

pears, by the Council's physics division, which is equipped to measure the thermal conductivity of textiles in still air and in winds up to twenty-five miles per hour.

SUMMER OFFERINGS

MIT COURSE IN MODERN COMMUNICATIONS

A special course in Modern Communications to be given at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology from June 18 to July 6 is designed for research engineers concerned with problems of transmitting and assimilating information, statistical methods and techniques for signal detection, and the behavior of human beings in communication systems. The course will be given under the auspices of the Department of Electrical Engineering in conjunction with the Research Laboratory of Electronics and the Acoustics Laboratory. Enrollment in the program will be limited, preference being given to electrical and communication engineers and psychologists having a professional interest in the course, and to qualified students who wish to specialize in this area. Further information and applications may be obtained from Professor Walter H. