

SCIENCE EDUCATION

Opportunities for Overseas Assignments

In anticipation of a growing need for personnel by the international programs in which it cooperates, the National Academy of Sciences—National Research Council is compiling a register of American scientists and other specialists who are interested in possibilities of assignments abroad for periods ranging from a few weeks to two years. Such assignments become available at irregular intervals throughout the year, and they vary greatly with respect to location, duration, stipends, and responsibilities. Some programs sponsored by private foundations require scientists of high competence and reputation for short-term lecturing and consulting in one or more countries. Several government-sponsored projects call for specialists who are available for two-year periods, have had previous experience in certain geographical areas, and are fluent in Spanish or French. Under the exchange programs authorized by the Fulbright and Smith-Mundt Acts, young scientists as well as established science educators are welcomed as lecturers by many colleges and universities in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

Persons who wish to be considered for overseas assignments can be included in the register by filling out a special form, available upon request from the Committee on International Exchange of Persons, 2101 Constitution Avenue, N. W., Washington 25, D. C. The return of the completed form does not constitute an application; the form merely provides a means whereby the individual may be considered for openings in his field.

AAPT Programs

A volume of reprints of articles dealing with physics apparatus for lecture room and laboratory has been prepared by the American Association of Physics Teachers' Committee on Apparatus for Educational Institutions. The articles were originally published in the *American Journal of Physics* and its predecessor, the *American Physics Teacher*. The Committee believes that physics teachers will want to be reminded of the existence of these articles and will find it convenient to have them within the covers of this single 300-page paperback volume. The articles range in publication date from 1933 to 1960, in subject field from mechanics to nuclear physics, and in length from notes of a fraction of a page to review articles several pages long. The eighty articles included were selected carefully, but not exhaustively, as ones that seem to make a continuing contribution to physics teaching.

Copies of the reprint volume, which is priced at \$2.50 per copy, can be obtained by writing to Department 10, American Institute of Physics, 335 East 45th Street, New York 17, N. Y. A check payable to the American Institute of Physics should accompany the order.

Contributions are now being solicited by the Demonstration Book Committee of the American Association of Physics Teachers for a new text entitled, *A Reference Source for Demonstration Experiments in Physics*. The text will consist of detailed descriptions of demonstration equipment and their use in lectures, photographs, lists and sources of materials, and (where appropriate) shop drawings and circuit diagrams to facilitate construction. In addition, there will be invited articles on selected subjects such as the role and purpose of lecture demonstrations and the use of audiovisual techniques, including the overhead projector, closed circuit TV, films, shadow projection, and stroboscopic effects.

Emphasis in the selection of material will be put on demonstrations related to the fundamental concepts of contemporary physics. Some examples are: modern standards of length and time; use of frictionless pucks in a variety of demonstrations; kinetic theory demonstrations; demonstrations of quantum effects, such as the Franck-Hertz experiment and the diffraction of electrons; demonstration of the microscopic properties of solids, such as magnetic domains, dislocations, and the Hall effect; demonstrations of scattering and resonance phenomena; demonstrations of electric- and magnetic-field patterns; use of models, such as models of crystals, accelerators, and particle detectors; demonstrations of wave phenomena; analog techniques such as microwave demonstration of x-ray diffraction; satellite-tracking demonstration of the Doppler effect; demonstration of the velocity of light; and demonstration of the conservation laws of energy, momentum, and angular momentum.

Support for the preparation of the book has been provided by the National Science Foundation. The grant was made at the request of the AAPT and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, which will act as coordinating center and fiscal agency for the two-year program. Harry F. Meiners and Robert Resnick of the Rensselaer Physics Department were selected as program directors by the AAPT. An Advisory Committee of six physicists, George D. Freier of the University of Minnesota, John G. King of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Melba Philips of Washington