

produced by Gerald Holton in connection with the Harvard Project Physics course, has won the Golden Rocket award of the Rome Twelfth International Award of the Technical Cinema.

Abstracts of technical reports produced from Government-funded research and development projects released since 1964 can be obtained from a new

computer information-retrieval service, NTISearch, operated by the Department of Commerce's National Technical Information Service. To request an NTISearch, telephone 703-321-8523 or write, US Department of Commerce, NTISearch, Springfield, Va. 22151.

A report on the survey of 1971-72 enrollments and degrees in physics at uni-

versities and colleges throughout the US is available from the Manpower Statistics Section of the Division of Manpower, American Institute of Physics, 335 East 45th St, New York, N. Y. 10017.

The 31-inch Cassegrainian reflecting telescope at the Battelle Observatory on Rattlesnake Mountain in Washington was recently dedicated.

the physics community

AIP affirms support for history studies

Noting the current relevance of studies in the history of physics, the AIP governing board recently affirmed its support of the program of the AIP Center for History of Physics. The board on 25 March established a Council of Friends of the Center for History of Physics, under the chairmanship of Elmer Hutchisson, which will seek needed financial support to help the Center develop its archival, research and publication programs.

The Center keeps letters, notebooks, recorded recollections and other source materials that help to reveal the processes of scientific change and the human aspects of the life and work of physicists. According to Charles Weiner, director of the Center, "Analysis of these materials can help increase the self-understanding of physicists and enable them better to explain physics research and its relation to society."

Among current programs of the Center are:

The Niels Bohr Library, which contains resources and facilities for historical research and is an international information center for the field.

An ongoing series of programs to encourage preservation, location and use of historical source materials in appropriate repositories throughout the US.

Studies and publications examining the development of contemporary physics and its relation to society.

Dissemination of historical information to the public in order to promote greater understanding of the role of physics in contemporary life.

The Council of Friends will seek to supplement AIP support to the Center through direct appeals to individual physicists and public-spirited citizens.

Interest in physics history is high among physicists, Weiner noted, as evidenced by the good attendance at the history of physics session at the April APS meeting in Washington. During the meeting an initial appeal was made.

The Council is still in the process of formation. Present members, in addition

to Hutchisson, include Luis Alvarez, Arnold Arons, Hans Bethe, Allan Bromley, Richard Crane, William Fowler, James Heineman, Roger Hildebrand, Gerald Holton, Robert Leighton, Frederick Seitz, Emilio Segrè, Keith Symon, Victor Weisskopf and John Wheeler.

The AIP history program goes back to 1962, when the Niels Bohr Library was established. It has since grown into a center for the documentation and study of the history of 20th-century physics and its social implications. The results of its efforts have been reported in the Center's newsletter and other AIP publications and in an increasing number of articles and books. These activities have been guided by a committee of physicists and historians chaired by Gerald Holton of Harvard.

Efforts to improve job prospects in astronomy

The American Astronomical Society is taking steps toward expanding public understanding of astronomy and improving job opportunities for astronomers. In the light of a growing underutilization of talent, the society has established a committee on manpower and employment chaired by Bart Bok, AAS president-elect. Acting on the recommendation of the committee, the society has asked astronomy departments to hold the line on enrollment in degree-granting programs and has encouraged the employment of astronomers as teachers at a large number of schools in an effort to enhance the appreciation of astronomy in general education and the study of science.

Early in January, Martin Schwartzschild, AAS president, wrote to the heads of all graduate departments that grant PhD's in astronomy and astrophysics noting that this year there will probably be only half as many research-oriented openings in astronomy as there will be graduates. Schwartzschild urged the department heads to suspend plans for any additional programs and to take steps to avoid the acceptance in graduate schools of candidates with un-

certain qualifications for research. Instead, he recommended that such students, whose "greatest strength does not lie in pure scientific research" be redirected to the equally important task of teaching astronomy to keep up with the growing interest in the field.

At the same time, H. M. Gurin, the executive officer of AAS, wrote to about 2400 deans of study and chairmen of science departments of four-year colleges and junior colleges and non-science-oriented schools and 500 directors of planetariums and science museums with astronomy programs to bring to their attention the availability of young astronomers as teachers. Gurin asked that the deans notify AAS of any openings so that the positions could be listed in the society's opportunities registers. This placement service, which has recently been strengthened, acts as a clearinghouse for academic, governmental and industrial job opportunities for AAS members. Further information can be obtained from H. M. Gurin, Executive Officer, American Astronomical Society, 211 FitzRandolph Rd, Princeton, N. J.

OSA forms a group for Raman workers

A new Raman Technical Group of the Optical Society of America has been formed. It was formerly an *ad hoc* committee of OSA.

Raman Newsletter is the monthly newsletter of the technical group and is the only one published by any of the 11 OSA technical groups. The newsletter costs \$5.00 a year to OSA members and \$10.00 a year to nonmembers. Subscribers are also required to send a scientific contribution to the newsletter once a year.

Ellis R. Lippincott of the University of Maryland will act as chairman of the group for a two-year term, and the vice-chairman will be J. E. Griffiths of Bell Telephone Laboratories.

As an OSA affiliate, the group will now have a working mechanism for holding regular meetings as well as topical and specialized meetings. □