



It was found that of the twenty-five employed as professional physicists at this level, twenty-three did not belong to any professional organization and five could not name a single physics or chemistry periodical; ten could not name two journals in the combined fields of physics and chemistry. The situation was nearly as bad in chemistry where ten of the fourteen did not have any professional connection. However, chemists appeared to be more aware of the existence of their professional journal. Space does not permit listing all of the questions asked but they were simple questions. One, for example, asked that the dimensions of Newton's constant in his law of gravitation be given so as to make the equation dimensionally homogeneous. The grades for the physicists were slightly better than for the others but depressingly low nevertheless. Neither group however could answer successfully half of the questions on the average.

Arrangements have been made to carry out the same sort of testing of persons employed at the same professional level in other government laboratories to determine whether this situation does in fact exist in the same degree in those laboratories. At the Bureau of Standards special emphasis will be placed in its orientation program on courses that will expand their professional horizons. Efforts will also be made to provide opportunities for them to secure training leading towards increased professional competence and advanced degrees.

M. H. TRYTTEN

Washington, D. C.

Errata

Sir:

Professor R. T. Birge of the University of California has kindly informed me that the value of $2\pi^2 me^4/h^3c$ given in my article on "Any Physics Tomorrow?" as being equal to $109,677.759 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ is in error, and must be replaced by $109,737.303 \text{ cm}^{-1}$. It will be noticed, however, that this change in the numerical value of the Rydberg constant does not change the main line of arguments presented in the article, and also does not influence the final conclusions.

GEORGE GAMOW

Bethesda, Md.

FRANZ L. ALT, formerly of the staff of the Ballistics Research Laboratories at Aberdeen Proving Ground, has been named assistant and acting chief of the National Bureau of Standards' computation laboratory, where he will direct research on methods of numerical computing and development of basic tables of mathematical functions.

CHARLES J. BURTON and WALTER A. FRASER have joined the staff of the American Optical Company's recently established research laboratory in Stamford.

BRITTON CHANCE, a University of Pennsylvania biophysicist, has been appointed director of the Eldridge Reeves Johnston Foundation for Medical Physics of the University's school of medicine.

MONICA HEALEA, chairman of the physics department at Vassar College, has received a faculty fellowship for a full year to do research in the field of secondary electron emission from metals under ion bombardment.

GERHARD HERZBERG has been appointed director of the physics division of Canada's National Research Council. Dr. Herzberg was for approximately three years a professor of spectroscopy at the Yerkes Observatory in Chicago. LESLIE E. HOWLETT, previously head of the optics section of the Canadian NRC, has been appointed associate director of the division of physics.

HOWARD T. HOFFMAN, JR. has joined the staff of the Naval reactor division of Argonne National Laboratory as a junior physicist.

HENRY P. KALMUS, formerly on the staff of Zenith Radio Corporation's research laboratory, HANS KOHLER, formerly a member of the Signal Corps research laboratories, and ARTHUR E. NEWLON, formerly of the Stromberg-Carlson Company, have joined the National Bureau of Standards, where they will be concerned with electronic research. The Bureau also announces that CHARLES A. MABEY, formerly director of research for the Bristol Company, has been appointed assistant chief of the Engineering Electronics Laboratory; PAUL WANG, dean of Shantung University's physics department, has joined the Bureau's x-ray laboratory; and BRUCE L. WILSON has been named chief of the engineering mechanics section.

PHILIP M. MORSE has accepted the position of research director and deputy director of the Weapons Evaluation Group of the National Military Establishment. Dr. Morse will be the chief civilian scientist for the agency, which was established last December "for the technical and operational evaluation of all present or projected systems of attack and defense." During the war, Dr. Morse was connected with the Navy Department, the OSRD, and the NDRC, and until recently was director of the Brookhaven National Laboratory. He is now professor of physics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.