



Leo L. Beranek

Wallace Clement Sabine Award

IN recognition of his work in architectural acoustics, Leo L. Beranek, president of the research and consulting firm of Bolt Beranek and Newman, Inc., has received the Wallace Clement Sabine Award of the Acoustical Society of America. The presentation took place at the banquet of the Society's 62nd meeting, held in Cincinnati on November 10. Established by the ASA in 1957 in memory of W. C. Sabine, who is credited with having changed the art of architectural acoustics into a science, the award is intended as a means of recognizing outstanding contributions in the application of fundamental principles to the solution of problems in architectural acoustics.

An alumnus of Harvard University with the degree of Doctor of Science in physics, Dr. Beranek served as director of the Harvard Electro-Acoustic Laboratory from 1940 to 1946. During the war, he formed the Systems Research Laboratory to study means of defense against the Japanese kamikaze planes. In 1947, he became technical director of the Acoustics Laboratory at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He has served as an assistant professor at Harvard and as associate professor at MIT, and has lectured on acoustics at several foreign universities. In 1954, he left the Electro-Acoustic Laboratory to join the firm which he currently heads, but he has continued to lecture at MIT.

Dr. Beranek was cited for his twenty years of service as "scientist, teacher, and supervisor of student research, author of outstanding books, and consultant to architects. His published works include major contributions on acoustical measurements, anechoic chambers, acoustic materials, building structures, noise control, psychoacoustic criteria, sound systems, broadcast studies, assembly rooms, and the world's great concert halls."

He has served the Acoustical Society as its president and as member of the editorial board of the *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*. He is also a fellow of the American Physical Society, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the New York Academy of Sciences.

At the same dinner, the Acoustical Society's Pioneers

of Underwater Sound Award was presented to Albert B. Wood of the Admiralty Research Laboratory at Teddington in England. Dr. Wood was cited for "nearly half a century of original work in physics and for decades of pioneering leadership in underwater sound" as exemplified in the development and application in underwater-sound studies of the cathode-ray oscillograph, in his invention of the magnetostrictive depth recorder and other ingenious devices, and in his studies of shallow-water acoustic transmission.



William R. Willets

Bingham Medal

THE Society of Rheology has awarded its Bingham Medal for 1961 to William R. Willets, chief of the Paper Development Laboratory of the Titanium Pigment Corporation in New York City, for outstanding work in the field of rheology.

Established in memory of the late Eugene Cook Bingham, one of the founders of the organization, the medal was presented to Mr. Willets by John R. Elliot, the Society's president, during the 32nd annual meeting at the University of Wisconsin. This year's Bingham medallist was cited for his early work involving the use of pigments in paper and for his more recent rheological contributions in the applied area of paper technology.

Born in Montclair, N. J., and a graduate of the State College of Forestry in Syracuse, N. Y., he began what was to be a long career in the paper industry at the laboratories of the Oxford Paper Company in 1926. He joined the Western Electric Company in 1929, working on the development of pulp insulation of conductors for telephone cables, and four years later was named to head the Paper Laboratory of Titanium Pigment Corporation. During the war period, he served as a consultant to the Conservation Division of the War Production Board.

Beginning in 1953, he served for four consecutive two-year terms as secretary-treasurer of the Society of Rheology, and he is currently a member of the Governing Board of the American Institute of Physics.