

In 1962 he moved to the Southwest Center for Advanced Studies, where he was first the director of the earth and planetary science laboratory and then director of the Center. From 1969 to 1971 Johnson served as the first president of the University of Texas at Dallas. Since 1974 he has been the Cecil H. and Ida M. Green Honors Professor of Natural Sciences there. He is also graduate dean. Johnson's main research interests are in upper atmosphere and space physics, planetary science and solar radiation.

Klemperer received an AB from Harvard in 1950 and a PhD from the University of California at Berkeley in 1954. He has been on the faculty at Harvard since 1954, and has been a full professor since 1965. Klemperer's earliest independent work was in the field of high-temperature spectroscopy but the research he is best known for is in the field of molecular-beam spectroscopy. He has also made contributions to the study of the chemistry of molecule formation in interstellar space.

Hans Mark is selected Secretary of Air Force

Hans M. Mark was recently appointed Secretary of the Air Force. Previously Mark was Undersecretary of the Air Force.

A native of Germany, Mark came to the US in 1940 and became a citizen five years later. He earned an AB in physics from the University of California at Berkeley (1951) and a PhD in physics from MIT (1954). After completion of his graduate studies, he remained at MIT as a research associate. Mark returned to Berkeley in 1955, where he worked as a research physicist. In 1956, he joined the staff of Lawrence Radiation Laboratory. After two years there and two years as assistant professor at MIT, Mark again went to Lawrence Radiation Laboratory to head the experimental physics division. Concurrently with this position, Mark was associate and then full professor of nuclear engineering at Berkeley. By 1964, he was department chairman. Five years



MARK

afterwards, Mark was appointed director of the NASA Ames Research Center.

Mark has made contributions to the precise determination of wavelengths of nuclear gamma rays and to the development of more accurate atomic wave functions. He has also done work in nuclear instrumentation and x-ray astronomy.

the physics community

Astronomers coordinate trip to 1980 solar eclipse site

A 15-day trip in India sponsored by the American Astronomical Society is planned for 10-25 February. The highlight of the journey will be an opportunity to view the full total solar eclipse (2.5-minute duration) on 16 February. Besides ample time for sightseeing, the itinerary includes visits to the Tata Institute for Fundamental Research in Bombay, the Indian Institute of Astrophysics and the Raman Institute, both in Bangalore, and the Osmania University Observatory, Hyderabad. AAS members, family and friends, and others professionally interested in astronomy are encouraged to apply. The trip costs \$1495.00 plus tips and taxes and may be arranged by contacting Professional Group Travel Inc., 3250 Lawson Boulevard, Oceanside, N.Y. 11572 (telephone: 800-645-2222).

Optical Society has new headquarters in Washington

During the summer, the Optical Society of America purchased a building to serve as its new executive headquarters. The new offices, which are located at 1816 Jefferson Place, Washington, D.C., consist of two Victorian townhouses that have been converted into a single unit. Together, they have 8000 square feet of space.

When authorizing this purchase, the OSA board of directors considered the

large projected increases in the rent for the former commercial offices to be a major factor. Approximately two-thirds of the building's cost will be covered by the liquidation of part of the Society's reserves. The remainder will be financed through an outside lending institution. An appeal to Society members is planned to raise funds to pay off the mortgage.

New edition available of *Speakers, Tours and Films*

The Society of Physics Students has recently released its 1979-80 *Speakers, Tours, and Films—A Program Resource for SPS Chapters*. In addition to SPS Chapters, this reference book is useful to physics departments and other organizations interested in arranging talks, tours or films dealing with physics and physics-related topics. The information supplied is up-to-date, as extensive revisions have been made to last year's edition.

The book is divided into three parts: The first catalogs over 710 speakers and sources of speakers such as industrial, government and nonprofit laboratories, colleges and universities, according to geographical location. For the most part, these talks are offered free of charge except at times for the speaker's traveling expenses. About 340 physics-related institutions and laboratories that conduct free tours are listed geographically in the second part. The final section gives roughly 70 sources of films that are available on loan.

Copies are available for \$10.00 from: National Office, Society of Physics Students, American Institute of Physics, 335 East 45th Street, New York, N.Y. 10017.

von Hippel replaces Rathjens as FAS chairman

In a recent election, Frank von Hippel, senior research physicist at the Center for Energy and Environmental Studies, Princeton University, was chosen vice-chairman of the Federation of American Scientists. Former chairman George Rathjens of MIT resigned to serve with the State Department on the International Commission on the Nuclear Fuel Cycle (PHYSICS TODAY, February 1979, page 85). Accordingly, von Hippel has become chairman of the FAS.

Von Hippel is known for his work in nuclear energy policy and public interest science. He earned a BS from MIT (1959) and D Phil in physics from Oxford University (1962). Following his graduate work, he was a research associate at both the University of Chicago and Cornell University.

Stanford University appointed von Hippel assistant professor in 1966. Four years later, he joined the staff theory group of the High Energy Physics Division, Argonne National Laboratory. From 1973 to 1974 von Hippel was a resident fellow for the National Academy of Sciences. He has been a member of the Princeton University research faculty since 1974. □