the overwhelming importance of this fact, and thereby leads to increased effort and support on the accumulation of basic data, then it will have been a worthwhile undertaking.

T. A. Jacobs, M. Lapp, and A. Guttman
Daniel and Florence Guggenheim Jet Propulsion Center, California Institute of Technology

Fusion

ELEMENTARY aspects of achieving controllable release of energy in significant amounts from thermonuclear reactions will be covered at a symposium to be held August 22–26 in Gatlinburg, Tenn. Designed for university faculty members who have little familiarity with the subject, the meeting is sponsored by the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies, in cooperation with the Atomic Energy Commission. The program will consist of a course of four lectures on basic theory, with supplementary lectures on various separate experimental approaches and aspects of plasma physics of more general interest. Various machines used in thermonuclear studies will be discussed.

Further information on the symposium may be obtained from the University Relations Division, Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies, P. O. Box 117, Oak Ridge, Tenn.

Automatic Control

THE first annual Joint Automatic Control Conference will take place September 7–9 in Cambridge, Mass., on the campus of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The aim of the JACC, which is sponsored by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, the Institute of Radio Engineers, and the Instrument Society of America, is to establish a single high-level technical conference devoted exclusively to the theory and application of automatic control techniques and equipment.

At this year's meeting which is being organized by the ASME Instrument & Regulators Division, the program will include three sessions on sampled data and adaptive control, three on process dynamics, four on computer control, and three on control components. There will also be a review of the proceedings of the first International Congress of the International Federation of Automatic Control, which was held in Moscow last month. For further information and a copy of the advance program when it becomes available, write to the JACC general chairman, William D. Archibald, Energy Control Company, 5 Beekman Street, New York 38, N. Y.

Nuclear Science

PAPERS on solid-state radiation detectors and low-noise amplifiers and their applications to nuclear science will be featured at the seventh annual meeting of the Professional Group on Nuclear Science of the

POSITIONS OPEN

Institute of Radio Engineers. It will be held October 3–5 in Gatlinburg, Tenn., under the joint sponsorship of the PGNS and the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. An exhibit of relevant instruments and equipment and a tour of the "Project Sherwood" thermonuclear facilities at ORNL have been scheduled.

A deadline of August 1 has been set for the submission of titles and 50-word abstracts. They should be sent to H. E. Banta, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, P. O. Box "X", Oak Ridge, Tenn., from whom further information concerning the meeting is also available.

Diffraction

SESSIONS devoted to metals and alloys, instrumentation, structures, polymers and fibers, refractors, electron probe, and electron diffraction will make up the program of the annual Pittsburgh Diffraction Conference to be held November 9–11 at the Mellon Institute in Pittsburgh. An evening session will be addressed by I. Fankuchen of the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn. For further information contact L. F. Vassamillet, Mellon Institute, 4400 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh 13, Pa.

Applications of Probability Theory

A TWO–DAY Symposium on Engineering Applications of Probability and Random Function Theory, sponsored by Purdue University, will be held November 15–16 at Lafayette, Ind. The program will stress applications of probability and random function theory to problems associated with factors of safety in structures, reliability of structures and systems, optimization of systems of all types which are subject to random disturbances, jet and rocket engine noise fields, and traffic control. Among the participants will be S. S. Shu (Purdue), Mark Kac (Cornell University), A. J. F. Seigert (Northwestern University), R. B. Murphy and David Slepian (Bell Telephone Laboratories), A. M. Freudenthal (Columbia University), E. T. Jaynes (Stanford University), Ira Dyer (Bolt Beranek and Newman), R. E. Kalman (RIAS), and Elliott Montroll (University of Maryland).

Requests for further information and a detailed program should be addressed to Prof. J. L. Bogdanoff, School of Aeronautical and Engineering Sciences, Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind.

Temperature Measurement and Control

TEMPERATURE, its measurement and control in science and industry, is the subject of a national symposium to be held March 27–31, 1961, in Columbus, Ohio, under the joint sponsorship of the American Institute of Physics, the Instrument Society of America, and the National Bureau of Standards, with the cooperation of other societies and governmental agencies. Next year's conference is expected to cover the broadest range of temperature topics since 1939, when a meeting on the same subject was held in New York City; it will be the fourth of a series of temperature