

PUBLISHING NEWS

Novel Experiments in Physics

A source book for teachers, containing notes on eighty experiments related to the course material of undergraduate physics, has been compiled by the American Association of Physics Teachers' Committee on Apparatus and the AAPT-AIP Center for Educational Apparatus in Physics. Published by the American Institute of Physics, *Novel Experiments in Physics* contains reprints of student experiment sheets selected by the Apparatus Committee from notes and manuals submitted by more than 130 schools. The material has not been modified except for the addition of notes to refer the reader to other sources of information about apparatus or procedures.

The selected experiments range through all levels of sophistication suitable for undergraduates and call for equipment of various degrees of complexity (some of which can be homemade). The book is not a text for a laboratory course and is not intended as a "cookbook". It is rather a reference work enabling physics teachers to share the insights and innovations of their colleagues in the design and use of instructional experiments. Copies can be ordered at \$5.00 each (or \$4.50 if the remittance accompanies the order) from the AAPT Committee on Apparatus, American Institute of Physics, 335 East 45 Street, New York, N. Y. 10017.

Member prices of journals

There have been upward adjustments in the prices of several journals in 1964 and 1965 for which there were excellent reasons. There is no departure from the traditional purpose of keeping the "member" prices low so that individual physicists can own and use their own copies of the journals they need. This is made possible by the "publication charge," which generally covers the costs of editorial work and composition.¹

The American Physical Society² has in the past offered one journal to be selected by members at a price well below the cost of printing and mail-

ing (not including editorial work and typesetting), the differential being met by a subsidy from dues. Now, a member may take as many as he wishes from the journal list at somewhat higher prices, each still involving a substantial subsidy. With its growth in size and the normal increase in printing prices, the new \$25 "member" price of *The Physical Review* is still below the cost of printing and mailing.

The Optical Society of America had financial help for the first three years, 1962, 1963, and 1964, from the National Science Foundation in establishing *Applied Optics*. Now, in its fourth year of publication, *Applied Optics* has adopted the publication charge and has increased its subscription charges.

Physics Abstracts has increased in size and cost from year to year. Until recently, it was supplied to members at a fraction of the cost of printing and mailing, with a subsidy (from the American Physical Society and from nonmember subscriptions) covering the balance as well as the costs of acquisition, editorial work, and composition. Beginning with 1965, the Institution of Electrical Engineers in London, which publishes *Physics Abstracts*, has decided that "members" in Britain will be charged their share of the full costs of the entire journal operation, which amounts currently to about \$28 per copy. The American Institute of Physics is providing a subsidy for *Physics Abstracts* through the \$10-per-article charge for abstracting and indexing of articles published in the journals of AIP and the member societies and is, therefore, able to provide this journal to "members" at a price of only \$12.

Since 1955 The American Institute of Physics has been producing cover-to-cover translations of the major Soviet physics journals with support on an annually decreasing scale from the National Science Foundation. Reflecting the increased size of a number of these journals, the subscription prices for the year beginning July 1964 have been increased moderately with the

consequence that these journals as a group are now self-supporting without further assistance from the National Science Foundation. A new journal, *Soviet Physics—Nuclear Physics*, will be published beginning with July 1965 as a translation of the new Russian journal *Yadernaya Fizika*, without support from the National Science Foundation. The special half price to members for the translation journals was of help to so few that it has been eliminated.

Hugh C. Wolfe

References

1. "The Publication Charge Plan in Physics Journals" by H. A. Barton, *Physics Today*, June 1963, p. 45.
2. "Treasurer's Report" by S. L. Quimby, *Bull. Am. Phys. Soc.* 9, 358 (1964).

Astrophysical reprints

Reprints of early volumes of *The Astrophysical Journal* have been prepared by the Johnson Reprint Corporation and are now on sale. The series includes Volumes 1 through 30, covering the years 1895 to 1909. Prices are \$735 for the clothbound set, \$660 for the paperbound set, and \$22 for paperbound single volumes. Orders or inquiries should be addressed to the Johnson Reprint Corporation, 111 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10003.

Latin American physics

The proceedings of the First Inter-American Conference on the Teaching of Physics, held in Rio de Janeiro from June 24 to 29, 1963, have recently been published. The collection includes recommendations by the conference, thirteen papers, two general discussions, and a keynote address by Richard P. Feynman. The conference sessions addressed themselves to four topics: utilization of professional physicists in Latin America, preparation in physics and other professions in Latin America, teaching of physics in Latin American secondary schools, and preparation of professors of physics in Latin America. Most of the text is in Spanish. The 153-page paperbound volume is available for \$1.50 from the PanAmerican Union, Washington, D. C.