

we hear that

Floyd R. Watson celebrates 100th birthday

Floyd R. Watson, the first editor of the *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America* and a former professor of physics at the University of Illinois, celebrated his 100th birthday on 23 April.

Watson's interest in acoustics began at the University of Illinois, where he taught from 1902 until his retirement in 1940. In 1923, he wrote the first organized book on the acoustics of buildings. During his lifetime, he has acted



WATSON

as a consultant on the acoustics of about 1000 buildings and auditoriums, the largest being the Pentagon Building and the latest the Beckman Auditorium at California Institute of Technology (done when he was over 90).

In the summer of 1928, Watson and Wallace Waterfall, one of his former students and currently secretary of the American Institute of Physics, visited Vern Knudsen at the University of California, Los Angeles. At lunch the three decided that there should be an Acoustical Society of America, and in 1929 the society was formed. When the ASA's *Journal* was formed, also in 1929, Watson became its first editor, and in 1939 he was elected president of the society. Currently, he is a fellow of ASA, as well

as a fellow of the American Physical Society.

A native of Lawrence, Kansas, Watson graduated from the Los Angeles Normal School (now UCLA) in 1893, received his BS degree from the University of California, Berkeley in 1899 and his PhD from Cornell University in 1902. Before going to the University of California, Watson worked on several newspapers, including the *Los Angeles Times*.

NAS elects new members and officers

Five new officers, seventy-five new members and twelve foreign associates were elected at the National Academy of Sciences 109th annual meeting in April.

Reelected to a second four-year term as treasurer of the academy was Emanuel R. Piore. He is a retired vice-president and chief scientist and a current member of the board of International Business Machines Corp. Lewis M. Branscomb, the new chief scientist of IBM and former director of the National Bureau of Standards, was elected as one of the four new council members.

Among the new members are Henry H. Barschall, professor of physics at the University of Wisconsin; Roy J. Britten, staff member of the Carnegie Institution of Washington's department of terrestrial magnetism and a visiting associate at the California Institute of Technology; Rodney L. Cool, professor of experimental high-energy physics at Rockefeller University; Albert V. Crewe, professor of physics and biophysics and dean of the physical-sciences division at the University of Chicago; and Vincent P. Dole, professor of physics at Rockefeller University. Other new members are Frank D. Drake, professor of astronomy at Cornell University, associate director of the Center for Radiophysics and Space Research and director of the National Astronomy and Ionosphere Center; George B. Field, professor of astronomy at the University of California, Berkeley; Peter C. Goldmark, recently retired president and director of research at CBS Laboratories; Peter M. Gol-

dreich, professor of planetary science and astronomy at California Institute of Technology; Erwin L. Hahn, professor of physics at the University of California, Berkeley; Robert D. Luce, psychophysicist at the Institute for Advanced Study, and Malvin A. Ruderman, professor of physics at Columbia University. Also elected to NAS were Gertrude Scharff-Goldhaber, senior physicist at Brookhaven National Laboratory; Charles Tanford, Duke Professor of Biochemistry at Duke University Medical School; Sam B. Treiman, professor of physics at Princeton University; Steven Weinberg, professor of physics at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Robert W. Zwanzig, research professor of physical chemistry at the University of Maryland.

The twelve distinguished scientists elected as foreign associates included Yuval Ne'eman, professor of physics at Tel Aviv University and Marcel Nicolet, director of research at the Institute for Space Aeronomy, Brussels, Belgium.

Four geophysicists honored by AGU

The American Geophysical Union presented awards to Carl Eckart, John M. Wallace, W. Ian Axford and W. Jason Morgan during its 53rd annual meeting in April.

Eckart, of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, received the William Bowie Medal "for outstanding contributions to fundamental geophysics and for unselfish cooperation in research." Although best known for his work on geophysical fluid dynamics, Eckart has also done research on thermodynamics. His career in oceanography began in World War II with research on submarine acoustics.

The James B. Macelwane Award was presented to Wallace, of the University of Washington's department of atmospheric sciences. He was cited for his work on the presence of long waves in the equatorial upper atmosphere. To achieve his results Wallace had combined knowledge of atmospheric physics with that of modern signal analysis.

For his work on geomagnetism, atmospheric electricity, aeronomy and

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other related sciences Axford received the John Adam Fleming Medal. Axford, a professor of physics and applied physics at the University of California at San Diego, was especially cited for his work on the magnetosphere, which has led to a deeper understanding of the interaction between the earth's magnetic field and the "polar wind." He has also studied cosmic-ray propagation, the dynamics of the solar wind and other facets of interplanetary sciences.

The Wallace H. Bucher Medal was awarded to Morgan, of Princeton University, for his contributions to the knowledge of the earth's crust. In 1968, Morgan's work on the basic mechanism of the earth's crustal motions led him through fundamental theories of the physical nature of the deep earth to the first clear statement of plate tectonics. More recently he has been doing work on "triple junctions."

S. S. Stevens wins Rayleigh Gold Medal

Stanley S. Stevens, professor of psychophysics and director of the Laboratory of Psychophysics at Harvard University, received the British Acoustical Society's Rayleigh Gold Medal. The award was presented to Stevens at the society's annual meeting in April, when he delivered the Rayleigh lecture on "Calculating the Perceived Level of Light and Sound."

The medal was awarded to Stevens for his contributions to psychoacoustics, including "Stevens law," which states that the magnitude of a sensation grows as a power function of the intensity of the stimulus. A member of the Harvard faculty since 1936, Stevens has written widely on hearing as well as on other subjects in psychology.

The new president of General Physics Corp in Columbia, Md. is **Robert W. Deutsch**, former professor and chairman of the department of nuclear science and engineering at Catholic University.

Stephen R. Smith, formerly of Princeton University has been appointed assistant professor at Bryn Mawr College.

New York University has named **Sidney Borowitz**, provost of its University Heights campus and former professor of physics, as chancellor and executive vice-president of the university.

Robert W. Hart has been promoted to

Among the other awards Stevens has received are ones from the Society of Experimental Psychologists, the American Psychological Association and the Beltone Institute for Hearing Research. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

IOP presents six 1972 awards

The council of the Institute of Physics presented six awards for 1972 during their annual dinner in May.

The Guthrie Medal and Prize was awarded to Brian D. Josephson, of the University of Cambridge, for his contributions to theoretical physics. Aage Bohr, of the Niels Bohr Institute, was recognized with the Rutherford Medal and Prize for his work on nuclear structure, in particular on the theory of the collective model of the nucleus. The Glazebrook Medal and Prize was presented to Sir Gordon Sutherland, master of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, UK, for his work in molecular spectroscopy and its applications to industrial and biological materials. Sutherland was also cited for applying physics during his directorship of the National Physics Laboratory.

A fourth award, the Maxwell Medal and Prize, was given to Volker Heine, of the University of Cambridge, for his contributions to the electronic theory of solids. Michael W. Thompson, of the University of Sussex, received the Charles Vernon Boys Prize. He was cited for his studies of radiation damage in solids, sputtering and especially the channelling of energetic particles through crystal lattices. And the A. B. Wood Medal and Prize was awarded to Brian Ray, of Kingston-upon-Thames Polytechnic, for his work on an underwater house and its use for acoustic observations.

chairman of the research center of the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory. Other promotions at the laboratory include **Joe T. Massey** and **Alvin G. Schulz** as assistants to the director—Massey for biomedical programs and Schulz for environmental programs.

At Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory **John R. Lilley** has joined the theoretical design division, and **Richard F. Ellis** has joined the physics division.

Melvin I. Cohen, formerly supervisor of the laser processing study group at Bell Telephone Laboratories, has been ap-