radiation health and nuclear medicine technology. His research on radiation physics and biology, and radio-pharmaceutical dosimetry has led to a lifelong interest in radiation safety. In his capacity as a member of the Scientific Committee 51-B of the National Council for Radiation Protection and Measurements he is currently preparing a Report on Radiation Protection on Nuclear Medicine Applied to Children. He has also served as a physics examiner for the American Broad of Radiology and has been both a past president of the AAPM and editor of the Quarterly Bulletin.

Optical Society honors Francon and Mills

The Optical Society has announced the 1981 winners of two medals–the C.E.K. Mees Medal to Maurice Françon and the Ellis R. Lippincott Award to Ian M. Mills.

The Mees Medal is named in honor of the photographer C. E. Kenneth Mees. It is presented every two years to someone whose work in optics transcends both interdisciplinary and international boundaries. Françon, director of the optics laboratory at the University of Pierre and Marie Curie in Paris, is recognized for his pioneering contributions to interferometry and microscopy and for his role in the advancement of optics education throughout the world. His published works on instrumental optics, diffraction, microscopy and interferometry include the famous *Atlas of Optical Phenomena*.

The Lippincott Award, established jointly in 1975 by the Optical Society of America and the Society for Applied Spectroscopy, recognizes contributions to the field of vibrational spectroscopy. Mills will be honored for his contributions to the understanding of the structure and properties of small polyatomic molecules, and in particular for both his method of analyzing intensity perturbations to determine the sign of transition moments and his computer-applications in spectroscopy. Mills, who received his PhD from Oxford in 1954, has been at the University of Reading since 1957, where his research has focused on the study of rotational, rovibrational and rovibronic spectra of small molecules.

FRANCON

MILLS

in brief

George Gamota, who headed the DOD research office, has been appointed professor of physics and Director of the Institute of Science and Technology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Wolfgang Göpel of the University of Hannover has become professor of physics at Montana State University. **Richard Smith** of Brookhaven National Laboratory and **Gerry Wheeler** of Temple University have become associate professors of physics.

Robert N. Varney, retired from the Lockheed Palo Alto Research Laboratory, was presented with the Austrian cross of honor, first class, for science and art.

William R. Stratton, staff member at the Los Alamos National Laboratory, is one of the two winners of the University of Wisconsin's Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Joseph W. Mather is now research professor of chemical and nuclear engineering at the University of New Mexico.