

## we hear that

include **John R. Clem** and **John L. Stanford** to associate professor and **Fred K. Wohn** to assistant professor. **Roland H. Good, Jr.** is now distinguished professor of physics.

**Donald J. Channin** has joined the quantum-electronics research group at RCA Laboratories.

**Francis K. Davis**, with Drexel University since 1946, has become the dean of its College of Science. Named head of the physics department in 1963, Davis has also been staff meteorologist

on WFIL radio and television since 1947. An atmospheric physicist, Davis is presently working with other Drexel scientists in developing and improving the techniques for short-term atmospheric predictions using satellite observations. In 1963 Davis founded and was the first director of the university's department of environmental engineering and science, which is now the Center for Urban Research and Environmental Study.

At Brooklyn College, **Vincent Dillon**, **Robert Garth** and **Bernhard Kurrelmeyer** have retired, and **Alden Sayres** has been appointed associate dean of faculties. At the newly created Institute of Theoretical Nuclear Physics, **Kirk McVoy** of the University of Wisconsin has been named distinguished professor and **Ming-Kung Liou** of the University of Winnipeg and **Edward**



DAVIS

**Fiset** from Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory as assistant professor. Also **John Dooley** from Cornell University has become assistant professor in the department.

Kodak Research Laboratories has promoted **Wayne L. McKusick** to assistant business manager.

**Glenn Q. Lefler** has retired from Eastern Illinois University after serving as physics chairman for 17 years. His successor is **William A. Butler**, formerly with Carleton College, Northfield, Minn.

At the Naval Postgraduate School, **John N. Dyer** was promoted to professor and **Robert L. Armstead** to associate professor. **Edward P. Dally** has joined the department as associate professor.

**George E. Pake**, formerly executive vice-chancellor and physics professor at Washington University, is manager of the new Xerox Palo Alto Research Center and vice-president of Xerox's research-laboratories division. **William F. Gunning**, formerly vice-president of Astrodats, is director of the systems-sciences laboratory at the new research center. Other new appointments are **Gerald Lucovsky** in solid-state sciences and **John Urbach** in optical sciences. New research scientists are **Frank Galeener** from Purdue University and **David Biegelsen** from Washington University.

Recent appointments at Southern University are **Joseph A. Johnson III** of Yale University as professor and chairman, and **Dennis Chakkalakal** of Washington University, **Edgar Lynk** of Yale, **Wesley Harris** of the University of Vir-

ginia and **Carl Spight** of Princeton University as associate professors.

**Orest G. Symko** of the University of California, San Diego, has been appointed assistant professor at the University of Utah.

Formerly head of the particle-physics branch at the Goddard Space Flight Center, **Donald J. Williams** has become director of the Space Disturbances Laboratory of the Environmental Science Services in Boulder, Colo. Before joining Goddard in 1965, he was a senior staff physicist in the applied-physics laboratory of John Hopkins University. He received his PhD from Yale university in 1962 and has served as an associate editor of the *Journal of Geophysical Research*.



WILLIAMS

The Northern California section of the Optical Society of America elected **H.M.A. El-Sum** as president. Others elected to office are **Matt Lehmann**, vice-president, and **Robert L. Beyers**, secretary-treasurer. Both are from Stanford University.

**Leland L. Short** has joined Lockheed Missiles and Space Co as a senior scientist in the biotechnology department. He was formerly with North American Rockwell Corp.

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## obituaries

### Robert E. Fassnacht

At the University of Wisconsin, an addition to Sterling Hall that was used primarily for physics research and as headquarters for the astronomy department was severely bombed on 24 Aug. Robert E. Fassnacht, 33, a post-doctoral project associate in low-temperature physics, was killed by this explosion (see page 73).

In 1954, Fassnacht, as a student at Central High School in South Bend, Ind., was one of 39 winners from throughout the country in a national science-talent search. A year later he was named top junior scientist in Indiana by Purdue University. He came to Wisconsin as a Woodrow Wilson Fellow in 1958 after earning a BA degree from a Kalamazoo College in Michigan.

He was a devoted husband and father, an excellent physicist, a talented musician and a person extremely well liked by everyone. He is survived by his widow, Stephanie, and 3 children: Christopher, 3, and one-year-old twins, Karen and Heidi.

JOSEPH R. DILLINGER  
University of Wisconsin

### Walter Francis Colby

Professor emeritus of physics at the University of Michigan, Walter Francis Colby died 2 July in his ninetieth year.

Born in Rockford, Michigan in 1880, he received his BS from the University of Michigan in 1901. During the next few years Colby was undecided between a career in music or in physics,

and he held a joint teaching appointment in both departments. He spent the years 1905-07 in Vienna, studying piano under Leschitzky and physics under Boltzmann. Shortly after returning to the University of Michigan he obtained a PhD in 1909 and then joined the physics department. His subsequent career in teaching and research was fruitful and distinguished. His principal research interests were in infrared spectra and molecular structure. During the 1920's and 1930's he and the late H. M. Randall gathered a strong group of theorists at Michigan and helped initiate the important summer symposia.

During the second world war he was on leave in Washington D. C., first with the Central Intelligence Agency and later as director of Intelligence for the Atomic Energy Commission. As part of