

PUBLISHING NEWS

New Paperback Series in Physics

The Commission on College Physics has announced that, as part of its program for the improved teaching of physics in colleges and universities, arrangements have been completed for the preparation and publication of a series of paperback books that will be suitable for supplemental reading and reference use by students of physics and related sciences.

The Commission on College Physics is composed of a group of physicists whose efforts toward the improvement of college physics courses are supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation to Bryn Mawr College, where the Commission's office is located. Its aim is to encourage new and better physics courses; to help in the development of new teaching aids, such as films and improved laboratory and demonstration apparatus; and to act as a clearing house and "nerve center" among physics instructors. In announcing plans for the new series, the chairman of the Commission, Walter C. Michels of Bryn Mawr, offered the following comments:

"The importance of the physical sciences as determinants of twentieth-century culture is so great that we must find better ways to make all college students acquainted with them and with the nature of the process by which our knowledge of the material universe grows. Curriculum developments carried on by leading scientists and teachers during the past six years are leading to great improvements in the teaching of the sciences and mathematics in the high schools. It is essential that the colleges take advantage of this fact and that they revamp their courses to the extent needed if they are to build on the foundations being laid in the schools.

"One of the severe limitations on physics teaching has been the lack of well-written reference books that go beyond the textbooks used in college physics courses. The exciting stories of both classical and modern developments in the physical sciences, the ways in which these are applied in other sciences and engineering, biographical, and historical material—these are among the topics to which every physics student and every interested college graduate should have access. Most of the books now available, dealing with such topics as cosmic rays, elementary particles, or radio astronomy of the planets, are either too popularized to be sound or are too technical to be comprehensible to those who need them. The series will be edited by Dr. Edward U. Condon, chairman of the Department of Physics at Washington University, past director of the National Bureau of Standards and past director of research for the Corning Glass Company. It is his plan to see that intelligible and interesting books are prepared by outstanding physicists and that they will combine sound science with clear presentation."

The Commission has entered into contracts with D.

Van Nostrand Company, Inc., and with the American Association of Physics Teachers, under whose auspices the Commission was established, with the intent of producing some fifty to one hundred books during the next five to ten years. The series is to be produced without government subsidy and is intended to be self-supporting. Royalties to the authors and to the American Association of Physics Teachers will recompense both the writers and the editorial committee. Initial editorial expenses are being met by an advance from the funds of the Association, which considers such financial support to be part of its obligation to its membership. It is anticipated that the first books of the series will be available during 1963.

Journals

Seven years ago, the Acoustical Society of America launched its journal *Noise Control*, a bimonthly devoted to the discussion of noise problems and of means for combatting them. The magazine subsequently increased its coverage to include articles on shock and vibration as well. Last year, however, the Society concluded that the growing need for a general publication covering all of the many practical applications of acoustics could not reasonably be satisfied simply by appending further subheadings to the title *Noise Control*, and it was agreed that the journal be discontinued at the end of 1961. It has now been succeeded by a new bimonthly magazine entitled *Sound—Its Uses and Control*.

Volume 1, Number 1 of the Society's new publication (dated January–February 1962) has recently been issued under the editorship of R. Bruce Lindsay of Brown University. Herbert A. Erf of the H. A. Erf Acoustical Co. is the managing editor. In addition, the magazine has the following associate editors: Leo L. Beranek and W. D. Neff of Bolt Beranek and Newman, Inc., Richard K. Cook of the National Bureau of Standards, Robert O. Fehr of Cornell University, Kenneth W. Johnson of K. W. Johnson and Co., Inc., and Daniel W. Martin of the Baldwin Piano Co.

Sound—Its Uses and Control is described as an Acoustical Society publication devoted "to the popular presentation of practical information on noise control, shock and vibration, architectural acoustics, underwater sound, musical acoustics, sonics and ultrasonics, hearing and speech, bioacoustics, psychoacoustics, electroacoustics, and geoacoustics". Its aims are further delineated by Dean Lindsay in an editorial appearing in the first issue which states that the journal is in-