we hear that

sound reproduction, electronic music and speech synthesis, and his service to the Society." The presentation takes place at the Society's May meeting.

Olson was educated at the University of Iowa; he received a BE in 1924, an MS in 1925 and, for experiments on resonance radiation of atoms and on the reflections of atoms from crystal, a PhD in 1928. After two years at the University of Iowa as a physics assistant, he started his career at RCA. From 1930 to 1932 he worked in the company's Photophone Division. In 1932 he became the head of the Acoustic Research Lab in Camden, N.J. Ten years later he moved to a new facility of his design in Princeton, the Acoustic and Electromechanical Lab. From 1966 until his retirement in 1968, he was vice-president in charge of acoustics and electromechanical research.

In the Photophone Division he developed bidirectional velocity and unidirectional cardioid microphones for use in movies. At the same time, he made advances in developing loudspeakers for almost every conceivable application.

During World War II Olson worked on voice communication transducers for use in noisy environments and on underwater transducers operating at frequencies as high as 60 MHz for antisubmarine warfare.

After the war, Olson turned his attention to audio equipment for broadcasting and recording studios and for sound reproduction systems. He demonstrated in a classic experiment that listeners preferred a wider range of sound than they got with the high-frequency cutoff of 5000 Hz that earlier work had established. Olson, with Herbert Belar, created the RCA Electronic Music Synthesizer. Using primitive digital control and analog techniques, the synthesizer could pro-

duce any audio signal that could be conceived and specified by an operator. It became the fundamental instrument of electronic music. Olson also helped develop videotape recording technology and worked on tape coatings

Olson wrote books on acoustic engineering that have long been standard reference works throughout the world. He served the Acoustic Society as associate editor of its *Journal* for 30 years and as its vice-president and president.

Harvey Mudd bestows 1981 Wright Prize on Luis Alvarez

Harvey Mudd College awarded the 1981 Wright Prize for interdisciplinary scientific accomplishments to Luis W. Alvarez. Alvarez, Nobel laureate and professor emeritus of physics at Berkeley, has received \$20 000, delivered a public lecture, and conducted seminars for students during three days.

Alvarez was educated at the University of Chicago (BS, 1932; PhD in physics, 1936). He has taught at Berkeley since 1938 and has been associate director of the Lawrence Berkeley Lab during the years 1954–59 and 1976–78.

In the 1950s Alvarez and his group made possible the discovery of scores of fundamental particles by their development of large-scale liquid-hydrogen bubble chambers, their invention of semiautomatic track-measuring equipment, and their introduction of programming procedures for computers to reduce track data to physically meaningful form.

Alvarez has made important contributions in many other areas of physics. He was codiscoverer of the eastwest effect in cosmic rays, demonstrated orbital electron capture by nuclei, collaborated in building the first proton linear accelerator based on the use of cavity resonators, and developed the ground-controlled-approach blind landing system, which uses microwave radar.

Last year he theorized that the sudden extinction of dinosaurs resulted from the collision of an asteroid with Earth. Discovering the consistent presence of iridium in samples of soil strata from the time of dinosaur extinction, Alvarez argued that the asteroid's impact ejected so much dust into Earth's atmosphere, that it blocked sunlight, suppressed photosynthesis, and deprived the creatures of their food.

The Wright Prize, made possible by a gift from H. Dudley Wright, aims to honor outstanding scientists and engineers who have transcended the confines of single disciplines.

Frederick Reines wins Oppenheimer Prize

Frederick Reines, professor of physics at the University of California, Irvine, received the 13th annual J. Robert Oppenheimer Memorial Prize. The Scientific Council of the Center for Theoretical Studies at the University of Miami honored Reines with the \$1000 award in recognition of his contributions to elementary-particle physics.

Reines earned ME (1939) and MS (1941) degrees from Stevens Institute of Technology and a PhD from NYU in theoretical physics in 1944. He worked at Los Alamos from 1944 to 1959. He was professor of physics at Case Institute of Technology 1959 to 1966, when he went to Irvine to become professor of physics and Dean of Physical Sciences, which position he held until 1974.

The second experimentalist to receive the prize, his research has concerned nuclear fission, the physics and

OLSON



ALVAREZ



REINES



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effects of nuclear weapons, scintillation detectors, the free neutrino, and cosmic rays.

