

actor could be dismantled safely. At MIT he was in charge of the design and construction of the MIT reactor.

The Lawrence Memorial Award, authorized under the 1954 Atomic Energy Act as a memorial to the late E. O. Lawrence, is made "to not more than five recipients in any one year in the amount of not less than \$5000 each and not more than a total of \$25 000. It is presented in the spring of the year to men and women not more than 45 years of age who are citizens of the US and who have made recent, especially meritorious contributions to the development, use, or control of atomic energy in areas of all sciences related to atomic energy, including medicine and engineering".

Adolph Lomb Medal

During its Washington meeting last month, the Optical Society of America presented its 1964 Adolph Lomb Medal to Gordon H. Spencer. The Lomb Medal, established in honor of the Society's first secretary, is awarded not oftener than once every two years to a person under thirty years of age who has made a noteworthy contribution to optics.

Dr. Spencer was born in Orlando, Fla., in 1935 and received his BS in optics from the University of Rochester in 1957. After working for a year, he returned to the University to undertake graduate training, and was

awarded his PhD in 1963, his doctoral thesis being "A Computer Oriented Automatic Lens Correction Procedure". Dr. Spencer is currently vice president of Scientific Calculations, Inc. of Rochester.

The Optical Society's Adolph Lomb Medal Committee, in its citation, honored Dr. Spencer's contributions in the field of lens systems design, "the truly classical area of optics which has undergone modernization by the widespread use of electronic computers. In this modernization Gordon Hall Spencer has played a vital role with his work on sophisticated and, at the same time, thoroughly practical programs designed to effect automatic computer optimization of lens performance. His programs and those with which he has been associated have probably been used by more people than any other optical machine programs".

Vetlesen Prize

Pentti Eelis Eskola, professor emeritus of geology and mineralogy at the University of Helsinki, Finland, and Arthur Holmes, retired professor of geology and mineralogy at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, have been named winners of Columbia University's \$25 000 Vetlesen Prize. Announcement of the award, which recognized achievements in the earth sciences, was made on March 25 by Maurice Ewing, director of Columbia's Lamont Geological Observatory and winner of the first of the Vetlesen prizes.

Dr. Eskola is a specialist in the application of physical chemistry to determine the origins of crystalline rocks, and is credited with the concept of the eklogit, a homogeneous belt of rock running under the earth's crust. Dr. Holmes developed the use of isotope geology for measuring the age of the earth.

Goddard Trophy

Hugh L. Dryden, deputy administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, was given the 1964 Robert H. Goddard Memorial Trophy during ceremonies in Washington, D. C., on March 20. The trophy is

endowed by Dr. Goddard's widow, and is awarded annually to the person judged to have made the greatest contribution to the status of American astronautics. The presentation was made by the National Space Club.

Dr. Dryden, who won the Smithsonian Institute's Langley Gold Medal in 1962, was associate director of the National Bureau of Standards until 1947, and director of aeronautical research for the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics before accepting his position with NASA in 1958. He is a fellow of the American Physical Society and a former chairman of the APS Division of Fluid Dynamics.

Debye Award

The American Chemical Society has given its 1964 Peter Debye Award in Physical Chemistry to Henry Eyring, dean of the Graduate School at the University of Utah. The award, which is sponsored by the Humble Oil Company, was presented at a meeting of the ACS in Denver, where Dr. Eyring delivered an award address on reaction rates in solution to a symposium of the Society's Division of Physical Chemistry held in his honor.

Dr. Eyring received his PhD from the University of California in 1927, and after brief periods at California, the University of Wisconsin, and the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute in Berlin, joined the faculty of Princeton University as a research associate. During this period, 1935-37, he produced his theory of reaction rates, including the concept of an activated complex and an absolute-rate equation, and the hole theory for liquids. Since 1958, he has been working on structure theory of liquids.

A former vice president of the Society of Rheology, and its Bingham Medalist in 1949, Dr. Eyring is president-elect of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and immediate past-president of the Chemical Society.

IES Gold Medal

Gertrude Rand Ferree has been awarded the Gold Medal of the Illuminating Engineering Society. Dr. Rand, together with her late hus-



Gordon H. Spencer

band, Dr. Clarence E. Ferree, established much of the basic information about the eye and its response to light. They studied speed of vision, improvement of visual activity, and contrast sensitivity of normal and abnormal eyes. Their names have appeared on some 50 technical papers as well as on a number of patents for lighting devices and optical and ophthalmological instruments, including the Ferree-Rand perimeter, the light sense tester, and the central vision scotometer.

