

## *New Plan For* STUDENT ORGANIZATOIN

The Institute has adopted a plan, effective immediately, for the organization of Student Sections of the American Institute of Physics. The way is thus opened for student organizations at accredited institutions to obtain official status in the national organization of physics and thus establish their members as a part of the physics profession. The action was taken in response to a demand which has become increasingly insistent as the number of physics major students has grown.

The broad purpose of our student section organization will be much the same as that in other fields of science and technology—where the value of the activity has been proven by experience. We aim to serve and stimulate the student, to enhance his professional pride and responsibility at the start of his career, and to recruit him as a worthy member of our professional societies, i.e., the member societies of the Institute.

Certain rules—quoted in full below—have been adopted to insure the maintenance of proper standards. Certain requirements must be met by the institution, the physics department and the by-laws of the section. The necessity for these will be understood. In fact a minimum of conditions and restrictions is imposed. Consistent with these, each section may adopt its own by-laws and its own method of operation appropriate to its special situation.

Membership is restricted to students, by which is meant anyone enrolled for study in the field of physics who has not yet received the doctor's degree. All members of student sections who are not already members of the Institute automatically obtain status as Associate Members with full voting and other privileges.

The dues to be paid by members of each student

section will be determined by the section itself but will include \$2 to be passed on by the local treasurer to the Institute. This amount, the same for undergraduate and graduate students, will cover for each individual his dues as Associate Member of the Institute, including receipt of *Physics Today*.

The total dues will be collected locally. Copies of each month's issue of *Physics Today* will be sent in bulk to the secretary of the section and distributed by him to the membership.

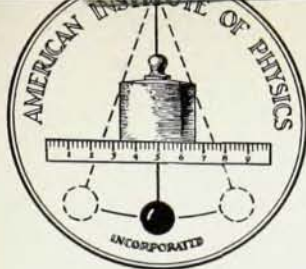
The \$2 rate of Associate Membership dues for individuals heretofore available to any undergraduate will no longer be offered, but Associate Membership in the Institute is still open to any duly elected individual at the regular rate of \$4.

The Institute hopes that within a year or two quite a number of student sections will have come into being. Some student organizations have already been established and have been awaiting the recognition which is now available. For the present the Institute will depend entirely upon the voluntary efforts of department heads, other faculty members, and students to organize sections.

It is suggested that a provisional organization be carried through in each case including the election of officers pro tem and the adoption of tentative by-laws. Where this is done and the approval of the department head is obtained, a proposal in accordance with the rules below will be given prompt and cordial attention by the Institute's executive committee.

Applications of student organizations for status as student sections of the American Institute of Physics should be addressed to Wallace Waterfall, Secretary, American Institute of Physics.

HENRY A. BARTON



## Provisions for Student Sections

Student Sections of the American Institute of Physics, with membership limited to students who are or who become members or associate members of the Institute, may be organized in educational institutions upon authorization of the Executive Committee.

Such a Student Section shall be organized only if the following requirements are fulfilled:

- I. The section must be located in a four-year or more degree-granting college or university of recognized standing approved by the appropriate regional or national accrediting agencies.
- II. The physics department must have a record of having given over a period of not less than four years sufficient courses in physics to constitute a "major" or its equivalent in this field. This major is defined as one including a minimum of 22 semester hours in physics, of which at least 8 require the calculus as a prerequisite.
- III. The willingness of the physics department to sponsor the section must be stated by letter to the Institute signed by the head of the department.
- IV. The head of the department must appoint a member of the faculty as section advisor and inform the Institute of his name.

Each student section shall be organized in accordance with the following terms:

- I. *Purposes.* The purposes of the section shall be the advancement and diffusion of knowledge of the science of physics and its application to human welfare.
- II. *Title.* The section shall be known as "The (name of Institution) Student Section of the American Institute of Physics."
- III. *Officers.* The officers of the section shall be a president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. Any two of the last three offices may be combined. The officers shall be elected by

the membership of the section each for a term of not more than two years. An officer shall hold office until his successor has been elected and has qualified.

IV. *Government.* The section may adopt for itself such by-laws and rules of procedure as it may desire so long as such by-laws and rules do not contravene the requirements of the Institute with respect to student sections. The management of the section may, if the section so desires, be placed in the hands of an executive committee including the officers, but this is not a requisite of the Institute.

V. *Relations with the Institute.*

- a. The section shall keep the Institute informed of the names of the officers of the section.
- b. The section shall periodically report to the Institute the names of all section members, together with such information about each as the Secretary of the Institute may require.
- c. The section shall make such payment, if any, on behalf of its members as shall be called for by the Executive Committee of the Institute to cover dues in the Institute, subscriptions to publications or other services.
- d. The secretary of the section shall receive and faithfully distribute to the members of the section such journals, notices, ballots, and other items as may be sent him for that purpose by the Institute.

VI. *Dues.* The section shall assess such section dues as the section may desire, payable to the treasurer of the section. Such dues shall, in the case of each member, be sufficient to cover such payments as may be called for in accordance with V, c, above.

VII. *Dissolution.* The section may at any time be dissolved by the Executive Committee of the Institute.