

AIP AND SOCIETY ACTIVITIES

A new center at AIP

Establishment of a Center for the History and Philosophy of Physics was announced on July 1 by the American Institute of Physics. The director of the Center is Charles Weiner, historian of science who has headed the AIP's Project on the History of Recent Physics. The Center includes the Institute's Niels Bohr Library of the History of Physics, History of Physics Archives, and Project on the History of Recent Physics in the United States. Mrs. Joan Warnow will continue as librarian of the Niels Bohr Library in its new relationship as part of the Center.

The merger of these facilities and programs into the new Center marks the culmination of a four-year period which saw initiation and development of AIP's activities in the history and philosophy of physics. As a result of these activities, source materials not previously available for research have been located and deposited in archives throughout the country. The growing collection of documents at the AIP's History of Physics Archives is being increasingly used by distinguished scholars in the history and philosophy of science. The success of these efforts and the need for them have been demonstrated by the enthusiastic response by physicists and by scholars studying the development of physics and the physics community in the 20th century. The Center will expand the AIP's program to locate, preserve, and facilitate the use of published and unpublished source materials that document the history of recent physics. In cooperation with scientific societies and other organizations, it will provide greater services to the scholarly community and encourage the study of the history and philosophy of physics.

New projects already under way at the Center include the establishment of oral history archives, provision of quick-response services to aid in the preservation of historically significant materials in danger of destruction, ad-

vice and assistance in the initial stages of programs to document the history of physics at specific academic and industrial organizations, and cataloging and microfilming of unpublished materials at locations relatively inaccessible to scholars. These new activities are supported in part by a new grant from the National Science Foundation. The NSF had previously supported the AIP's Project on the History of Recent Physics.

New AIP affiliates

During a recent meeting of the AIP Governing Board, the Society for Applied Spectroscopy and the Physics Club of New York were elected Affiliated Societies of the American Institute of Physics.

The Society for Applied Spectroscopy, now numbering some 2600 members in twenty-three local sections, was organized in November of 1958 in New York City. Two years later, the organization was incorporated in the state of Pennsylvania, with its legal residence at the Mellon Institute, 4400 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa. In advancing and disseminating knowledge concerning spectroscopy and allied sciences, the Society issues its bimonthly journal *Applied Spectroscopy* and supports other publications of its local sections, sponsors national and local meetings, conducts annual seminars on spectroscopy, and recognizes achievements in the field with honors and awards. The current officers of the Society include John R. Ferraro, *president*; Marvin W. Skougstad, *president elect*; Jan Hurwitz, *secretary*; Walthew T. Barnes, *treasurer*; and Charles E. Pepper, *immediate past president*.

The Physics Club of New York, whose origins go back before the turn of the century, has a long tradition of service to the physics teachers of Greater New York. Currently numbering about 135 members, the group most recently has been concerned with

campaigning for more realistic goals for projected courses of study, establishing a laboratory materials center for teachers, mutual classroom observations between high schools and colleges, and the re-evaluation of science contests for pupils. Besides holding meetings to discuss these and other matters relevant to physics education, the Club invites prominent scientists to speak on their specialties and pays visits to industrial research laboratories in the area. The present officers are William Naison, *president*; Philip Stein, *vice president*; Jack Goor, *secretary*; and Thomas J. Touhey, *treasurer*.

Kelly to join National Academy

The National Academy of Sciences—National Research Council has announced the appointment of William C. Kelly as associate director of the Academy's Office of Scientific Personnel and director of its Fellowship Office, effective September 1. Dr. Kelly, who has headed the Education and Manpower Department at the American Institute of Physics since its inception in 1958, will, in his new post, have staff responsibility for the services provided by NAS to federal agencies in evaluating applications for government-supported science fellowships. The retiring director, Claude J. Labb, will continue to work with some of the postdoctoral research associate programs that have been established un-



William C. Kelly

der his direction during the past decade.

