

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

Washington, D. C. The first of the above dates has been set aside to permit participation in the final session of invited papers of the International Symposium on Rocket and Satellite Meteorology which meets in Washington (April 23-25) under the sponsorship of the Committee on Space Research, the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics, and the World Meteorological Organization. Details concerning the AMS-AGU meeting can be obtained by writing to William E. Hiatt, US Weather Bureau, Washington 25, D. C.

National meetings of the Meteorological Society will also be held in Norman, Okla. (February 13-15) and in Fairbanks, Alaska (June 26-28). The February meeting is being organized as a conference on severe storms and will take place in the Forum Building of the Oklahoma Center for Continuing Education at the University of Oklahoma. Prof. Walter J. Saucier of the School of Engineering Physics is program chairman. The June meeting will be held at the University of Alaska and will deal with Arctic meteorology and climatology, the geophysics of the upper atmosphere, and topics in general meteorology. The program chairman is Chief Warrant Officer John F. Gaillard, USAF, 11th Weather Sq., APO 942, Seattle, Wash.

The Ionosphere

IN TENDED as a working conference uninterrupted by social activities, a meeting in London on various topics relating to the ionosphere is to take place from July 2 to 6 under the sponsorship of Britain's amalgamated Institute of Physics and Physical Society. The program will consist of four main sessions, each of which is to be opened by an invited speaker. The subjects to be covered are (1) ionospheric constitution and ionizing radiations, (2) geomagnetism and the ionosphere, (3) irregularities in the ionosphere, and (4) mathematics of wave propagation through the ionosphere. Opening addresses at these sessions are to be given, respectively, by H. Friedman of the US Naval Research Laboratory, C. O. Hines of the Canadian Defense Research Telecommunications Establishment, B. H. Briggs of the Cavendish Laboratory, and H. G. Booker of Cornell University.

Individuals wishing to contribute papers to the meeting must submit abstracts of no more than 150 words to the chairman of the Organizing Committee, J. A. Ratcliffe, Radio Research Station, Ditton Park, Slough, Bucks, England before March 1. The deadline for final papers is June 1, and it is intended that the conference proceedings be published soon after the meeting. Those wishing to attend are advised to arrange for hotel accommodation early in the year, and it is suggested that assistance may be provided by the London Hotels Information Service, 88 Brook Street, London, W.1.

Further information concerning the meeting will be available at the end of March from the Administration Assistant, The Institute of Physics and The Physical Society, 47 Belgrave Square, London, S.W.1.