

AIP AND SOCIETY ACTIVITIES

AAPT Apparatus Competition

The third biennial competition for new apparatus in the teaching of physics has been announced by the Committee on Apparatus for Educational Institutions of the American Association of Physics Teachers. Judging will take place at the Statler-Hilton Hotel in New York City at the time of the Annual Meeting of the AAPT, January 23-26, 1963.

Cash prizes of \$500, \$200, and \$100, as well as honorable mention citations, will be awarded for new pieces of apparatus in each of two categories: equipment used in demonstration lectures in undergraduate college physics and equipment used in the undergraduate physics laboratory. "New" apparatus includes that which is neither commercially available nor well known through published descriptions. The competition will be supported by a grant from the W. M. Welch Scientific Company.

Further information and application blanks can be obtained by writing to the AAPT Apparatus Committee, c/o the Education Department, American Institute of Physics, 335 East 45th Street, New York 17, N. Y.

AIP Student Sections

Twenty-five new sections have been added in the past year to the Student Section Organization of the American Institute of Physics, bringing the total number of such campus groups to more than 200. In addition, an *AIP Member Society Information* booklet, compiled by the Institute to acquaint the members of the Student Sections with the membership requirements of the various AIP Member Societies, has resulted in an increase of approximately 400 students as junior members of individual Societies.

During 1962-63, its thirteenth year, the AIP Student Section Program will continue to provide the members of the Sections with information on graduate study and research programs in physics, news of opportunities for assistantships and fellowships and for permanent or summer employment, lay versions of papers presented at Member Society meetings, lists of available speakers and selected review films to aid in planning Section programs, and reduced rates for AIP publications.

An innovation this year, made possible by the Bendix Corporation, will be a competition for grants to support local Section activities. Proposals for projects submitted by the Sections will be reviewed by a panel of judges, and the three or four most meritorious will be funded by grants up to \$500. Each proposal must have the endorsement of the Section's faculty adviser, and must be sent to Mrs. Ethel Snider, American Institute

of Physics, 335 East 45th Street, New York 17, N. Y., by October 31.

New AAS Post Established

The American Astronomical Society, in order to meet its increasing responsibilities in educational affairs and in its relations with agencies of the government, industry, and other scientific organizations, has announced the establishment of the full-time position of executive officer of the Society.

Paul M. Routly, professor of astronomy at Pomona College in Claremont, Calif., has accepted a one-year appointment to the post. He has been granted a leave of absence from Pomona and will make his headquarters, at least initially, at the Princeton University Observatory.

AAPT High-School Awards

For the fourth consecutive year, the American Association of Physics Teachers has presented certificates of commendation for outstanding physics programs to ten American secondary schools. Punahou School, Honolulu, Hawaii; South High School, Denver, Colo.; Wichita High School East, Wichita, Kan.; Clayton High School, Clayton, Mo.; Central High School, St. Paul, Minn.; Milwaukee University School, Milwaukee, Wisc.; McLean High School, McLean, Va.; North Miami Senior High School, North Miami, Fla.; Winchester High School, Winchester, Mass.; and Irondequoit High School, Rochester, N. Y., were selected by the AAPT High School Awards Committee, headed by Stanley S. Ballard, chairman of the physics department at the University of Florida, with consideration given to differences in size and geographical location. Selections were made with the understanding that not more than one school in any single size category would be chosen in any one geographical region.

IRE + AIEE = IEEE

Members of the Institute of Radio Engineers and the American Institute of Electrical Engineers have voted to join the two societies in a new organization to be called the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers. The AIEE approved the merger at its annual meeting in Denver on June 18, and the IRE at a special meeting on July 10 at its New York headquarters. A committee of seven representatives from each society has been appointed to arrange the details of the merger, which will become effective January 1, 1963.