## we hear that

### APS will honor Tinkham, Bovey, Ramsey, Wilkinson

This spring the American Physical Society will present awards to four physicists. At the March meeting in Philadelphia (25-28 March) Michael Tinkham of Harvard University will receive the Oliver E. Buckley Solid State Physics Prize, and Frank A. Bovey, head of the polymer research department at Bell Laboratories, will be given the High Polymer Physics Prize.

At the joint meeting of APS and the Optical Society of America next month in Washington (22-25 April) the Tom W. Bonner Prize in Nuclear Physics will go to Denys Wilkinson, director of the Nuclear Physics Laboratory at Oxford University, and the Davisson-Germer Prize will be awarded to Norman Ramsey of Harvard University.

The Buckley Prize, endowed by Bell Labs, will be given to Tinkham in recognition of "his experimental investigations of the electromagnetic properties of superconductors." Tinkham, who holds a PhD from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1954), worked at the University of California, Berkeley, for over ten years before going to Harvard in 1966 to become the Gordon McKay Professor of Applied Physics and professor of physics.

Bovey will be awarded the High Polymer Physics Prize, sponsored by the Ford Motor Co, for "outstanding contributions to the characterization of polymers, particularly through his pi-



TINKHAM







ISEY WILKINSON

oneering work in the development and application of high resolution nuclear magnetic resonance." After receiving his doctorate from Harvard in 1948 Bovey worked with the National Synthetic Rubber Corp and Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Co. He joined Bell Labs in 1962 and was made head of the polymer physics research department there in 1968.

Wilkinson has been chosen to receive the Tom W. Bonner Prize "for his lucid, catholic and continuing contributions, which have yielded important advances in areas as diverse as the role of isospin in nuclear physics, to areas of instrumentation basic to modern data-taking techniques." An Englishman, he completed his doctorate at the University of Cambridge in 1947. He subsequently worked with the British and Canadian atomic-energy projects

(1943-47) before joining the faculty at Cambridge. In 1957 he was appointed head of the Nuclear Physics Lab at Oxford. The Tom W. Bonner Prize is sponsored by the friends of Tom Bonner and the Texas Nuclear Corp.

Ramsey will receive the Davisson-Germer Prize, donated by Bell Labs, "for his pioneering work in the imaginative design and performance of molecular beams experiments, for his classic studies on magnetic interactions in molecules and on fundamental properties of nucleons, and for his contributions to the art of high-precision radiofrequency spectroscopy." taught at the University of Illinois and Columbia University before going to Harvard in 1947. Currently Higgins Professor of Physics at Harvard, Ramsev is on leave at Oxford University. He holds a PhD from Columbia (1940).

#### Irving Langmuir Award presented to Drickamer

Harry George Drickamer, a professor of chemical engineering and physical chemistry at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, has won the American Chemical Society's Irving Langmuir Award for 1974. The award, sponsored by the General Electric Foundation, is given in alternate years by the ACS and the American Physical Society.

The Langmuir Award recognizes Drickamer's study of the structure of solids under very high pressures. His work has included x-ray, compressibility and electrical-resistivity measurements on rare-earth metals and alloys, in addition to study of the optical

properties of their ions in  $CaF_2$  and other saline hosts.

Drickamer completed his doctorate at the University of Michigan in 1946. Following his graduation he joined the staff of the University of Illinois, where he has remained for most of his professional career.

#### Edwin Salpeter wins Oppenheimer Prize

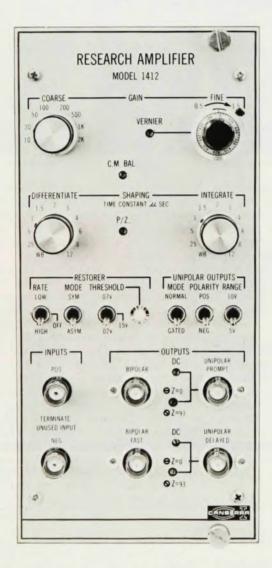
Edwin E. Salpeter, a professor of physics and astrophysics at Cornell University, was recently awarded the sixth J. Robert Oppenheimer Memorial Prize. The award is sponsored by the University of Miami's Center for Theoreti-

cal Studies in Coral Gables, Florida,

Salpeter was given the award for his outstanding work in nuclear physics and relativistic astrophysics. According to Behram Kursunoglu, director of the Center, this work has "contributed to the understanding of nucleogenesis in the universe, and to the understanding of energy production in stars, as well as areas apart from stellar evolution"

A native of Austria, Salpeter earned his doctorate at the University of Birmingham, UK, in 1948. He went to Cornell in the following year and has worked there ever since, concentrating on research in quantum theory of atoms, quantum electrodynamics, nuclear theory, energy production in stars and theoretical astrophysics.

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#### we hear that

Charles E. Till has been promoted to director of the applied physics division of Argonne National Laboratory.

A new department of planetary sciences has been established at the University of Arizona, headed by Charles P. Sonett, formerly the deputy director of astronautics at the NASA Ames Research Center in Moffett Field, California.

E. Ward Plummer, previously with the National Bureau of Standards in Washington, D.C., has been appointed associate professor of physics at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

Albert Gottlieb has been promoted to assistant professor in the physics department at Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts.

The first dean of Livingston College at Rutgers University, Ernest A. Lynton has been named senior vice-president for academic affairs at the University of Massachusetts, Boston. Lynton will also serve as Commonwealth Professor and professor of physics.

Alvin R. Eaton is now assistant director for tactical systems at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory. Eaton continues as head of the Laboratory's fleet systems department.

At the University of Connecticut Joseph I. Budnick, previously with Fordham University and the National Science Foundation, has become professor of physics and head of the department of physics.

As vice-president of STV, Inc. a New York-based firm of consulting engineers, Joseph R. Feldmeier will head a new energy-systems division. Feldmeier was director of The Franklin Institute Research Laboratories from 1964 to 1972.

David C. L. Price, group leader of the neutron-scattering program of the solid-state science division at Argonne National Laboratory, has been named director of the division. Oliver C. Simpson, the former director, has returned to full-time research.

### obituaries

#### Gerard P. Kuiper

Gerard P. Kuiper, internationally known astronomer and champion of lunar and planetary science, died in Mexico City of a heart attack on 24 December.

Born in Harencarspel, The Netherlands, on 7 December 1905, Kuiper chose a career in astronomy and graduated from Leiden University in 1927. He received his PhD in 1933 after a studentship under Einar Hertzsprung and came to the US in the same year. Following two years at Lick Observatory and one year at Harvard University, he moved to the University of Chicago, where he was a professor and, during 1947-49 and 1957-60, the joint director of the Yerkes Observatory and the McDonald Observatory in Texas. In 1960 he founded the Lunar and Planetary Laboratory at the University of Arizona, and in 1973 he set up a department of planetary sciences there. In July of last year he relinquished his directorship of both the laboratory and the department in order to devote more time to teaching and research.

Kuiper's earlier research dealt almost entirely with stellar astronomy; he did pioneer work on nearby binary stars, white-dwarf clusters and the interpretation of spectra of spectroscopic

binaries. However, as recounted by Bart J. Bok, a fellow student from the Leiden days and currently president of the American Astronomical Society, he



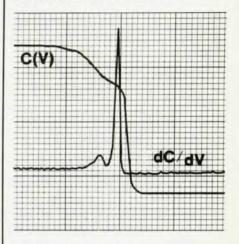
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intended to "study the problems of the solar system." The study of the dynamics and properties of binary stars provided a useful basis on which to pursue this ambition.

Kuiper's study of the solar system

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