

HONORS AND AWARDS

Heineman Prize

Léon Van Hove of the European Organization for Nuclear Research was awarded the Dannie Heineman Prize for Mathematical Physics on April 25 during the spring meeting of the American Physical Society in Washington, D. C. Dr. Van Hove, who has been leader of the Theoretical Division at the CERN laboratory since September 1960, received the award in recognition of his contributions to statistical mechanics and to field theory, as examples of outstanding publication in the field of mathematical physics. He was born in Brussels in 1924, received his doctorate from the University of Brussels, and is a former professor of theoretical physics at the University of Utrecht. He spent two years in the United States at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton.

The \$2500 prize was established in 1959 under the terms of an endowment by the Dannie Heineman Foundation for Research, Educational, Charitable, and Scientific Purposes, Inc. The endowment fund is administered by the American Institute of Physics and the recipients are selected by a committee appointed by the Council of the American Physical Society. Mr. Heineman died in February of this year.

Langley Medal

At ceremonies held in Philadelphia on April 27, Hugh L. Dryden, deputy administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, was awarded the Langley Gold Medal of the Smithsonian Institution. Dr. Dryden, who received the medal during the annual meeting of the American Philosophical Society, was cited for his "important applications of experimental science to the problems of flight and for his wise and courageous administration of much of America's research and technical developments that now make possible the conquest of air and space".

Dr. Dryden is a fellow of the American Physical Society and a former chairman of the Society's Division of Fluid Dynamics. He received his PhD in physics at Johns Hopkins University in 1919 and has been associated with research in the aeronautical sciences during most of his professional career. Before joining NASA in 1958, he was director of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics.

The Langley Medal was established in 1908 in memory of Samuel P. Langley, an astronomer and physicist who was noted for his pioneering contributions to aerodynamics and experimental aeronautics and who served as secretary of the Smithsonian Institution from 1887 until his death in 1906. The award to Dr. Dryden brought the total number of presentations of the Langley Medal to ten. The first such award was made jointly

to Orville and Wilbur Wright in 1909. The purpose of the award is to recognize specially meritorious investigations in connection with the science of aerodynamics and its application to aviation.

National Academy of Sciences

Frederick Seitz, head of the Department of Physics at the University of Illinois and the immediate past president of the American Physical Society, was elected president of the National Academy of Sciences during the Academy's annual meeting in Washington, D. C., last April. The previous president of the Academy was Detlev W. Bronk, who took office in 1950. Dr. Bronk, who is president of the Rockefeller Institute, announced to the membership of the Academy some months prior to the annual meeting that he could not again make himself available for the post after having served for an unprecedented three terms in office. At that time Dr. Bronk was asked to serve as chairman of a committee to prepare for the one hundredth anniversary next year of the founding of the Academy by Abraham Lincoln in 1863. Dr. Bronk was also asked to write a history of the Academy and to lead a drive for funds to provide for the construction of an auditorium and a new wing to the Academy building.

The Academy, which has some 650 members elected from all branches of the natural sciences, on the basis of their achievements in original research, is dedicated "to the furtherance of science and its uses for the general welfare". Although it is a private organization, the Academy was specifically called upon, in an Act of Incorporation passed by Congress in 1863, to serve upon request as the official adviser to the federal government in all matters of scientific and technical interest. The officers and members of the Academy receive no compensation for their services (they must, in fact, pay dues).

As president, Dr. Seitz will be responsible for the general administration of the Academy and of the National Research Council. The various programs of the Research Council, designed to stimulate research and its applications, now account for an average annual expenditure of about \$15 million, of which two thirds are derived from contracts with agencies of the federal government and the remainder from grants and contracts from nonfederal sources.

The Academy has also announced the election of Harrison Brown, professor of geochemistry at the California Institute of Technology, to the post of foreign secretary of the NAS. He will be responsible for the conduct of the Academy's relations with the science