

we hear that

Bendix Corp to become executive vice-president of KMS Fusion, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Upon his recent retirement as secretary of the American Institute of Physics, **Wallace Waterfall** was given the title of secretary emeritus by the Governing Board of the Institute. He was honored for over 30 years of service to AIP and its member societies. Waterfall held a variety of positions at AIP. First appointed secretary in 1945, he served as executive secretary from 1949 to 1958, when he was appointed both secretary



WATERFALL

and treasurer. From 1964 to 1967 he was secretary and deputy director of the Institute. Waterfall also served as secretary of the Acoustical Society of America, beginning in 1929, when ASA was first founded, until 1969. He was editor of the *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America* during 1929-33.

In the physics department at North Texas State University **Jerome L. Duggan**, of Oak Ridge Associated Universities, has joined the faculty as a professor, and **David G. Seiler**, of the National Bureau of Standards, Boulder, Colorado, has been appointed associate professor. **Rogers W. Redding** has been promoted to associate professor in the department.

Rodney Bent and **George Nesterczuk**, formerly with D. B. A. Systems, Inc, have formed a new company, Atlantic Science Corp, in Seabrook, Maryland.

obituaries

Charles Greeley Abbot

The death of Charles Greeley Abbot, on 17 December, in his 102nd year of life, came as a shock to many of his close colleagues. We had come to think of him as blessed with eternal vitality.

I remember well how, as a graduate student at Harvard College Observatory in 1939, I joined the other graduate students in inviting him to be our student-selected lecturer for that year. He had already completed more than three decades of brilliant research on the spectral properties of the Sun and had established the value and constancy of the Sun's total radiation to a totally new level of accuracy. The "silver-disk pyrheliometer" and other fundamental solar instruments of his design had, by then, become already classical. His lectures were gracious and informative—as was his wont during his entire career. We youngsters gained great stimulus from him and developed a sense of personal attachment that continued through our careers.

Abbot was born on 31 May 1872 in Wilton, New Hampshire. He graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1894 at the age of 22. Not only did he pioneer in solar observations, but he had a lifelong interest in the practical uses of solar energy. At Mount Wilson Observatory many decades ago he built a solar cooker and could bake gingerbread in 35 minutes. In this as in so many things Abbot was far ahead of his time.

During the 37 years of his tenure as director of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, and for the 29 years following his formal retirement as director in 1944, he maintained a constant thrust towards discovery of influences of variable solar activity on

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION



ABBOT

weather and climate and published large numbers of papers on this subject. Here too, he was far ahead of his time, for the field of research is just now beginning to gain respectability and show convincing signs of progress. Only last November Abbot addressed the opening of the "Symposium on Possible Relationships Between Solar Activity and Meteorological Phenome-

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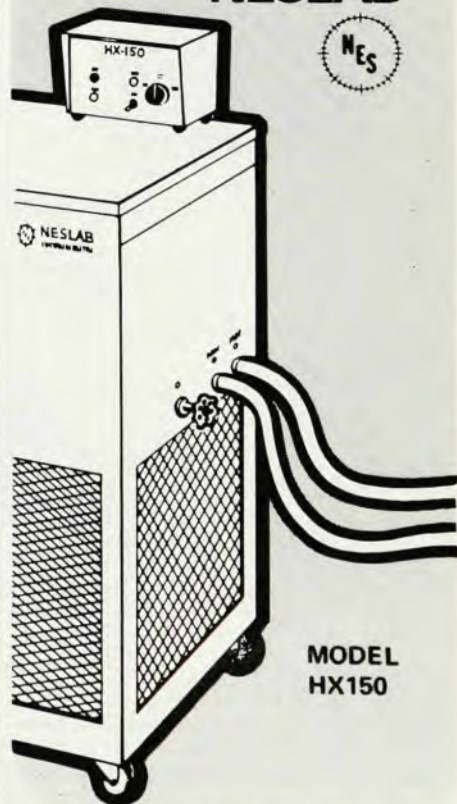
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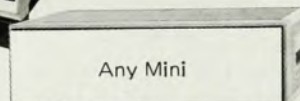
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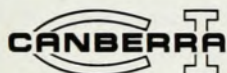
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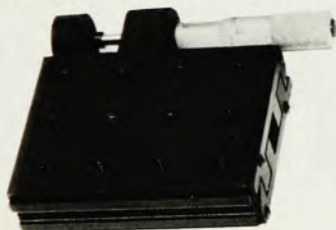
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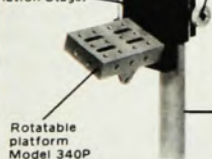
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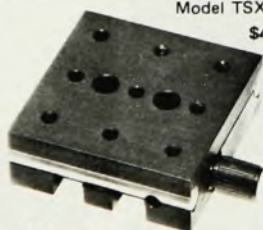
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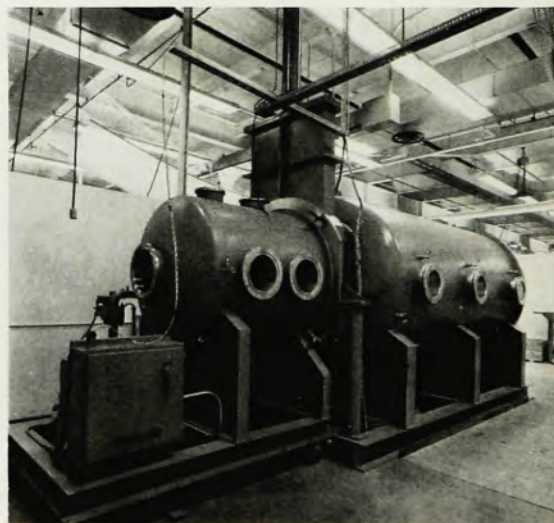
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obituaries

na" which was held at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland, and was dedicated to him in honor of his many years of creative work pursuing such relationships.

One of the great men of science of the twentieth century has left us. We shall miss him.

WALTER ORR ROBERTS

Past President

*American Association for the
Advancement of Science*

Marvin J. Stern

Marvin J. Stern, a physical chemist with the Schering Pharmaceutical Corp, died on 29 January at the age of 38.

Stern had only recently joined the Schering Corp. From 1965 through 1972 he was a member of the faculty of the Belfer Graduate School of Science at Yeshiva University. Completing his PhD at Rutgers University in 1961, Stern worked for a year as a research associate at Brookhaven National Laboratory before going to Columbia University as an assistant professor of pharmaceutical chemistry. He remained there until 1965.

Stern's work, widely known and highly regarded by physical chemists, dealt with theoretical and experimental aspects of isotope effects on reaction rates and equilibria, and with fast reactions in solution.

E. Gordon Wikner

E. Gordon Wikner, a physicist with Science Applications, Inc in Arlington, Virginia, died on 20 January. He was 42 years old.

At the time of his death Wikner was studying radiation effects on MOS structures and was involved in an effort to develop a model to explain the effects observed. He had also performed calculations on wave functions in molecules and experiments on nuclear resonance and electron-spin resonance in metals and semiconductors.

Wikner worked with the Institute for Defense Analyses during 1967-71 coordinating studies on transient radiation response in electronics for the Minuteman and Polaris-Poseidon systems. Prior to that time he worked with the radiation effects group of Gulf General Atomic (1959-67), eventually assuming the position of group leader in the Special Nuclear Effects Laboratory there. Wikner held a doctorate from the University of California, Berkeley (1959). □

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