

months ago, SSC workers showed that with improved superconducting materials, the magnets can pass 20% higher currents in the same cross section.

The banquet speaker was Howard Berg (Caltech), who spoke on "the physics that every bacterium should know." At the banquet the AIP-US Steel Foundation Science-Writing Award was given to George Greenstein (Amherst College) for his book, *Frozen Star* (see PHYSICS TODAY, December 1984, page 65).

AIP is offering for sale or rental, hour-long videotapes of the talks, which include all slides and projection shown during the lectures. Tapes may be rented for two weeks at \$85/tape and may be purchased for \$200/tape. A 25% discount is available for four tapes, for either the rental or sale prices. Orders may be placed with David Kalson, AIP, 335 East 45th Street, New York, NY 10017. —GBL

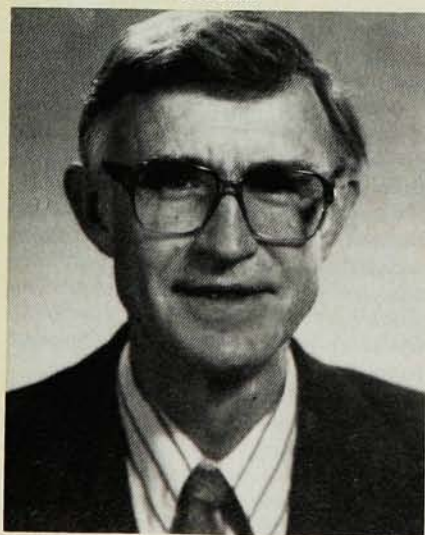
Education

Donald Holcomb elected new vice-president of AAPT

Donald F. Holcomb has been elected vice-president of the American Association of Physics Teachers for 1985. He is chairman of the physics department at Cornell University. Holcomb will succeed Robert Beck Clark of Texas A&M University, who becomes president-elect for 1985, while Anthony P. French of MIT takes office as president.

Holcomb received his AB from DePauw University in 1949 and his PhD from the University of Illinois in 1954. He has been a faculty member at Cornell since 1954, and he was director of the Laboratory of Atomic and Solid State Physics at Cornell from 1964 to 1968. His main current research interests are in experimental condensed-matter physics, especially spin reso-

HOLCOMB



nance experiments and metal-insulator transitions.

In the same AAPT election, Howard G. Voss of Arizona State University was re-elected secretary and A. David Allen of Ricks College in Idaho was chosen as two-year college representative for the Executive Board. Voss has an MS from Purdue University and an MNS from Arizona State University. He taught secondary school in Michigan and Arizona from 1958 to 1963, and he has been director of the physics service course facility at Arizona State since 1980. Allen has a BS from Utah State University and an MS from Oregon State University. He taught high school in Portland from 1967 to 1968 and has been at Ricks College since then.

Search committee established for Physics Today editor

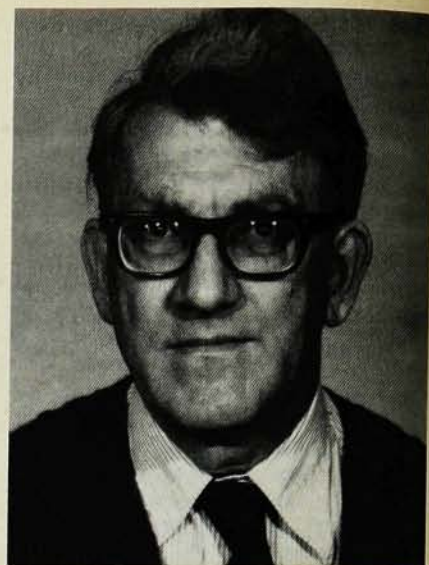
At the end of 1984, the tenure of Harold L. Davis as editor of PHYSICS TODAY came to an end. He has left the American Institute of Physics to pursue other interests. AIP director H. William Koch noted that during Davis's 15-year stint as editor, PHYSICS TODAY became an important vehicle for communication among physicists and astronomers and reached a larger public as well. The magazine, he said, has earned its reputation as authoritative, accurate and responsive to the needs of the science community it serves.

A search committee has been named by Koch to advise him on possible candidates for the editorship. The chairman is Theodore H. Geballe (Department of Applied Physics, Stanford University). The other members are S. C. Abrahams (AT&T Bell Labs, Murray Hill), Charles P. Bean (General Electric Corporate R&D, Schenectady), Mildred Dresselhaus (Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences, MIT), Roger H. Stuewer (School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Minnesota) and Gerald F. Wheeler (Physics Department, Montana State University).

The acting editor of PHYSICS TODAY is Gloria B. Lubkin, who has been with PHYSICS TODAY since 1963 and has been senior editor, in charge of news coverage, since 1970.

Singleton is president-elect of American Vacuum Society

The American Vacuum Society has elected Jack H. Singleton to be president-elect in 1985. He will succeed the new 1985 president, Donald M. Mattox of Sandia National Labs.



SINGLETON

Singleton is an advisory scientist in the Vacuum Laboratory of the Westinghouse R&D Center in Pittsburgh, Pa. His research interests include adsorption-desorption processes, vacuum pumping and gauging techniques, and electrode phenomena. He received his BSc in 1947 and his PhD in 1950, both from the University of London.

Other AVS election results are as follows: William D. Westwood of Bell-Northern Research in Ottawa, Canada, is the new secretary; new directors for two-year terms are Leonard J. Brillson, Senior Member of the Technical Staff at Xerox Research Center in Webster, N.Y.; H. Frederick Dylla, research scientist at the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory; and Donald L. Packwood, staff member of the Microwave Semiconductor Division at Hewlett-Packard Corporation in San Jose, Cal.; new trustees are William C. Brown, manager of the Chemistry Laboratory at General Electric in St. Petersburg, Fla., and H. Harry Wieder, professor of electrical engineering and computer sciences at the University of California, San Diego.

Westwood has a PhD in solid-state physics from the University of Aberdeen, Scotland, and has taught at Flinders University in Australia. Brillson has an MS and PhD in physics from the University of Pennsylvania and has been a visiting scientist at the Stanford Synchrotron Radiation Laboratory and the Synchrotron Radiation Center at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Dylla earned his BS, MS and PhD at MIT and worked in atomic physics at MIT from 1970 to 1975, when he moved to Princeton to work on plasma physics. Packwood, whose PhD in physics is from the University of Missouri, Columbia, worked as a staff engineer at the National Semiconductor Corporation before moving to Hewlett-Packard.