Texas at Austin. New members of the department are **Bryce S. DeWitt** and **Cecile DeWitt,** both from the University of North Carolina, as professors and **Charles B. Chiu,** from the California Institute of Technology, **Douglas J. Klein,** from Princeton University and **Jack B. Swift,** from Harvard University as assistant professors.

John A. Brinkman has been appointed deputy director, research, development and engineering directorate of the US Army Weapons Command at the Rock Island Arsenal in Illinois. Previously he was director of the North American Rockwell Science Center in Thousand Oaks, Calif.

New members of the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory include **Patrick A. Thompson** in the medium-energy physics division, **John C. Goldstein** in the theoretical division and **Joe L. Cortez** in the testing division.

Science Spectrum, Inc has named **V. Robert Stull** as vice-president for advanced technology.

Alan F. Haught has been named to the new position of senior principal scientist, atomic and plasma physics laboratory at United Aircraft Research Laboratories.

Appointed as head of the office of polar programs at the National Science Foundation is **Joseph O. Fletcher.** He is currently research professor of oceanography and atmospheric sciences at the University of Washington.

Fr Andrew J. Dufner, formerly a visiting professor at the Institute of Theoretical Physics at the University of Louvain, Belgium, was named dean of the Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley.

The new editor of the *IBM Journal of Research and Development* is **Rudy Joenk,** who has been associate editor of the journal since 1968.

R. C. Hansen, formerly head of the electronics division of the KNS Technology Center, is now a consulting engineer in Encino, Calif.

Robert S. Cohen, chairman of the physics department at Boston University, has been appointed as acting dean of the college of liberal arts there.

R. B. Goldman has been promoted to director, research and development, for the Magnavox government-electronics division.

At the University of Missouri at Rolla **Walter Kauppila** has been appointed as assistant professor. He was previously a postdoctoral research associate at the Joint Institute for Laboratory Astrophysics at Boulder, Colo.

obituaries

Wallace J. Eckert

Wallace J. Eckert, formerly of IBM Corp and Columbia University, died on 24 August. He was 69 years old.

Associated with IBM since 1933 and director of the IBM Watson Laboratory since 1945, Eckert retired as an IBM fellow in 1966. Four years later he retired as professor of celestial mechanics at Columbia University, with which he had been associated since 1926.

Eckert was an authority on numerical calculations of the lunar and planetary orbits and had pioneered the use of automatic computation for scientific problems. His work on lunar theory was honored by the National Academy of Sciences in 1966 with the James Craig Watson medal.

Paul D. Foote

With the death of Paul D. Foote on 2 August at the age of 83, US physicists have lost one of their most important and creative links with the early history of the profession.

Among the many roles he played in generating the organizations of physicists from which we benefit today, was that of chairman of the small committee that created the American Institute of Physics in 1931. Thus he was a farsighted colleague of Karl Compton's at a critical stage in the development of new institutions for the physics community. Foote also served the physics community as president of the American Physical Society in 1933, and as a member of the original organizing committee of the Optical Society of America in 1916. He continued to play an important role in the early days of the OSA as secretary for one year in 1920 and as the second editor of the *Journal* of OSA.

Foote began his career at the National Bureau of Standards in 1911, a decade after it opened its doors. He had a brilliant career there, working creatively in a variety of areas. He was, for example, deeply involved in measurements and standards in the fields of atomic spec-