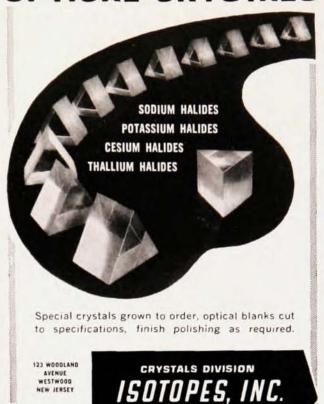
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istry of the visual system, electrophysiology of the visual system, retinal image formation, simple discriminatory functions, and contributions to color discrimination theory. For further information, write to Mary E. Warga, Executive Secretary, Optical Society of America, 1155 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

Engineering Aspects of MHD

FOUR nonconcurrent sessions of contributed and invited papers will make up the program of the Third Symposium on the Engineering Aspects of Magnetohydrodynamics, which is to be held at the University of Rochester on March 28 and 29. Sponsored by the University, together with the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, the Institute of Aerospace Sciences, and the Institute of Radio Engineers, the meeting is intended as an interdisciplinary experience designed to further the exchange of information among participants who are competent in one or more related fields. The following subjects will be covered:

- Communications and Diagnostics—the transmission and receiving of information or energy from plasmas under varying conditions.
- Flight Applications—the propulsion or control of aerodynamic or space vehicles by MHD interaction between the vehicle and its environment.
- Fusion—the extraction of energy through controlled thermonuclear fusion of light nuclei.
- Power Conversion—the direct extraction of electrical energy from hot flowing plasmas or conducting liquids.

Requests for further information should be addressed to the chairman of the steering committee, Norman W. Mather, Plasma Physics Laboratory, Princeton University, Princeton, N. J.

Data Handling

E MPHASIZING the application of mathematical techniques to information-handling systems, the twelfth annual Polytechnic Symposium of the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn will be devoted to the theme, "The Mathematical Theory of Automata". This year's international symposium will be held April 24-26 in the new United Engineering Center near United Nations Plaza in New York City. It is being organized by the Institute's Departments of Electrical Engineering and Electrophysics in cooperation with the Professional Groups on Electronic Computers and Information Theory of the Institute of Radio Engineers and the Division of Science and Electronics of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers; cosponsors will be the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, the Office of Naval Research, and the Army Signal Corps.

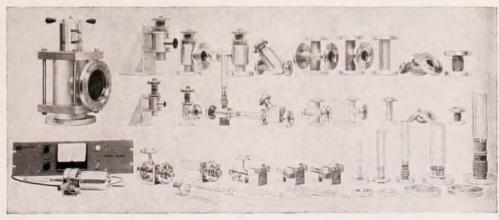
The objectives of the 1962 symposium, according to the organizers, are twofold: (1) to encourage the development and exposition of basic theories and mathematical tools which will be of help to the engineer in analyzing, designing, and using information-handling

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systems, and (2) to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas among applied mathematicians and computer and information-theory specialists in the hope of stimulating further development of those branches of mathematics which might be used in a theory of digital devices.

The program will contain both invited and contributed papers, as well as a round-table discussion of future trends, and the proceedings will be published in book form as Volume 12 of the Polytechnic Symposia Series. Correspondence should be addressed to the Symposium Committee, Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, 55 Johnson Street, Brooklyn 1, N. Y.

Low-Energy Physics

A CONFERENCE on neutron thermalization will be held at the Brookhaven National Laboratory from April 30 to May 2, 1962. The purpose of the meeting is to review the current status of experimental and theoretical knowledge of space-dependent and time-dependent thermalization and to consider the relevant aspects of low-energy neutron scattering. Requests for further details should be sent to Dr. Noel Corngold, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, Long Island, N. Y.

Theoretical and Applied Mechanics

A PROGRAM of papers emphasizing recent work in solid mechanics, fluid mechanics, and dynamics will be presented at the First Southeastern Conference on Theoretical and Applied Mechanics, which is to be held May 3-4 in Gatlinburg, Tenn. Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the sponsoring organization, has announced that plans are underway for holding subsequent conferences in the series on a biennial basis. Responsibility for organizing future programs will be in the hands of a Policy Committee headed by B. L. Greenstreet of ORNL's Reactor Division, who has also been named executive chairman of the first conference. The executive vice chairman is C. E. Stoneking of Georgia Institute of Technology; R. L. Maxwell of the University of Tennessee is the conference secretary.

Thin Films

CONTRIBUTIONS to the technical program of the 1962 Conference on Thin Films, which is to be held August 29–30 in Denver, are being solicited by the meeting's sponsor, the University of Denver Research Institute's Solid-State Electronics Laboratory. Emphasis is to be placed upon the underlying physics of film formation, and the program will include sessions on magnetic films, epitaxial growth, and general film properties. April 1 is the deadline for submission of 300- to 600-word abstracts to the conference chairman, R. B. Feagin, Denver Research Institute, University of Denver, Denver 10, Colo., to whom requests for additional information should also be addressed.