



CALENDAR

of EVENTS

January 10-12	Conference on High Frequency Measurements (sponsored by the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, the Institute of Radio Engineers, and the National Bureau of Standards), Washington, D. C.
January 10-14	American Society of Mechanical Engineers (Materials handling show and conference), Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
January 10-14	Society of Automotive Engineers (Annual Meeting and Engineering Display), Detroit, Michigan
January 12-14	American Society of Photogrammetry (Annual Meeting), Washington, D. C.
January 19-21	American Society of Civil Engineers, New York City
January 24-27	American Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers, Chicago, Illinois
January 27-29	Joint meeting, American Physical Society (Annual Meeting) and American Association of Physics Teachers, New York City
January 31 -February 4	American Institute of Electrical Engineers (Winter Meeting), New York City
February 3-5	American Physical Society, Berkeley, California
February 13-17	American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers (Annual Meeting), San Francisco, California
February 26	American Mathematical Society, New York City and Chicago, Illinois
February 28 -March 4	American Society for Testing Materials (Spring Meeting), Chicago, Illinois
March 6-10	American Institute of Chemical Engineers (Regional), Los Angeles, California
March 8-10	Society of Automotive Engineers (Body and Car Production), Detroit, Michigan
March 9	Inter-Society Color Council, New York City
March 10-12	Optical Society of America (Winter Meeting), New York City
March 10-12	Division of Solid State Physics of the American Physical Society (Annual Meeting), Cleveland, Ohio
March 14-17	American Association of Petroleum Geologists (Annual Meeting), St. Louis, Missouri
March 27-31	American Chemical Society (Semiannual Meeting), San Francisco, California
March 28-30	Society of Automotive Engineers, Cleveland, Ohio
April 1-2	American Mathematical Society, Durham, North Carolina
April 4-8	Society of Motion Picture Engineers, New York City
April 11-13	Society of Automotive Engineers (Aeronautics and Air Transportation), New York City
April 11-15	American Society for Metals, Los Angeles, California
April 16-17	American Physical Society (Southeastern Section), Clemson, South Carolina
April 19-21	American Institute of Electrical Engineers (Southwestern District), Dallas, Texas
April 19-22	American Society of Biological Chemists (Annual Meeting), Detroit, Michigan
April 20-22	American Geophysical Union, Washington, D. C.
April 20-23	American Society of Civil Engineers, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
April 21-23	American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
April 24-28	American Ceramic Society, Cincinnati, Ohio
April 25-27	Radio Manufacturers Association and Institute of Radio Engineers (Annual Meeting, jointly sponsored), Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
April 25-27	National Academy of Sciences, Washington, D. C.
April 28-30	American Physical Society, Washington, D. C.
April 29-30	American Mathematical Society, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Lawrence, Kansas
April 30	American Mathematical Society, Stanford University, California

NEWS—VIEWS *Continued from page 25*

National Military Establishment, merging two former RDB units, the Committee on Geophysical Sciences and the Committee on Geographical Exploration. The new group, which will study problems within the scope of the earth sciences, is headed by W. E. Wrather, director of the Department of the Interior's Geological Survey. Serving with him on the committee are Samuel B. Morris, Horace Byers, P. E. James, Richard Joel Russell, and H. E. Landsberg, executive director. Alternates to members are W. W. Rubey, Athelstan Spilhaus, Stephen B. Jones, and Lester E. Klimm. The committee will also include representatives of the three military services.

Doubleheader

The Naval Research Laboratory is inviting the participation of promising graduate students in its research accrediting program in the physical sciences. Students who qualify under the plan may conduct basic research at the laboratory leading to advanced degrees at cooperating institutions or at universities in the vicinity of Washington. Candidates, who must be U. S. citizens, may apply for admission through the institution at which they are registered. Appointments are governed by civil service regulations.

Reserve Commissions

U. S. Army Reserve commissions from second lieutenant to colonel are available to qualified physicists up to 55 years of age. Full details of the commissioning program are provided in Army Circular No. 210, which may be obtained, together with application forms, from local Reserve Unit or Army Headquarters, or from the Adjutant General, Department of the Army, Washington, D. C.

New Building

Successful operation of a seventy-five-Mev betatron has just been announced by Donald W. Kerst. The instrument is an exact scale model of the three-hundred-Mev betatron being built at the University of Illinois.

The University of Pennsylvania, in a ceremony held December 6, formally opened its new laboratory equipped with a twenty-two-Mev betatron. Among the speakers were the University's president, Harold E. Stassen, Donald W. Kerst, inventor of the betatron, Rear Admiral T. A. Solberg, Chief of Naval Research, and Gaylord P. Harnwell. Professor Harnwell, as head of the physics department, directs the nuclear research program carried on there in cooperation with the Office of Naval Research.

