

the physics community

Crane becomes AIP governing-board chairman

The governing board of the American Institute of Physics has elected H. Richard Crane as its new chairman, to succeed Ralph A. Sawyer who held that position for 12 years.

Crane, chairman of the physics department at the University of Michigan, was president of the American Association of Physics Teachers in 1965-66 and chairman of AIP's Committee on Physics and Society during 1968-70. In 1967 he received the Davisson and Germer Prize of the American Physical Society for his method of measuring the ratio of the free electron's magnetic moment to its spin (the "g-factor").

Before World War II he was involved with work on experimental nuclear physics; during that war he helped to develop the proximity fuse, and after it he turned his attention to particle accelerators. In 1946 he suggested that straight sections could be introduced into the newly invented synchrotron (it was believed at that time the orbits had to be circular) and began the construction of an electron synchrotron embodying this scheme. Now, of course, straight sections are universally used in large accelerators.

During his 12 years as governing board chairman, Sawyer twice served as acting director of AIP during periods when the institute had no director. Previously he was vice-president for research and dean of the Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies at the University of Michigan. He is known for his contributions to spectroscopy

and radiometry, ballistics and ordnance instrumentation.

New members of the governing board are George B. Benedek of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Irving E. Dayton of Montana State University, Wilbur V. Johnson of the AAPT, Aden B. Meinel of the University of Arizona, Martin Schwarzschild of Princeton University and Peter R. Weiss of Rutgers University.

McCormick heads new AIP public-information division

A division of public information has been established at AIP; it is to be concerned with promotional activity and public relations. The director of the new division is Donald W. McCormick Jr, formerly the manager of marketing communications for the Aluminum Association. The press-relations section of the new division, which will be directed by Audrey Armstrong, will continue the work of the public-relations division formerly directed by Eugene Kone.

New officers announced for electron microscopy society

The Electron Microscopy Society of America, which is affiliated with the AIP, has announced its new officers. Robert M. Fisher of the US Steel Corporation Research Center is the president, replacing Russell Steere of the Department of Agriculture. The president-elect is Daniel C. Pease of the University of California Medical College; the council secretary is Victor A. Phillips of the General Electric R & D Center, and Joseph H. Miller of Louisiana State University School of Medicine is the treasurer. New directors of the society are Albert V. Crewe and Walter J. Humphreys.

Reorientation course for environmental problems

A course to reorient scientific and technical personnel towards environmental problems has been conducted by the Washington Technical Institute, in cooperation with the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, the American Institute of Aeronautics and Aerospace Engineers and the American Physicists Association. The course described areas of environmental concern, existing problems, current technology, pres-

ent and projected manpower needs, and the Government agencies involved with environmental problems. The course, which began 25 March, was intended to give the technically oriented individual sufficient information to prepare proposals to urban and county governments about methods of treating environmental problems, and consisted of a series of lectures by WTI staff and professionals working in the field. Students were offered the free use of the WTI employment placement service. For information about future courses of this type, contact Ned Berard at the Washington Institute of Technology, 4100 Connecticut Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008.

Indian physicists form a national association

An Indian Physics Association has been formed. The headquarters will be located in Bombay and there are currently more than 900 members. The Indian Physics Association is now publishing a quarterly journal, *Physics News*. Additional information can be obtained from Ajay S. Divatia, the Secretary of the Interim Committee, at the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Nuclear Physics Division, Bombay, India.

First meeting of Council on Physics in Education

On 4-5 March 1971 in Nashville, Tenn., the Council on Physics in Education (CPE) met formally for the first time. The CPE (see *physics today*, February, page 63) is attempting to identify and study problems in physics education; to gather and disseminate information about physics education and to advise the executive board of the AAPT about educational matters. Kenneth W. Ford at the University of Massachusetts has been elected as chairman of CPE. As a means of disseminating physics education information, the CPE intends to publish a four-page newsletter, starting in October.

It is hoped that eight issues of this newsletter could be published during the academic year and that 50 000 copies could be distributed to physics students and teachers. Comments and suggestions for making CPE responsive to the needs of the physics community should be sent to Bailey Donnally of Lake Forest College in Lake Forest, Ill. 60045, or to Arnold Strassenburg at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, stony Brook, N. Y. 11790. □



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