

SOCIETY ACTIVITIES

Optical Society

On January 1, Stanley S. Ballard, chairman of the Department of Physics at the University of Florida, took office as president of the Optical Society of America for 1963. Dr. Ballard, who was the Society's president-elect during 1962 and who previously served for a number of years as vice president for meetings of the OSA, is a former president of the International Commission on Optics, secretary of the Physics Section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and retiring president of the national physics honor society, Sigma Pi Sigma. Richard C. Lord, a member of the faculty of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and director of its Spectroscopy Laboratory, has been named president-elect of the Optical Society for the coming year. Dr. Lord, an authority on far infrared spectroscopy and president of the Commission on Molecular Spectroscopy of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry, will assume the OSA presidency in January 1964.

The Society has also announced that John A. Sanderson, superintendent of the Optics Division of the US Naval Research Laboratory; W. Lewis Hyde, director of development of the J. W. Fecker Division of American Optical Company; and George Wald, professor of biology at Harvard University, will serve for the next three years as directors-at-large. They join Rudolf Kingslake of the Eastman Kodak Company, Earle K. Plyler of the National Bureau of Standards, and David Richardson of Bausch & Lomb, whose terms as directors-at-large will expire next December, and Georg H. Hass of the US Army Engineer Research and Development Laboratories at Fort Belvoir, Va., R.

Clark Jones of the Polaroid Corporation, and E. D. McAlister of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, whose terms expire in December 1964.

Astronomical Society

The new president of the American Astronomical Society for the next two years, and the first Canadian astronomer to hold that office, is Carlyle S. Beals of the Dominion Observatory in Ottawa, who succeeded the previous president, Lyman Spitzer, Jr., of Princeton University, following the Society's annual meeting last year. He received his doctorate from the University of London in 1926, and became a member of the staff of the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory at Victoria in the following year. He remained at the Observatory until 1946, when he went to Ottawa, and in 1947 he was appointed to the post of Dominion Astronomer in charge of all federal astronomical and geophysical work in terrestrial magnetism, seismology, and gravity in Canada. He is known for his research in observational astrophysics, particularly in connection with studies of interstellar matter and the emission spectra of Wolf-Rayet and P Cygni stars, and he has also made contributions in the field of color temperatures and in photoelectric photometry. During the past ten years he has carried out studies having to do with the occurrence of ancient meteorite craters in Canada.

Ira S. Bowen, Director of the Mt. Wilson and Palomar Observatories, will serve as a vice president for the Society during 1962-64, joining Fred T. Haddock of the University of Michigan Observatory,



Stanley S. Ballard



Richard C. Lord



Carlyle S. Beals



Ira S. Bowen