

# AAPT-APS MEETING RETURNS TO NEW YORK

The number of contributed papers has dropped for the first time since World War II, possibly as a result of funding cuts which prohibited travel to the meeting.

JOHN P. WILEY JR

THE JOINT ANNUAL MEETING of the American Physical Society and the American Association of Physics Teachers returns to the New York Hilton 3-6 Feb. after its first venture to Chicago last year. Lagging support for physics promises to be a leading topic of hallway conversation, perhaps symbolized by the first drop in the number of contributed papers at a New York APS meeting since 1945.

More than enough papers have been

contributed, however, for four days of general-interest and topical sessions (See box on page 59). Luis W. Alvarez, fresh from his Nobel Prize award, will succeed John Bardeen as APS president. Edward M. Purcell of Harvard becomes vice-president, and the election of a vice-president elect will be announced; Robert Serber of Columbia has been nominated. The 1969 Dannie Heineman Prize for mathematical physics will be

presented to Arthur S. Wightman of Yale.

The AAPT will install Ronald Geballe as president to succeed Stanley S. Ballard. The Oersted Medal for contributions to physics teaching will go to Eric Rogers of Princeton. Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar of the University of Chicago will deliver the 27th annual Richtmyer Lecture.

During the same ceremonial session Tuesday afternoon, Bardeen will speak







ALVAREZ



BARDEEN



ROGERS



GEBALLE



BALLARD



CHANDRASEKHAR

on "Advances in Superconductivity" in his retiring presidential address.

Victor F. Weisskopf of MIT will describe "The Privilege of Being a Physicist" at the annual joint banquet Wednesday night.

### *Why the drop?*

APS has scheduled 88 invited papers and 695 contributed papers for the meeting. Executive Secretary William W. Havens Jr noted in the *APS Bulletin* that the number of contributed papers represented a decrease of 117 since the last meeting in New York in 1967.

Havens wrote that ordinarily this would have been good news as a reversal in the trend of big meetings getting bigger and small meetings getting smaller. But he added that the drop could be the result of the decline in support for physics resulting in, among other things, a decrease in the availability of travel funds.

He also pointed out, however, that recent specialized meetings in nuclear physics, plasma physics and fluid dynamics as well as the fall general meeting in Miami Beach had produced a total of 1246 papers, some of which might otherwise have been presented in New York. He noted there were reductions in the numbers of papers contributed in each of the three specialized fields for the New York meeting.

### *Broad topics aired*

This year early registration will take place in the Hilton on the afternoon and evening of Sunday, 2 Feb. Meeting sessions start Monday morning at 9 and continue through Thursday afternoon.

Divisions are organizing most of the APS invited-paper sessions. The Solid-State Physics Division also is experimenting with a general-interest session Wednesday morning in which Michael Tinkham of Harvard and J.C. Wheatly of the University of California at La Jolla will give one-hour review papers.

In other APS general-interest sessions, air pollution, new tests of general relativity and prospects for controlled thermonuclear reactions will be discussed. A special Monday-evening session will be devoted to science and society.

An APS-AAPT general interest session Wednesday afternoon will be devoted to the history and philosophy of physics. Speakers are Gerald Hol-



ton of Harvard, Martin Klein of Yale and Charles Weiner of the American Institute of Physics.

For the second year in a row, the APS business meeting will be devoted at least in part to the physicist and society. Last year in Chicago debate over the Schwartz amendment, to enable the society to take positions on public issues, enlivened the annual business session. This year one question almost certain to be raised is whether the meeting should return to Chicago next year as scheduled.

Society officers have received petitions and individual letters asking that the meeting be moved. The writers contend that the conduct of the Democratic convention last August and police handling of the accompanying street disorders have given Chicago an atmosphere "not conducive to free inquiry." (See, for example, the letters in *PHYSICS TODAY*, November, page 9.)

AAPT has planned 20 invited and 85 contributed papers and will co-

sponsor some sessions with APS. The association also plans a competition for teaching apparatus designed by faculty members. New films will be shown continuously.

Special AAPT sessions will be devoted to Harvard Project Physics, what physics engineers will need in the future, trouble spots in science education, the relation of science and the humanities, and reports from the Commission on College Physics.

At the AAPT business meeting Thursday morning, Arnold B. Arons will present distinguished service citations to John H. Dodge, Bailey L. Donnally, Russell B. Hastings, Robert L. Sells, Guenter Schwarz and Arnold A. Strassenburg. Donnally will make the awards in the apparatus competition.

### *Behind the scenes*

The usual services will be available to physicists during the meeting. Theodore Vorburger and the AIP advertising staff have arranged for 136

companies to occupy 200 booths on the mezzanine floor of the Hilton to exhibit the latest in research instruments and teaching apparatus. A quarter of the exhibitors will be introducing new products. Several new companies, most of them in the electrooptics field, have rented space.

