

Niels Bohr Library at AIP Shows Faraday Memorabilia

A Michael Faraday exhibit is now on display in the Niels Bohr Library at the American Institute of Physics. The exhibit includes books read by Faraday that influenced his career; photographic copies of letters exchanged with George S. Ohm, James P. Joule, Joseph Henry, William Thomson and James C. Maxwell discussing research developments on electricity and magnetism; engravings showing his laboratory and apparatus; photocopies of pages from his scientific diary and from his lecture notes. It is open to the public and is expected to run through the end of June.

Charles Weiner, director of the Center for History and Philosophy of Physics at the AIP, compiled the exhibit at the request of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. It was arranged in cooperation with The Rockefeller University and the Royal Institution of London as part of a AAAS program commemorating the 100th anniversary of Faraday's death. During the 1967 AAAS annual meeting in New York, the display was housed at the university.

RESONANCES

The American Physical Society will send its membership a mail ballot on the proposed amendment to its constitution, the so-called "Schwartz Amendment" by 10 May. This is the first time in the history of APS that the membership will vote on an amendment proposed by the membership itself. The deadline date for return of the ballots will be marked on the ballot form and will be no later than five weeks from the date of mailing.

Although the amendment was discussed at the APS annual meeting in Chicago in January, the distribution of the ballot was scheduled for May to allow enough time for publishing letters discussing the pros and cons of the amendment in *PHYSICS TODAY*. Another delay on the mailing of the ballots was the decision by the APS council to give advance notice of the balloting dates in the first possible issue of the APS Bulletin, which was the April issue.

Only 30% of the normal number of first-year male physics graduate students will be entering graduate schools this fall, according to a survey conducted by the Scientific Manpower Commission. This drastic drop will occur if the changes in the draft rules concerning graduate deferments (*PHYSICS TODAY*, April, page 89) are implemented by all draft boards. The second-year class will have only 61% of normal male enrollment. Physics, with its high proportion of male students will be harder hit than other fields. Total first-year enrollment in all graduate disciplines will be only half of normal.

The Physicist with a Cause—An Interview with Jay Orear

As a panelist assessing the role of the American Physical Society in public issues, Jay Orear of Cornell suggested to the Chicago meeting delegates that the real question was, "Is APS doing an adequate job discussing public issues?" (*PHYSICS TODAY*, March, page 81). Orear is one of a vocal group of APS members who say no, who feel that APS stands on physics-related public issues would benefit the advancement of physics, a stated APS aim. Physicists must face a host of issues related to their work, from whether the State Department should deny invited scientists entry into the US to whether the University of California should administer weapons laboratories. The APS should face these issues, too, says Orear. He supports the so-called "Schwartz amendment," which would push the society

toward taking positions on "any matter of concern to the society." *PHYSICS TODAY* went to Orear and asked him about what today concerns a physicist with a cause.

As a physicist Orear is concerned with keeping physics as free as possible from outside interference and finds that more and more of his time is spent dealing with such outside influences. His concern for the undesirable effects on his university of classified research at the Cornell Aeronautical Laboratory in Buffalo, caused him to work for a policy revision through Cornell faculty initiative. The campaign succeeded and Orear went on to become the current chairman of the Federation of American Scientists, which was formed right after the first atomic-bomb explosion by concerned physicists at Los Alamos.

In this post Orear is giving new life to the federation's long-term project of ending university involvement in classified research and has helped the federation extend this crusade to the ending of university involvement in "improper" research.

Orear, still boyish-looking at 42, was trained at the University of Chicago. He earned a PhD in 1943 and after time out for Navy service gained his master's degree in 1950 and his PhD in physics in 1953 under Enrico Fermi. He stayed on a year as a research associate in the Institute of Nuclear Studies and then went to Columbia University where he spent the next four years. In 1958 he joined the faculty at Cornell as associate professor and was named full professor in 1964. He is the author of a comprehensive textbook, *Fundamental Physics*, now in its second edition. With Arthur H. Rosenfeld and