Prior to her retirement in 1957, Dr. Rand was for many years associated with the Knapp Foundation of the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. A fellow of the IES and the Optical Society of America, she was awarded the Optical Society's Tillyer Medal in 1959.

Priestley Award

On March 19, during its Priestley Day festivities, Dickinson College presented I. I. Rabi, Higgins Professor of Physics at Columbia University, with its 13th Priestley Memorial Award. The \$1000 award was given to Dr. Rabi "for his contributions to the welfare of mankind through physics".

Coblentz Memorial Prize

The Coblentz Society, organizers of the infrared spectroscopy symposia at the annual "Pittsburgh Conferences" on analytical chemistry and spectroscopy, has established a prize in memory of the late W. W. Coblentz. A physicist with the National Bureau of Standards and one of the pioneers in the study of infrared spectra, Dr. Coblentz died on September 15, 1962.

The first recipient of the prize, which recognizes meritorious contributions by spectroscopists under the age of 36, is Dr. John Overend, who was honored on March 5 at a Coblentz Memorial Session held during this year's Pittsburgh Conference. Born in England in 1928, Dr. Overend took his doctorate at Oxford University, and thereafter spent three years as a research fellow at the University of Minnesota and three years with the Dow Chemical Research Labora-

tories. He has since returned to Minnesota, where he holds the position of associate professor. He is a member of the American Physical Society and the Optical Society of America.

AIP Student Sections

Cash awards totaling \$1400 have been received by six Student Sections of the American Institute of Physics in the second annual competition for grants in support of specific local activities of Student Sections. The awards, made possible by the Bendix Corporation, were given to AIP Student Sections at the following schools:

Johns Hopkins University (\$300 for experiments with an ultrasoft x-ray generator)

Lowell Technological Institute (\$50 for rheological investigation of an air vortex apparatus)

Montana State College (\$250 for a laser project)

Providence College (\$300 for microwave transmission techniques to determine plasma electron density in a plasma produced by an rf plasma torch)

Rose Polytechnic Institute (\$150 for a magnetic mirror)

Spring Hill College (\$350 for a helium-neon laser)

In addition, honorable mention citations for their proposals were awarded to: University of Chattanooga, University of Detroit, Kansas Wesleyan University, St. Mary's University, and Trinity College (Washington).

Officers

This year's slate of officers of the American Crystallographic Association is headed by Howard T. Evans, Jr., of the US Geological Survey, who is serving as president during 1964. Awarded his doctorate from MIT in 1948, Dr. Evans has been with the Geological Survey since 1952, and is currently the leader of an x-ray crystallography group investigating problems related to mineralogy and geochemistry.

Henri A. Levy of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory has been named vice president of the Crystallographic Association and will become the Association's president in 1965. Dr. Levy holds a PhD from the California In-

stitute of Technology and since 1952 has had the post of chief research scientist at Oak Ridge. His work has been in electron, x-ray, and neutron diffraction, crystal and molecular structure, and radiochemistry.

William L. Kehl of the Gulf Research & Development Company, and Benjamin Post of the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn will serve as ACA secretary and treasurer, respectively. The Association's Council now consists of the above officers and the most recent past president, George A. Jeffrey of the University of Pittsburgh.

Officers elected by the Division of Fluid Dynamics of the American Physical Society are Stanley Corrsin (Johns Hopkins University), *chairman*; John Laufer (Jet Propulsion Lab), *vice chairman*; and Raymond J. Emrich (Lehigh University), *secretary-treasurer*. Members of the executive committee include James A. Fay (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), Carl Eckart (University of California at La Jolla), François N. Frenkiel (David Taylor Model Basin), and Harold Grad (Institute of Mathematical Sciences).

New officers of the APS High-Polymer Physics Division are Richard S. Stein (University of Massachusetts), *chairman*; H. D. Keith (Bell Telephone Labs.), *vice chairman*; and W. James Lyons (Textile Research Institute), *secretary-treasurer*. Elio Passaglia (National Bureau of Standards), and Anton Peterlin (Research Triangle Institute) were elected to three-year terms on the executive committee.

New AIP Affiliate

The Physics Club of Richmond has joined the American Institute of Physics as the fifteenth AIP-Affiliated Society. Organized two years ago, the Club has a membership of about 70 persons, and its secretary is Dr. Richard E. Grove, Department of Physics, Randolph-Macon College, Ashland, Va.

An AIP-Affiliated Society has no monetary responsibility to the Institute. Its members enjoy member subscription rates on all AIP-owned journals, and may subscribe to *Physics Today* at a reduced rate.