

The latter part of the conference dealt primarily with the properties of ferromagnetic materials. Becker (Göttingen) discussed the dynamics of the motion of the Bloch boundary and the consequent behavior of the permeability at very high frequencies. Sucksmith (Sheffield) described new measurements of the saturation moment and Curie point of some ferromagnetic metals and alloys. His extremely rigorous technique for carefully establishing the Curie point has enabled him to obtain good data on both hexagonal and face-centered cobalt. Employing his now well known technique of magnetic phase analysis to the case of order-disorder transformations, Sucksmith demonstrated that the ordered and disordered states probably coexist in  $\text{Fe}_3\text{Al}$  as in  $\text{Co-Pt}$  as demonstrated by Smoluchowski and Newkirk. Hoze-litz's (Sheffield) paper on recent progress in permanent magnets provided the opportunity for one of the liveliest discussion sessions of the conference centering particularly about the structure and source of the anisotropic properties of Alnico V.

A résumé of the conference would not be complete without at least mention of the hospitality of the French Government through the Centre Nationale de Recherche Scientifique in the form of aperitifs for the discussion laden recesses, the organized afternoon trip to the Grand Vecors Range of the French Alps and a banquet for the invited guests catered as only the French can do and providing an appropriate setting for the inimitable Van Vleckian toasts in an inimitable French. Professor Van Vleck was, incidentally, one of three Americans (the other two were Watson of IBM and Sporn of American Gas and Electric) to be presented with an honorary degree by the University of Grenoble at a convocation to celebrate the occasion.

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## MEETINGS TO BE HELD

### AAAS MEETING IN CLEVELAND

The 1950 annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science is to be held December 26-30 in Cleveland and preliminary announcements of the program indicate that the meeting will at the very least be well attended. All seventeen of the Association's sections and subsections and more than forty participating organizations are completing plans for a total of over two hundred sessions to be held during the five-day period. The Annual Science Exposition, to be held in the Arena of Cleveland's Public Auditorium, is to be almost twice as large as last year's show in New York. Some one hundred and fifty booths will be used by publishers, supply houses, and industrial firms to display their wares and the Atomic Energy Commission's American Museum of Atomic Energy is planning an extensive exhibit, including a model of an atomic pile. Also scheduled is a series of tours to nearby museums, laboratories, and industrial plants.

In physics, a session is planned on "Fifty Years of the Quantum Theory" and three other sessions will be concerned with the implications of nuclear phenomena

in the fields of astrophysics, geophysics, and biophysics. Also of interest are a four-part symposium on the biological effects of radiation and a symposium in three parts which will deal with the partnership of industry and science in research.

### APPLIED MECHANICS CONFERENCE IN 1951

The first National Congress of Applied Mechanics is to be held in Chicago from June 11 to 16, according to an announcement from the Illinois Institute of Technology, which will play host for the event. According to Lloyd H. Donnell, research professor of mechanics at Illinois Tech who is general chairman of the Congress, plans have been completed to hold the national meetings every four years, between the International Congresses of Applied Mechanics which are also held at four-year intervals. The national meetings are planned to supplement the international meetings.

Papers for presentation at the Congress must be submitted before April 14, 1951, and should constitute original research in applied mechanics, which includes kinematics, dynamics, vibrations, waves, mechanical properties of materials and failure, stress analysis, elasticity, plasticity, fluid mechanics, and thermodynamics. Papers will be limited to no more than five thousand words or the equivalent in equations, tables, and diagrams; one half-hour will be allotted for presentation and discussion of each paper. It is intended that the papers accepted will be published in full in the *Proceedings* of the Congress, to appear within the year following the Congress.

The Congress is under the sponsorship of the following professional societies and universities: the American Physical Society, the American Mathematical Society, the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the Institute of Aeronautical Sciences, the Society for Experimental Stress Analysis, the U. S. National Committee on Theoretical and Applied Mechanics, Illinois Tech, Purdue University, Northwestern University, and the University of Illinois.

## 400 RESEARCH PROJECTS SUPPORTED

### RESEARCH CORPORATION GRANTS

Research grants totaling more than one million dollars were awarded during the past fiscal year by Research Corporation, a nonprofit educational and scientific foundation with offices in New York City, according to the organization's annual report. Research Corporation is now supporting more than four hundred active projects in American colleges, universities, and scientific institutions under the postwar program of Frederick Gardner Cottrell grants, initiated in 1945 to help rebuild the war-depleted supply of research scientists. The grants in aid program, devoted mainly to the physical sciences, is supported by the net earnings from the design and installation of Cottrell electrical precipitation equipment for cleaning industrial gases, and from management of patents for institutions and individual inventors.