Margot Breslaw will direct the AIP placement service in the Warwick Hotel. The register is open to employers and potential employees. The numbers of jobs and seekers may provide the best available index of employment trends for physicists.

The AIP public relations staff directed by Eugene H. Kone will maintain a pressroom in the Hilton where news conferences and interviews will be conducted.

Special services for students will be provided by the AIP Society of Physics Students. Student headquarters will be on the third-floor promenade of the Hilton. AIP personnel also will staff the registration desks and message center at the hotel. □

## INVITED PAPERS

### MONDAY A.M.

APS **Particles & Fields Div:** Experimental high-energy physics: S. C. C. Ting, H. Kendall, J. D. Bjorken, R. Diebold.

**Chemical Physics Div:** Chemical tools from nuclear physics: D. A. Shirley, M. L. Perlman, L. Grodzins

**Fluid Dynamics Div:** Relativistic fluid dynamics: A. H. Taub, L. Schmid, P. A. Koch, E. N. Parker

AAPT **Report on Harvard Project Physics:** G. Holton, E. Hoffart, W. Welch

### MONDAY P.M.

APS **General Interest:** K. Beckurts, I. I. Shapiro, S. J. Buchsbaum, A. S. Wightman

**Chemical Physics Div:** Spectroscopy and scattering of laser light: S. P. S. Porto, R. Y. Chiao, A. Javan, G. B. Benedek

**Fluid Dynamics Div:** Superfluidity: T. M. Sanders, F. Reif, R. J. Donnelly, A. D. B. Woods  
**Science and society:** H.

R. Crane, G. Feinberg, B. Commoner

AAPT **What physics will engineers need?:** E.G.F. Ramberg, G. Bowen, D. C. Ray, D.R. Corson

### TUESDAY A.M.

APS **General Interest:** Air pollution: A. N. Heller, A. P. Altshuler, D. H. Rank, B. C. Netschert

**Plasma Div:** I. Alexeff, N. Rostoker, F. C. Jahoda, R. A. Gross

**Particles & Fields Div:** Theoretical high-energy physics: T. T. Wu, G. Veneziano, G. Domokos

AAPT **Trouble spots in science education:** E.A. Wood, R. Fuller, J.R. Mayo, E. Montroll

### TUESDAY P.M.

APS **Ceremonial:** L. A. Alvarez, J. Bardeen, R. Geballe, S. S. Ballard, E. Rogers, S. Chandrasekhar

### WEDNESDAY A.M.

APS **General Interest:** Solid State: M. Tinkham, J. C. Wheatley

**Nuclear Div:** Nuclear structure from high-energy processes: H. Pavlevsky, P. C. Gugelot, J. Heisenberg, L. Moretto

**Particles & Fields Div:** Experimental high-energy physics: R. Hofstadter, V. Peterson, J. Christenson

AAPT **Science as viewed by humanists for humans:** A. Drexler, C. Eames, K. Vonnegut Jr

### WEDNESDAY P.M.

APS **Joint Symposium:** History and philosophy of physics: G. Holton, M. J. Klein, C. Weiner

APS **Solid-State Div:** Electron-phonon interactions: P. Eisenberger, J. Hermanson, D. M. Larsen, A. Moore

**Nuclear Div:** Light nuclei: W. E. Meyerhof, J. Cerny, G. J. Wagner, J. B. McGrory

APS **Banquet:** "The privilege of being a physicist," V. F. Weisskopf

### THURSDAY A.M.

APS **Particles & Fields Div:** Experimental high-energy physics: K. W. Lai,

C. T. Murphy, B. C. Barish, S. M. Flatte

**Nuclear Div:** Selected topics: N. Benczer-Koller, W. W. Daehnick, E. Lynn, N. Lark

**Solid-State Div:** Behavior near critical points: P. C. Martin, B. I. Halperin, G. Ahlers, H. Z. Cummins

**Electron & Atomic Div:** Low-energy electron scattering by simple atoms: S. Ormonde, W. L. Fite, J. W. McGowan

### THURSDAY P.M.

APS **Solid-State Div:** Transition metal ions in biological systems: D. Mauzerall, P. Aisen, T. Moss, K. Wüthrich

**Electron Atomic Div:** Hydrogenic fine structure and the fine-structure constant: K. Lea, P. Thompson, J. Clarke, T. Hadeishi

**Particles & Fields Div:** Theoretical high-energy physics: A. M. Jaffe, G. B. Halpern, J. J. Sukari

AAPT **Reports from Commission on College Physics:** H. Daw, J.A. Soules, P. DiLavore