



Rudolf L. Mössbauer

provements in the treatment of deafness, has received frequent recognition. He holds two honorary degrees of Doctor of Medicine, and last June he was awarded the Gold Medal of the Acoustical Society of America for his investigations into the physics of the ear and its function as an instrument of hearing.

This year's Nobel Prize in chemistry has been won by Melvin Calvin, professor of chemistry at the University of California at Berkeley, for his studies of the chemical reactions occurring in photosynthesis. Prof. Calvin has worked for the past fifteen years on experiments designed to chart the sequence of compounds formed in photosynthesis by employing a technique in which known amounts of carbon-14 are included in the carbon dioxide ingested by a plant. The order in which the chemical reactions take place is determined by stopping the photosynthetic process at various times during its course and measuring the radioactivity of the products.

High-Polymer Physics Prize

THE establishment of "The American Physical Society High-Polymer Physics Prize Sponsored by the Ford Motor Company" was announced last month by the Council of the Society. The prize is to be awarded "for outstanding accomplishment and excellence of contributions in high-polymer physics" with no restrictions with respect to either the nationality of the recipient or the place where he did the work. It is also immaterial whether or not the recipient is a member of the Society.

Nominations for the prize will be made by the Executive Committee of the APS Division of High-Polymer Physics, and the eventual decision will be made by the APS Council. Members of the Physical Society are invited to propose candidates for the 1962 award; their suggestions, together with supporting statements, should be sent to Dr. Hershel Markovitz, Mellon Institute, Pittsburgh 13, Pa.

Frederic Ives Medal

ON October 19, during the Los Angeles meeting of the Optical Society of America, the Society's Frederic Ives Medal for 1961 was presented to Seibert Q. Duntley for the contributions he has made in many areas of optical research, particularly those of environmental optics and human vision.

Dr. Duntley, who has been a research physicist and director of the Visibility Laboratory of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography since 1952, is a fellow of the Optical Society and is currently serving as a director-at-large of that organization. A graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, he obtained his master's degree from the California Institute of Technology and his PhD in physics from MIT. He taught and conducted research at MIT for the next thirteen years before going to San Diego to join the staff of the Scripps Institution.

The Ives Medal was endowed in 1928 by Herbert E. Ives, a charter member of the Optical Society, in honor of his father, Frederic Ives, who was known for his pioneering work in various branches of applied optics. The award is presented annually in recognition of distinguished work in optics.



Seibert Q. Duntley

The Society also honored two other members during the OSA meeting in Los Angeles. Archie I. Mahan and L. Perry Bone of the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory were awarded the prize for the best contributed paper of 1960. Entitled, "Far-Field Diffraction Properties of a Plane-Parallel Plate When Placed Partially in Front of a Rectangular Diffracting Aperture", the paper was presented at the OSA's 44th annual meeting (in Ottawa) and was published in the July 1960 issue of the *Journal of the Optical Society of America*. The work reported was cited as being "especially admirable in that it has taken a problem from classical optical physics and used modern mathematical tools for its solution".