

from the chairman of the meeting, Dr. Dean Cowie, Department of Terrestrial Magnetism, Carnegie Institution of Washington, 5241 Broad Branch Road, N.W., Washington 15, D. C.

Nuclear Power

LECTURES and discussions on the problems of generating electrical power from nuclear energy sources will be presented next month at a symposium on current trends in nuclear power which will be sponsored by the University of Arizona in cooperation with the Argonne National Laboratory. The symposium, to be held from February 26 through March 2 in Tucson, will also include discussions of advanced concepts in reactor design as well as of the current status of research involving controlled thermonuclear reactions as a power source. Other portions of the program will be devoted to developments in nuclear engineering education. Prof. Lynn Weaver, head of the Nuclear Engineering Department of the University of Arizona, is in charge of arrangements.

APS Divisions Meet in Baltimore

THE "March" meeting of the American Physical Society, which will be devoted largely to the programs of the Society's Divisions of Chemical Physics, High-Polymer Physics, and Solid-State Physics, will be held March 26-29 in Baltimore, Md. Sessions will be held at the headquarters hotel for the meeting, the Lord Baltimore, as well as at Johns Hopkins University and the Emerson Hotel.

All three Divisions will arrange programs of contributed papers, and the Division of Chemical Physics has announced that it will present the following series of three special symposia of four papers each: (1) "Molecular Structures" with papers by David R. Lide, Jr., of the National Bureau of Standards, L. S. Bartell of Iowa State University, Max Wolfsberg of Brookhaven National Laboratory, and K. J. Laidler of the University of Ottawa; (2) "Collision Cross Sections and Chemical Kinetics" with papers by Sheldon Datz of Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Dudley Herschbach of the University of California, D. O. Schissler of Shell Development Co., and W. R. Snow of General Atomic; and (3) "Advances in Statistical Mechanics" with papers by Eugene Helfand of Bell Telephone Laboratories, E. W. Montroll of IBM, E. E. Salpeter of Cornell, and Robert W. Zwanzig of NBS.

Thermionic Power Conversion

FEBRUARY 1 has been set as the deadline for the receipt of abstracts for the interdisciplinary Symposium on Thermionic Power Conversion to be held May 14-16 at the Antlers Hotel in Colorado Springs. The Air Force Academy will serve as the local host for the meeting, which is being organized under the

joint sponsorship of the Division of Electron Physics of the American Physical Society, the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, the American Nuclear Society, the American Rocket Society, the Institute of Radio Engineers, and the Department of Defense. Support for the symposium has been provided by the Navy.

Papers will be selected for presentation on the basis of their technical merit and the extent to which they contribute new scientific information. Topics to be discussed include the following:

1. Electrode Surface Processes—thermionic emission, ion generation, optical emissivity, surface films, electron collection and other physical processes related to the electrode surfaces of thermionic converters.
2. Transport Phenomena—scattering and absorption processes of electrons and ions, plasma generation and sheath formation in gas converters, ion densities and potential distribution between electrodes, field effects and other phenomena related to the internal conduction of the converter.
3. Materials and Fabrication Techniques—thermal stability and solid reactions of electrode and associated structural or nuclear materials in vacuo and in plasma and atmospheric environments. Chemistry and fabrication of seals.
4. Experimental Methods—description of the methods for determining thermionic properties of surfaces and films in gaseous media, ionization phenomena and scattering cross sections, and various converter characteristics, including over-all performance.
5. Device Construction and Performance—description of the internal construction of actual devices and experimentally determined performance of working devices.

Both comprehensive discussions and brief reports of specific techniques will be welcomed, according to the organizers of the meeting, but it is emphasized that discussions of application studies, system designs, and proposed but untested new devices have not been included in the program outline. It is intended that the proceedings of the conference will be published in special issues of the *Journal of Advanced Energy Conversion*.

Abstracts (200–500 words, six copies) must be submitted by February 1 to the chairman of the Program and Publications Committee, Dr. Volney C. Wilson, General Electric Co., Research Laboratory, Schenectady, N. Y. A statement of the time desired for presentation of the paper should accompany the abstract in order to facilitate the planning of the schedule. It is intended that parallel sessions will be avoided.

No registration fee will be charged and advance registration is not required, but it is recommended that hotel reservations be made without delay. Requests for rooms should be sent directly to the Antlers Hotel, Colorado Springs, Colo.

Meteorology

A JOINT meeting of the American Meteorological Society and the American Geophysical Union's Section of Meteorology will take place April 25–28 in