German Physical Society awards 1981 prizes

The German Physical Society has awarded its 1981 prizes. Klaus von Klitzing, Technischen Universität München, has won the Walter Schottky Prize in Solid State Physics "in honor of his precise determination of the fine-structure constant from the quantized Hall resistance of the two-dimensional electron gas in semiconductor boundary layers."

Kurt Symanzik, of the Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron, Hamburg, is the winner of the Max Planck Medal "for his contributions to Euclidean quantum field theory and its application to the renormalization group."

The Max Born Prize is awarded jointly by the Institute of Physics (London) and the Deutsche Physikalischen Gesellschaft in alternate years to English and German physicists. Cyril Domb, professor of theoretical physics at Kings College, University of London, is the winner "for his outstanding contributions to the field of statistical physics, especially in connection with modern theories of critical phenomena."

in brief

Geoffrey N. Epstein has become assistant professor of physics at Boston University.

The Physics Department of Brown University has appointed Stephen Libby of the Institute for Theoretical Physics at Stonybrook, Junko Shifemitsu of the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, and Robert Pelcovits, of Brookhaven National Laboratory, assistant professors.

Steven M. Grimes, formerly of the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory, has been appointed professor of physics at Ohio University.

The first recipient of the American Crystallographic Association's A. L. Patterson Award is Wayne A. Hendrickson, a research biophysicist at the US Naval Laboratory in Washington, D. C. He is to receive \$1000 and deliver an address on "Anomalous Scattering and Protein Structure."

The National Endowment for the Humanities has named Gerald Holton to deliver the 1981 Jefferson Lecture, the highest honor the federal government

confers for intellectual achievement in the humanities. Holton, professor of physics and professor of the history of science at Harvard University, has done research on the properties of molecules under high pressure, but is best known for work in identifying central themes connecting scientific advances. His studies of Einstein and Kepler reveal that root ideas of outstanding scientists remain fairly constant despite the spectacular changes that science undergoes decade to decade.

He is cited for contributing "to our understanding of the fundamental human motivations behind scientific achievements" and for presenting "important ethical and value issues related to science and technology."

obituaries

Jorge Andre Swieca

Jorge Andre Swieca died in São Carlos, Brazil, on 22 December 1980. Born in Warsaw, he escaped from Nazism with his family and settled in Brazil. He received his BSc in physics from the University of Brazil in Rio and his PhD in 1963 at the University of São Paulo after having spent one year at the Max Planck Institut with Werner Heisenberg and his coworkers in 1961. His academic career started at the University of São Paulo, where he remained from 1959 up to 1970, when he moved to the Catholic University of Rio. In 1978 he went to the Federal University of São Carlos in São Paulo. There he stayed until his death.

Swieca's scientific contributions are important landmarks within the quantum field theoretic development of almost two decades. He helped recapture confidence in quantum field theory at a time—the 1960s—when its usefulness outside perturbation applications in QED was being questioned. He demonstrated that the finding, that spontaneously broken symmetries produced Goldstone bosons, could be obtained from general field theoretic principles of locality and spectral proporties.

Among his finest pieces of work was the structural statement on the connection of charge screening and mass spectrum in Abelian gauge theories. In the last year of his life he worked on the corresponding problem on non-Abelian gauge theories and obtained partial results on what he termed "kinematical color screening." His work on conformal invariance and global operator expansions was also motiviated by his interest in the dynamical consequences of mode-independent general principles.

Complementary to this general structural investigation, Andre studied concrete field theoretical models as a source of new dynamical intuition.

At the beginning of the 1970s, several years before terms like "confinement," "color bleaching," " θ vacua" and "the U(1) problem" entered common usage, he developed some physical



SWIECA

ideas relevant to two-dimensional gauge models. Lacking experimental motivation, he first obtained these results by means of internal theoretical logic. He later refined them in his work on screening versus confinement. He was convinced that mathematically controllable models-even if as a result of their two-dimensional nature, they do not represent the reality of elementary particle physics-are valuable theoretical laboratories. Consequently, he thoroughly enjoyed the discovery of a new class of models with an infinite number of conservation laws leading to form factors and an explicitly calculable spectrum S-matrix. In the study of one of these models he found that the understanding of the U(1) problem required the introduction of fractional winding, which in turn transcended the 't Hooft-Atiyah-Singer framework of using a spherical compactified Euclidean space. He also emphasized the exotic statistics of fields that some of these models possess in a natural way and viewed them as special illustrations of the duality first encountered in lattice models of statistical mechanics.

More recently he obtained a more satisfactory understanding of operators generating local kinds in the frame-