

PhD in physics from New York University. He spent 15 years with the National Science Foundation; his last position there was associate director for planning. Before joining NSF, Dees was chief of the scientific and technical division at the general headquarters of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, Japan, where he helped with the reconstruction of Japanese scientific work.

During ceremonies held last October the highest award of the Franklin Institute, the Franklin Medal, was given to John A. Wheeler, Henry professor of physics at Princeton University, for his studies of atomic fission and of the interaction of electromagnetic and gravitational fields. The institute's Cresson Medal went to Henry Eyring, professor of chemistry and metallurgy at the University of Utah, and Peter C. Goldmark, president of the Columbia Broadcasting System Laboratories, and the Longstreth Medal was awarded to Carl J. Frosch of Bell Telephone Laboratories (retired) and Jean A. Hoerni, president of Intersil, Inc.

Albert Ghiorso, director of the HILAC Laboratory at the University of California, Berkeley, and Charles P. Ginsburg, vice-president of the Ampex Corp., won the Potts Medal; Frank H. Spedding, principal scientist, Ames Laboratory, won the Clamer Medal. Emmett N. Leith of the University of Michigan was the winner of the Ballantine Medal, and Harold E. Edgerton of MIT won the Michelson Medal (PHYSICS TODAY, November, page 101).

Geological Society Honors Harold Urey, Francis Birch

At its annual meeting in Atlantic City in November, the Geological Society of America presented its highest awards to Francis Birch of Harvard and Harold C. Urey of the University of California, San Diego.

Birch, a professor of geophysics, received the Penrose Medal for eminent research in pure geology. The society said, in part: "A significant part of the geophysical and related geological conclusions reached by others since the beginning of his career is based on data that he and his associates have provided and carefully explained."

Urey, a Nobel laureate in chemistry, received the Arthur L. Day Medal for contributions to geologic knowledge



ELIZABETH A. WOOD (right), who won the Dickinson College (Carlisle, Pa.) Glover Memorial Award in December, with (from left to right) Dickinson students Clyde Heckler and Susan Miller and physicist Priscilla Laws. Wood, former president of the American Crystallographic Association and a Bell Telephone Laboratories physicist until her retirement two years ago, was honored for her work in crystallography and as a science-education writer; she is the first woman to receive the award, which was established in 1959.

made through the applications of physics and chemistry to geologic problems.

ASA Awards 1st Trent-Crede Medal to C. Irwin Vigness

The Acoustical Society of America has granted the first Trent-Crede Award posthumously to a man who worked for many years to see it established, Carl Irwin Vigness, former chairman of the society's Shock and Vibration Technical Committee. The award, which consists of a model and a certificate, is given for contributions to the technology of shock and vibration. It is named in memory of Horace M. Trent and Charles E. Crede, both very active in shock and vibration work. Vigness died in September, 1966.

Walter H. Zinn Receives AEC Enrico Fermi Medal

The Atomic Energy Commission has selected Walter H. Zinn as the 13th recipient of its \$25 000 Enrico Fermi Award. Presentation was scheduled for 2 Dec. in San Francisco.

The commission cited Zinn "for his pioneering work in atomic energy, including the world's first reactors and the fast-breeder reactor, and for his distinguished record of leadership and contributions to the development of atomic reactors for research, production, propulsion and electric power."

A former director of Argonne National Laboratory and now a vice-president of Combustion Engineering Inc. Zinn worked with Leo Szilard in the 1930's on neutron physics. He worked under Fermi in Chicago in 1942 and helped to build the first successful atomic pile.

NASA Distinguished Service Medal Goes to Charles Townes

Charles W. Townes of the University of California, Berkeley received the Distinguished Public Service Award and delivered the main address at the annual awards day of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in Washington. Awards for exceptional achievement in science, engineering and administration were made by Thomas O. Paine, NASA administrator.

Arthur Ruark Retires from AEC Division of Research

Arthur E. Ruark has retired as senior associate director of the US Atomic Energy Commission division of research. He had been with AEC since 1956 when he was named chief of the controlled-thermonuclear branch. While a PhD candidate at Johns Hopkins University, Ruark joined the atomic-structure section of the National Bureau of Standards. He later taught at Yale, the Mellon Institute,