

pilation of his classic *MIT Table of Wavelengths*. For the past twenty-two years, he has served as Dean of Science at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and has been the organizer of some ten annual spectroscopy conferences at the school.

The OSA Best Paper Award for 1964 was presented to Walter G. Schweitzer, Jr., of the Bureau of Standards, for "Wavelength Passed by  $Hg^{108}$  Zeeman-Split Absorption Filter". The paper was introduced at the October 1961 meeting of the OSA and published in *JOSA*, 53 1250 (1963).

### **Cryogenic Society**

The formation of a national society to serve "those interested in all phases of the art, science, engineering, and application of low temperatures" took place late in July in Los Angeles. Named the Cryogenic Society of America, the organization has been registered as a nonprofit society in California. Membership will be open to all those who have an interest in any area of cryogenics, from basic research through direct application.

A Los Angeles Metropolitan Chapter of the Cryogenic Society has also been formed and pro tem officers were appointed to serve both groups. Dave Carse, Paul Chemical Co., 6750 Caballero Blvd., Buena Park, Calif., is chairman and membership secretary; Harry Gilmore, Gilmore Liquid Air, 9503 Rush St., El Monte, Calif., is treasurer. Those interested in joining the CSA or in forming new chapters should communicate with either of these officers.

### **Helen B. Warner Prize**

The American Astronomical Society has announced the award of its Helen B. Warner Prize to Maarten Schmidt, professor of astronomy at the California Institute of Technology and staff member of the Mt. Wilson and Palomar Observatories. The prize, which honors a significant contribution to astronomy by a scientist under thirty-five, was given to Dr. Schmidt for his spectroscopic studies of radio galaxies and quasistellar radio sources. One of his contributions was the pho-

tographic identification of the quasistellar radio source 3C273. He suggested that its spectral lines could be attributed to hydrogen if one assumed a red shift of 16 percent. Such a large red shift had previously been observed only in the most distant galaxies. His main interests have been the distribution of mass in the Galaxy, spiral structure and distribution of interstellar hydrogen in the Galaxy, statistics of star formation and its effects on the evolution of galaxies, and spectra of extragalactic radio sources.

Born in Groningen, Netherlands, Dr. Schmidt earned his doctorate from the University of Leiden in 1956, and spent the following two years as a Carnegie Fellow at Mt. Wilson and Palomar Observatories. In 1959, he was appointed an associate professor of astronomy at Caltech and has recently been made full professor. He is a member of the American Astronomical Society, the International Astronomical Union, and the Nederlandse Astronomen Club.

### **New building for NYAS**

The New York Academy of Sciences has announced plans to erect a 21-story building and adjoining auditorium in mid-Manhattan to serve as a World Science Center. The structure, which would cost an estimated \$25 million, is expected to be completed for the Academy's 150th anniversary celebration in 1967. A major aim of the complex would be to supply conference rooms, as well as library and banquet facilities, for the many scientific organizations which lack adequate quarters for meeting and functioning effectively. The center will contain a number of meeting rooms of various sizes which will be equipped with closed circuit television, demonstration labs, and advanced communications apparatus, including equipment for simultaneous translations of addresses. A large part of the center will be devoted to offices for scientific organizations and scientifically oriented corporations. Other features will include a microfilm library, a print shop, a banquet hall to accommodate nearly 1000 diners at a time as well as smaller dining rooms, and a 300-car garage.

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