we hear that

Acoustical Society honors Beranek

The Acoustical Society of America has selected Leo L. Beranek to receive its Gold Medal on 9 April during the ASA annual meeting in Austin, Texas. The society presented the biennial award to Beranek for "leadership in developing, in the United States and abroad, the desire and the capability for achieving good acoustics in communications, work places, concert halls, and communities." He is president of Boston Broadcasters Inc and a director of the Cambridge, Massachusetts firm, Bolt, Beranek and Newman Inc.

Beranek's major contributions have been in the areas of noise measurement and control and auditorium acoustics. He is the author of several books: *Acoustic Measurements,* a reference work still in use after 25 years; *Acoustics; Noise Reduction; Noise and Vibration Control* and *Music, Acoustics and Architecture.*

After earning his ScD in physics from Harvard in 1940 Beranek joined the faculty as an instructor in physics and communications engineering, later becoming an assistant professor and then director of the electro-acoustics laboratory. During World War II he worked on noise control in aircraft and on improving microphones and headsets used by the military. He designed and built the first anechoic chamber. In 1947 he joined Richard H. Bolt in establishing the Massachusetts Institute of Technology acoustics laboratory, of which he was technical director during 1947–53. He was associate professor of communications at MIT from 1947 until 1958,

BERANEK

when he assumed the position of lecturer that he still holds. He and Bolt formed the company that is now Bolt, Beranek and Newman in 1948; Beranek was president during 1953–69. In 1963 he became president of Boston Broadcasters and is now involved in planning network and local television programming. Beranek has been president of ASA, the Audio Engineering Society, the Institute of Noise Control Engineers and the Opera Company of Boston.

AAAS Cleveland Prize goes to geophysicist Nur

Amos M. Nur, associate professor of geophysics at Stanford University, has been awarded the 1974 American Association for the Advancement of Science–Newcomb Cleveland Prize. The award, $1,000 and a bronze medal, is given at each AAAS annual meeting to the author of an outstanding paper presented at a regular session of the previous meeting. The paper must represent the author's previously unpublished research, the majority of which must have been presented for the first time at the AAAS meeting, and it must make a significant scientific contribution. Nur received the prize for his paper on "Origins of Velocity Changes Before Earthquakes: the Dilatancy Diffusion Hypothesis and its Confirmation," given at the 1974 AAAS meeting in San Francisco.

Because the dilatancy theory suggests an earthquake mechanism and thus clues to prediction, it is of the utmost interest to geophysicists.

Nur, born in Israel, did his undergraduate work in geology at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and received his doctorate in geophysics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1969. He was appointed assistant professor of geophysics at Stanford in 1970 and associate professor in 1974. He is currently associate editor of the *Journal of Geophysical Research.*

Eight physicists receive Institute of Physics awards

The (British) Institute of Physics has presented its yearly awards for 1975 to eight physicists: Daniel J. Bradley, W. A. Coates, Raymond Hide, Anthony J. Leggett, Walter C. Marshall, Ernst Ruska, Richard A. Stradling and David Tabor.

Bradley received the Thomas Young Medal and Prize "for his contributions to laser physics and particularly developments of the tunable dye laser." He is professor of applied optics at Imperial College.

Coates, senior experimental officer in the Royal Institution, was awarded the Bragg Medal and Prize "for his contribution to education through the design and execution of demonstrations illustrating the many lectures held at the Royal Institution."

The IOP presented the Charles Chree Medal and Prize to Hide in honor of his work on the hydrodynamics of rotating fluids and its application to motions in the major planets. Hide is deputy chief scientific officer and head of the geophysical fluid-dynamics laboratory at the Meteorological Office.

Leggett, of Sussex University, received the Maxwell Medal and Prize "for his contributions to the theory of the behavior of condensed matter at very low temperatures, in particular, the elucidation of the transition in liquid ^{3}He."

Marshall was awarded the Glazebrook Medal and Prize for his administration of the research and development work of the Atomic Energy Authority. He is chief scientist in the Department of Energy and director of the research group of the UKAEA, Harwell.

Ruska received the Duddell Medal and Prize for fundamental work on the electron microscope and continuing work on electron optics.

Stradling, of Oxford University, received the Charles Vernon Boys Prize for his work on semiconducting and semimetallic solids, particularly quantum-transport phenomena and magneto-phonon spectroscopy.