In commenting upon the appointment of Dr. Kelly to the staff of the National Academy, Van Zandt Williams, director of AIP, said:

"Dr. Kelly in the past seven years has brought to bear his talents of organization and imagination in attacking the problems of physics education in America. In addition, he has been in charge of the National Register for Physics and Astronomy and has directed many surveys concerning the manpower problems of physics. He has inaugurated many valuable programs in improving the curricula of schools and colleges, has brought important physicists from large universities to the small college campus for mutual exchanges of knowledge and ideas, has stimulated the growth of student sections on 250 campuses, and has done much to help to improve the quality of instruction, to promote the use of new apparatus, and even to provide a better architectural environment in physics. His competence and contribution have been such that his loss will be keenly felt by the American Institute of Physics. We wish him every success in his new endeavors with the National Academy of Sciences."

Acoustical Society

During the 69th meeting of the Acoustical Society of America in Washington, D. C., last month, the organization installed its officers for the coming year and awarded its 1965 Gold Medal.

The new president of the Acoustical Society is Robert W. Morse of Brown University. A native of Boston, Dr. Morse took his BS degree at Bowdoin College, and following service in the US Navy during World War II, did his graduate work at Brown. Since receiving his doctorate in 1949, he has been a member of the Brown Physics Department and during 1960-62 served as Department Chairman. In the latter year he was also appointed dean of the College at Brown. Last July, Dr. Morse was appointed Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research and Development, at which time he resigned as dean of the Col-



Robert W. Morse



Martin Greenspan



Hallowell Davis

lege and went on leave of absence from his post of professor of physics at Brown. In research Dr. Morse is known for his work on ultrasonic attenuation in superconductors and his studies of the Fermi surface in solids by the ultrasonic attenuation method.

Martin Greenspan of the National Bureau of Standards is president-elect of the Society. Born in New York City, he studied at the Cooper Union Institute of Technology, where he received his BS degree in 1934. The following year, he joined the NBS as a physicist and has been with the Bureau ever since. Currently a member of the Sound Section, he is engaged in research on the elastic properties of materials and on the propagation of sound in fluids. He has also taught at George Washington University and at Maryland.

Harold L. Saxton of the US Naval Research Laboratory is the Acoustical Society's new vice president. A native of Cooperstown, New York, he received his PhD in physics from Pennsylvania State College in 1934 and later taught physics at the College for several years. In 1940, Dr. Saxton joined the NRL Sound Division where he did research on beam patterns, forced vibrations of piezoelectric crystals, reflection from plates, and tactical antisubmarine warfare problems. As the scientific and administrative head of the Sound Division since 1948, he has initiated a broad study of detection systems, leading to techniques which have greatly increased the sonar detection range.

The Acoustical Society has also announced the re-election of Wallace

Waterfall as secretary, Herbert A. Erf as treasurer, and R. Bruce Lindsay as editor-in-chief. In addition, two new members were elected to the ASA Council, Wesley L. Nyborg of the University of Vermont and Robert S. Gales of the US Navy Electronics Laboratory.

At the banquet on June 3, the Society's Gold Medal for contributions to acoustics was presented to a former ASA president, Hallowell Davis. He was recognized primarily for his studies of the hearing mechanism and for his work in the related fields of bioacoustics, psychoacoustics, audiology, physiology, and otolaryngology. Dr. Davis has served as director of research for the Central Institute for the Deaf in St. Louis and as professor of physiology and otolaryngology at Washington University since 1946. Following graduation with an MD degree from Harvard University in 1922, his early work was in the area of electrophysiology, and concerned the laws governing the excitation and conduction of the nerve impulse. Later, he and his coworkers were the first in this country to record electrical waves from the human brain. As a member of the Office of Scientific Research and Development during World War II, he worked out laws relating the physical dimensions of intense sounds to the temporary hearing loss that would follow exposure to such sounds. In recent years, Dr. Davis has written on the mechanism of cochlear action, the physiology of audition, speech audiometry, evaluation of fenestration surgery, and on many applied problems.