AWARDS

Lomb Medal

On March 15, the Optical Society of America's Adolph Lomb Medal for 1962 was awarded to Jean-Pierre Barrat of the University of Caen. The medal was accepted on his behalf by Prof. P. Jacquinot at a banquet during the Society's spring meeting in Washington, D. C. The Lomb Medal, established in honor of the Society's first secretary, is awarded no oftener than once every two years. The recipient must be a person under 30 years of age who has made a noteworthy contribution to the science of optics.

Dr. Barrat was born in Paris in 1933 and did distinguished undergraduate work in mathematics. He did his graduate work in mathematics and physics at the Ecole Normale Supérieure, receiving his doctorate in 1959. He was a lecturer in the Faculty of Sciences from 1958 through 1960 and is now an assistant professor at the University of Caen.

The citation accompanying the award included the following comments by Alfred Kastler of the Ecole Normale Supérieure, who headed Dr. Barrat's thesis jury: "Barrat in his thesis has made an extensive experimental study of this coherence effect (a new coherence effect of optical resonance, discovered by Blamart and Brassel) and has developed the quantum-mechanical theory of it.

"I believe that the work of Barrat is a very remarkable contribution to optics and to fundamental quantum-mechanics showing a new effect of phase-relation in the interaction of light and matter."

British Physics Awards

Abdus Salam, professor of theoretical physics at the Imperial College of Science and Technology in the University of London, has been named the first recipient of the Maxwell Medal and Prize, a new award which the Council of Britain's amalgamated Institute of Physics and Physical Society has introduced for outstanding contributions to theoretical physics carried out in the ten years preceding the award. Dr. Salam, who was cited for his many contributions to the theory of elementary particles, was made a fellow of the Royal Society in 1959. Prior to his appointment at Imperial College, he served as professor of mathematics at the Government College in Lahore, Pakistan, and as lecturer in mathematics at the University of Cambridge.

The Institute and Society have also announced the presentation of the 1962 Charles Vernon Boys Prize to P. B. Hirsch of the Cavendish Laboratory for his work in x-ray spectroscopy and electron microscopy, and particularly for his investigations of dislocations and other defects in metals. D. H. Wilkinson, professor of experimental physics at the University of Oxford, was named to give this year's Rutherford Memorial Lecture on March 26 at a conference on high-energy nuclear physics sponsored by the Institute and Society. Sir Bernard Lovell, professor of radio astronomy at the University of Manchester and director of the Nuffield Radio Astronomy Laboratories at Jodrell Bank, has been appointed to present the Guthrie Lecture during the Institute and Society's Harrogate Convention on May 24.

Newcomb Cleveland Prize

Halton C. Arp, a Carnegie Institution of Washington staff member at the Mount Wilson and Mount Palomar Observatories, was awarded the Newcomb Cleveland Prize of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in December. The $1000 prize, which is awarded annually for a "noteworthy paper, representing an outstanding contribution to science", was presented to Dr. Arp during the 1961 AAAS meeting in Denver for his paper, "The Stellar Content of Galaxies", which he delivered as the Astronomical Society's Helen B. Warner Lecture at the AAAS meeting in New York City in 1960. The paper summarized observations made by himself and others in recent years on the formation and evolution of stars and galaxies and the relationships among them, indicating that stars, and possibly galaxies, vary widely in chemical composition, the stars in the oldest clusters generally being the most deficient in metals.

Dr. Arp was born in New York City in 1927. A Harvard graduate who received his PhD in astronomy from the California Institute of Technology, he is one of the younger staff members at the Mount Wilson and Palomar Observatories, which are operated jointly by Carnegie Institution of Washington and the California Institute of Technology.

Vetlesen Prize

Columbia University's second $25 000 Vetlesen Prize, awarded by the University's trustees for "outstanding achievement in the sciences resulting in a clearer understanding of the earth, its history or relation to the universe", was presented jointly on January 25 to Sir Harold Jeffreys of the University of Cambridge and Felix A. Vening Meinesz of the University of Utrecht. Sir Harold, a fellow of the Royal Society and winner of its Royal Medal in 1948, was cited for his long record of achievement in the study of the earth sciences. In 1952 he was named to receive the Bowie Medal of the American Geophysical Union. Professor Meinesz was honored for his contributions to geodesy, geophysics, and geology, which include some of the first gravity measurements taken at sea. The Vetlesen Prize was first awarded two years ago to Maurice Ewing, director of Columbia's Lamont Geophysical Laboratory.