

SOCIETY ACTIVITIES

The APS-AAPT Joint Meeting

A total of 4894 registered (and an unknown number of unregistered) participants took part in the annual joint meeting of the American Physical Society and the American Association of Physics Teachers, held January 23-26 in New York City. More than 500 contributed and invited papers were distributed over the four days, which also included the traditional joint ceremonial session and the banquet as well as several business meetings, special lectures for college students, the AAPT apparatus competition, and exhibits by some 85 companies. The 1963 terms for officers of both societies took effect at the close of the meeting.

This year's president of the American Physical Society is John H. Williams, professor of physics at the University of Minnesota and a former member of the US Atomic Energy Commission. Professor Williams, who was the Society's vice president last year, served as a member of the wartime Los Alamos Laboratory, where he was in charge of the Laboratory's Electrostatic Generator Group. He was named director of the AEC's Division of Research in 1958 and received his appointment as a commissioner in 1959. Professor Williams is currently a member of the AEC's General Advisory Committee. W. V. Houston of Rice University, as the retiring president, will continue to serve the Society as a member of the Council.

Another former Atomic Energy Commission member, Robert F. Bacher, provost of the California Institute of Technology and chairman of Caltech's Division of Physics, Mathematics, and Astronomy, has been elected vice president of the Physical Society, and will succeed Professor Williams as president in 1964. During World War II, Dr. Bacher also was a member of the Los Alamos Laboratory, first as head of the Experimental Physics Division and later as head of the Bomb Physics Division. Dr. Bacher was the first scientist member of the Atomic Energy Commission, serving from 1946 to 1949. In recent years, he has served as a member of the President's Science Advisory Committee. Karl K. Darrow and Shirley L. Quimby were re-elected as the Society's secretary and treasurer, respectively. C. N. Yang and Benjamin Lax were elected to four-year terms on the APS Council, Robert K. Adair, Murray Gell-Mann, Edward Gerjuoy, Arthur L. Schawlow, J. R. Schrieffer, and Leonard I. Schiff were named to three-year terms on the Board of Editors of *The Physical Review*, and Edwin A. Uehling and Charles P. Slichter were named to three-year terms on the Board of Editors of the *Reviews of Modern Physics*.

Vincent E. Parker, deputy director of the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies, has assumed the presidency of the American Association of Physics Teachers.



Robert F. Bacher, the 1963 vice president of the APS.

The APS awarded its 1963 Buckley Solid State Physics Prize to William M. Fairbank.



John H. Williams, this year's president of the American Physical Society.



Prior to his joining ORINS last year, Dr. Parker was head of the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. He has served for the last three years on the National Commission on College Physics and is a former associate editor of the *American Journal of Physics* and past president of Sigma Pi Sigma.

The Association's new president-elect, Edward U. Condon, will become president of the Association in 1964. Professor Condon is currently serving as visiting professor of physics at Oberlin College in Ohio while on leave from his post as Wayman Crow professor of physics and head of the Physics Department at Washington University in St. Louis. A former director of the National Bureau of Standards, he is editor of the Physical Society's *Reviews of Modern Physics*. Professor Condon served as president of the American Physical Society in 1946. Ralph P. Winch, chairman of the Physics Department at Williams College in Williamstown, Mass., was re-elected secretary of the Association of Physics Teachers, and Joseph Dillinger, professor of physics at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, continues as AAPT treasurer. Robert S. Shankland, professor of physics at the Case Institute of Technology in Cleveland, has been elected to the Association's Executive Committee. As the retiring



cent E. Parker, president of American Association of Physics Teachers for 1963.



E. U. Condon, this year's vice president of the AAPT.

The AAPT's Oersted Medal was conferred posthumously on the late Francis L. Friedman.

president, Frank Verbrugge of the University of Minnesota will continue to serve on the Executive Committee.

The Joint Ceremonial Session of the two societies was held on January 24th at the Manhattan Center. The retiring presidential address of the Physical Society was presented by W. V. Houston who spoke on the Theory of Electrons and Atomic Nuclei in Crystals. The 22nd Richtmyer Memorial Lecture of the AAPT, given annually in memory of Floyd K. Richtmyer, was presented by W. K. H. Panofsky of Stanford University, who spoke on the subject "Photon and Electron High-Energy Physics: Present and Future". The 27th Oersted Medal of the American Association of Physics Teachers, awarded "for notable contributions to the teaching of physics", was conferred posthumously on the late Francis L. Friedman, professor of physics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, director of the MIT Science Teaching Center, and a leading figure in the work of the Physical Science Study Committee. Professor Friedman died last August. It was announced that a special bronze memorial tablet, honoring Dr. Friedman as the Oersted Medalist, would be presented to MIT. This year's address, an appreciation of Francis Friedman, was given by Philip Morrison of Cornell.

At the joint banquet on Friday evening, the Physical Society's Oliver E. Buckley Solid-State Physics Prize for 1963 was awarded to William M. Fairbank of Stanford University. Professor Fairbank was chosen by the Society's Council to receive the \$1000 award in recognition of "his work on the properties of helium 3, and especially for his part in the experimental discovery of flux quantization in superconductors". A member of the MIT Radiation Laboratory during World War II, he served on the faculties of Amherst and Duke prior to joining Stanford in 1959 as professor of physics. Endowed in 1952 by the Bell Telephone Laboratories in honor of its former president and board chairman, the late O. E. Buckley, the prize is administered by the Society. The banquet's after-dinner speaker was William H. Pickering, director of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory of the California Institute of Technology and president of the newly formed American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, who spoke on the flight of Mariner II.

During the annual business meeting of the AAPT, the Association awarded four Distinguished Service Citations for contributions to physics teaching. Those honored were Melba N. Phillips of the University of Chicago, C. Luther Andrews of the State University of New York in Albany, R. Bruce Lindsay of Brown University, and Kenneth E. Davis of Reed College in Portland, Ore.

Winners of the AAPT's third biennial competition for new apparatus in the teaching of physics, supported by the Welch Scientific Company, were also announced at the Saturday meeting. In the undergraduate laboratory category, the first prize of \$500 was won by A. P. French of MIT and the \$200 second prize by R. B. Leighton of the California Institute of Technology. Third prizes of \$50 each went to Kenneth W. Billman of MIT and Alan J. Bearden of Cornell University. C. L. Andrews of the State University of New York in Albany, John W. Dewdney of Harvard University, Robert B. Brode of the University of California at Berkeley, and Perry Sprawls of Emory University in Atlanta, Ga., received honorable mention. In the lecture demonstration category, Harold M. Waage of Princeton University received the \$500 first prize and Gary D. Gordon of the Radio Corporation of America the \$200 second prize. Honorable mention went to Hans Bichsel of the University of Southern California at Los Angeles, E. M. Hafner of the University of Rochester, Thomas Fischer of Xavier University, David J. Rose of MIT, and Guenter Schwarz and Lewis V. Eckhart of Florida State University.

Journal for High-School Teachers

The first issue of *The Physics Teacher*, a new publication intended for high-school teachers of physics, is scheduled to appear next month. Published by the American Association of Physics Teachers with the support of a grant from the National Science Foundation, the new journal will be distributed free to about