
Societies

American Physical Society

TWO major awards of the American Physical Society have been presented in recent months. In January, during the Society's annual joint meeting in New York City with the American Association of Physics Teachers, the \$1000 Oliver E. Buckley Solid-State Physics Prize was awarded to Benjamin Lax, head of the Solid-State Division of the MIT Lincoln Laboratory, in recognition of his fundamental contributions in microwave and infrared spectroscopy of semiconductors. The prize was established in 1952 in honor of Oliver E. Buckley, former president and board chairman of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, who died three months ago.

The second award, the new "American Physical Society Prize Sponsored by the Hughes Aircraft Company", was presented on December 29 to Donald A. Glaser of the University of California at Berkeley for his invention of the bubble chamber. The presentation was made at a dinner which was held at the Huntington-Sheraton Hotel in Pasadena, Calif., as part of the Society's 1959 West Coast winter meeting. Intended to recognize outstanding published contributions to physics made prior to the recipient's thirty-third birthday, the \$2500 prize is to be awarded four more times at the discretion of the APS Council.

At the close of the New York meeting, Victor F. Weisskopf, professor of physics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, assumed the presidency of the Physical Society, succeeding George E. Uhlenbeck of the University of Michigan. The Society's new vice president is Frederick Seitz, Scientific Adviser to NATO and former chairman of the Governing Board of the American Institute of Physics, who will become president of the APS next year. Karl K. Darrow and S. L. Quimby were again re-elected as secretary and as treasurer, respectively.

American Association of Physics Teachers

ALSO during the joint meeting in New York, the annual Oersted Medal of the AAPT was presented to R. W. Pohl of the University of Göttingen in Germany. Professor Pohl, who has won world-wide acclaim as a teacher of physics and as a master of the techniques of demonstration lecturing, was for reasons of health unable to be present to receive the medal. Instead, it was accepted by his son, R. O. Pohl of Cornell University, who read his father's spirited Oersted Medal Address (on "The Discovery of Interference by Thomas Young") and at the same time offered an effective demonstration of Professor Pohl's shadow projection methods in illustrating the talk.

The Association's new president is Leonard O. Olsen, professor of physics at the Case Institute of Technology, who has succeeded Francis W. Sears of Dartmouth College. Malcolm Correll of the University of Colorado's High-Altitude Observatory is the new president-elect and is to assume the AAPT presidency in 1961. Secretary Frank Verbrugge and Sanborn C. Brown, the Association's treasurer, were both re-elected to serve during the coming year.



Left: B. Lax, winner of 1960 Buckley Prize. Center: 1952 photo of F. Seitz (now vice president of APS) and this year's Oersted Medallist, R. W. Pohl. Right: G. E. Uhlenbeck, as he presented new APS award to D. A. Glaser.