we hear that

AAPT announced the election of **Kenneth W. Ford,** of the University of Massachusetts, as president-elect.

Albert V. Crewe has been appointed dean of the University of Chicago's division of physical sciences.

William F. Herget, head spectroscopist of the Rocketdyne Division of North American Rockwell, has joined the Air Pollution Control Office of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Ferris Webster, a physical oceanographer, has been appointed chairman of the department of physical oceanography at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. Webster, who is currently a senior scientist, began his association with the Oceanographic Institution in 1959. Born in Alberta, Canada, Webster received his BS and MS degrees from the University of Alberta. In 1961 he received his PhD degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he later spent three years as assistant professor of oceanography.

WEBSTER

Physical oceanography is one of five departments at the Institution and focuses on the dynamics and circulation patterns of the oceans as well as their physical properties. The other departments are chemistry, biology, meteorology and geology.

Terry Kammash, professor of nuclear engineering at the University of Michigan, has been appointed chairman of the technical group for controlled fusion in the American Nuclear Society.

obituaries

Derek J. Prowse

Derek J. Prowse, head of the department of physics at the University of Wyoming, died on 11 January 1971 at the age of 40.

Prowse was born in England in 1930, and educated at the University of Bristol, where he received his PhD at the age of 24. He worked primarily in the field of high energy and elementary particles, writing some 56 journal articles in a span of ten years. In 1958 he joined the faculty of the physics department at the University of California at Los Angeles, where he eventually became vice-chairman. During this period his interests were also turning to science education, and he took an active part in trying to improve the teaching of physics. From 1963 to 1967 he was president of the Southern California Section of the American Association of Physics Teachers, and until his death was a regional counselor for the Society of Physics Students.

In 1965, Prowse became head of the department of physics at the University of Wyoming, which in 1963 had only seven staff members, seven graduate students and a MS program. At the time of his death the department had grown to 25 staff and 110 graduate students.

Prowse had become well known for the number of very successful National Science Foundation summer and academic-year institutes he directed at Wyoming. These activities led to the establishment last year of the Science Teaching Center at the University, which is a joint project with the college of education to improve science teaching in the state and surrounding areas. The culmination of this work was the receipt a few months ago of a grant from the NSF for the first portion of a four-year comprehensive project to improve the teaching of science in the Rocky Mountain and Plains states, the director of which would have been Derek Prowse.

Fitzhugh W. Boggs

Fitzhugh W. Boggs, 59, professor of engineering research at The Pennsylvania State University and chief scientist of the Ordnance Research Laboratory, died of cancer on 16 January 1971 at Hunterdon Medical Center, Flemington, New Jersey.

In addition to his work as chief scientist, Boggs headed the acoustics unit and supervised exploratory and foundational research projects at ORL. He was acting chairman of the graduate program in engineering acoustics at Penn State. He also taught courses in that program and supervised graduate students. At the time of his death he was developing a syllabus for an interdisciplinary university course in acoustics.

His scientific achievements covered a broad spectrum in such fields as the structure of high polymers, physical properties of materials, dielectrics, statistical mechanics, hydrodynamics and acoustics. In 1967 he came to Penn State where, until his illness, he directed research on radiated noise in torpedoes and on properties of viscoelastic fluids.

Memorial contributions may be sent to The Fitzhugh W. Boggs Memorial Lectures in Acoustics, Penn State Foundation, 100 Old Main, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pa. 16802. □