The New York Academy of Sciences has started a campaign to raise a million dollars in order to build a permanent Academy building and science center in New York City and to expand its program into the fields of astrophysics, mathematics, experimental medicine, and public health. The Academy, founded 131 years ago, has increased its membership from 324 to 4000 in the past eleven years.

Laboratory buildings for nuclear science and engineering metals processing, biology and food technology, hy-

drodynamics, and electronics are included in the twenty-million-dollar program adopted by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Corporation's Committee on Financing Development. About half of the amount is required for endowment and unrestricted funds and the balance will be invested in buildings and equipment. Money is already available for more than half the estimated two-million-dollar cost of the proposed building for nuclear science, which will house the interdepartmental Laboratory for Nuclear Science and Engineering organization already operating at MIT. Another eight hundred thousand dollars will go toward providing a nuclear field station.

Argonne National Laboratory, which presently occupies more than a dozen different sites in and around Chicago, has begun moving to the location of its new multimillion-dollar project in Du Page County, where thirty-three temporary quonset type buildings are nearing completion. Most of the permanent buildings are expected to be completed by 1952 and some are now under construction.

The first complete building of General Electric Company's new eighteen-million-dollar research laboratory was formally opened December 2. To be completed in 1950, the research center will comprise a virtual city. The Atomic Energy Commission has bought part of the site, for a research laboratory on atomic power generation, to be operated by G. E.

Standard Oil Development Company dedicated its new Esso Research Center at Linden, New Jersey on October 14, in a program at which Karl T. Compton was the principal speaker. Eighty individual laboratories are accommodated in the three-story building, as well as 250 offices and a library. The equipment includes over a dozen spectrometers—an indication of the growing application of physical methods to petroleum research.

AEC News

AEC positions are to be permanently exempted from competitive civil service, beginning January 9, and placed under an independent merit system. The new policy, which succeeds a series of temporary personnel arrangements which have been in operation for the past two years, will preserve present pay scales and duplicate leave and retirement benefits granted to other federal employees.

Thirteen volumes of the National Nuclear Energy Series have been declassified and are being edited for early publication by the McGraw-Hill Book Company under contract with Columbia University, representing the Atomic Energy Commission and its research contractors. When complete, the series will run to about sixty volumes, grouped in eight divisions corresponding to the major projects in atomic energy research during the war: the electromagnetic separation, gaseous diffusion, special separations, plutonium, Los Alamos, University of Rochester, materials procurement, and Manhattan projects.

Eighteen AEC fellowship awards in health physics, the first to be made in this field, were recently announced by

the Atomic Energy Commission, together with twenty-three fellowships in the biological sciences—these in addition to awards previously made. A total of 247 students, selected by special boards within the National Research Council, are now participating in the AEC fellowship program, which includes, besides health physics and biology, the fields of medicine, agriculture, and the physical sciences.

Honors, Awards

The Geological Society made its first award of the Arthur L. Day Medal to George W. Morey of the Carnegie Institution for his outstanding application of physics and chemistry to geological problems.

Sir Lawrence Bragg received the 1948 Roebling Medal, an award of the Mineralogical Society of America, for his work in mineral and crystal structure.

Society Activities

Temple University in Philadelphia has been granted a charter to form a chapter of Sigma Xi. Sixty-five members of the Temple faculty are members of Sigma Xi, and since 1941 they have been conducting meetings on a club basis as provided in the by-laws of the society.

Officers are Ralph Wichterman, president; John F. Huber, vice president; James D. Page, secretary; and W. Glen Moss, treasurer.

Members of the American Physical Society who plan to attend the annual meeting of the Division of Solid State Physics March 10-12 in Cleveland should make reservations at the Hollenden Hotel not later than March 1.

The Southeastern Section of the American Physical Society will hold its fifteenth annual meeting April 16-17, 1949, at Clemson College, Clemson, South Carolina. Papers are invited, for which abstracts and titles should be sent in triplicate to Franklin Lowance, Department of Physics, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia, before February 19.

Frederick Gardner Cottrell

Frederick Gardner Cottrell died November 16, 1948, in Berkeley, where he was attending a meeting of the National Academy of Sciences. Physical chemist and inventor, he created Research Corporation (a nonprofit organization devoted to support of research) by the gift of patent rights on the Cottrell electrical precipitator.

William Gaertner

William Gaertner, 84, instrument designer and president of the Gaertner Scientific Corporation, died December 3 at his home in Wilmette, Illinois. Among the highly specialized instruments he made was the interferometer, for Albert A. Michelson.

Oliver J. Smith, Sr.

Oliver J. Smith, Sr., vice president and assistant manager of the Lancaster Press, which prints all nine journals of the American Institute of Physics, died November 13 at the age of 70. He had been with the Lancaster Press for fifty-three years.