Tabor, who works at the Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge, has been

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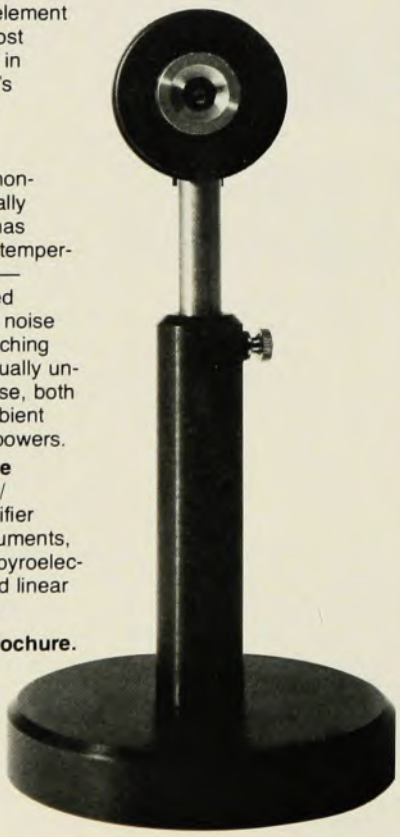

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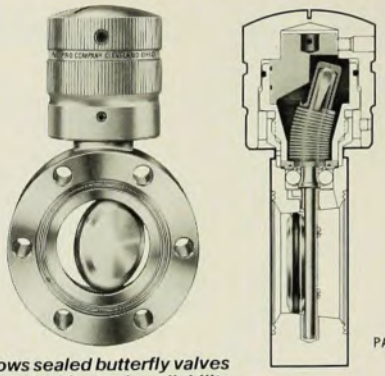

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awarded the Guthrie Medal and Prize "for his outstanding contributions to the study of surfaces."

J. Robert Oppenheimer Prize awarded to Nicholas Kemmer

The University of Miami's center for theoretical studies has presented the J. Robert Oppenheimer Memorial Prize to Nicholas Kemmer of the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. Kemmer received the award—a gold medal, citation, and $1000—for his role in the discovery of certain regularities and symmetries in the classification of elementary particles.

Kemmer, a USSR native, studied at the universities of Zürich and Göttingen under Max Born and Gregor Wentzel. He earned his PhD in 1936 and has taught at Imperial College in London, Cambridge University and the University of Edinburgh where he is the Tait Professor of Mathematical Physics.

Bernard R. Cooper has become Claude Worthington Benedum Professor of Physics at West Virginia University. Cooper was formerly with General Electric Research and Development Laboratories, Schenectady, New York.

John J. White III has been appointed research scientist at Battelle Columbus Laboratories, Columbus, Ohio.

Simon C. Moss has been appointed professor of physics at the University of Houston. **John T. Ho** and **Ed V. Hungerford** have joined the department as associate professors, and **Joseph McCauley, Alex Ignatiev** and **William R. McIntire** have been appointed assistant professors.

John B. Gruber, Washington State University professor of chemical physics, has been named dean of the college of sciences and mathematics and professor of physics at North Dakota State University in Fargo.

New assistant professors of astronomy at Boston University are **Saul J. Adelman, Lucas W. Kamp** and **Michael Mendillo.**

obituaries

Darrell J. Drickey

Darrell J. Drickey, professor of physics at the University of California at Los Angeles and an internationally known elementary-particle physicist, died on 10 December at the age of 40. At the time of his death he was on leave from UCLA to work on the development of the energy doubler at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory in Illinois.

Drickey spent his boyhood on the family ranch outside of Rapid City, South Dakota, where work and play could be pursued with an intensity limited only by one's innate abilities and capacities. In later years he enjoyed talking about life on the ranch and contrasting this with his experiences as a teacher and a scientist. His region of South Dakota was so recently settled that it was possible during his boyhood to talk directly to the men who settled it as pioneers. This had a great influence on his outlook toward both physics and life. He was aware of life's complexities but also knew that seemingly insurmountable difficulties can be overcome. Above all he learned to understand people and knew how to improvise in carrying out his work.

After graduating from the South Dakota School of Mining and Technology in 1956 Drickey went to Stanford

DRICKEY

University as a physics graduate student. While at Stanford he worked for a period as accelerator operator at the Mark III Electron Accelerator, gaining a unique perspective and the excellent rapport with the accelerator staff that characterized all of his work. During the completion of his thesis project on neutral pion photoproduction using po-