take place at the Mellon Institute. The Society's Bingham Medal will be awarded at a smoker which will take place during the evening of November 1 at the Hotel Webster Hall.

The technical program will consist of discussions of the rheological properties of a wide variety of materials: mineral suspensions, blood, gelled oils, liquid crystals, and polymers (including their solutions and melts). There will also be a symposium on the mechanics of continua.

Further information on the meeting can be obtained from the chairman of the local arrangements committee, Hershel Markovitz, Mellon Institute, 4400 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh 13, Pa.

4th Welch Foundation Conference

MOLECULAR structure and organic reactions is the subject of the fourth in a series of conferences presented by the Robert A. Welch Foundation of Houston, Tex. The meeting is to be held November 7-9 at the Rice Hotel in Houston and will be presided over by W. O. Milligan, the Foundation's director of research.

About 600 scientists from the US and abroad are expected to take part in the conference, which will have as its principal speakers Arthur C. Cope (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), Vladimir Prelog (Laboratorium für Organische Chemie, Zürich), W. O. Baker (Bell Telephone Laboratories), R. Huisgen (University of Munich), R. B. Woodward (Harvard University), J. Monteath Robertson (University of Glasgow), Derek H. R. Barton (Imperial College, London), and Saul Winstein (University of California at Los Angeles). In addition twenty-four specialists will lead the scientific discussions following the formal addresses.

Since advance registration is desirable, persons interested in attending should contact Dr. W. O. Milligan, c/o P. O. Box 1892, Houston 1, Tex., as soon as possible.

Electronics

THE 12th Annual Mid-America Electronics Conference (MAECON) will be held November 14-16 at the Hotel Muehlebach in Kansas City, Mo. The meeting will begin with a round-table discussion on semiconductors and will continue with simultaneous sessions on semiconductors, microwaves, engineering education, and management. A banquet address will be given by William Shockley. Program and registration information can be obtained by writing to D. J. Patrick, 8930 Hardy Drive, Overland Park, Kan.

Irreversibility and Statistical Mechanics

GENERAL theory of irreversibility, random processes, liquids (theory and experiment), and irreversibility in gases and in plasmas are topics to be included in the program of a conference to be held by The Institute of Physics and The Physical Society of Great Britain. It will take place December 19-20 at Queen Mary College, London. Further information can be obtained from The Secretary, The Institute of Physics and The Physical Society, 47 Belgrave Square, London S. W. 1, England.

Microwave Theory and Techniques

ORIGINAL, contributed papers dealing with microwave research, development, and application are being sought by the Technical Program Committee of the 1961 National Symposium of the IRE Professional Group on Microwave Theory and Techniques (to be held May 15-17 at the Sheraton-Park Hotel, Washington, D. C.). Emphasis is expected to be placed on precision microwave measurements, particularly those involving plasmas, noise, parametric devices, etc.; solid-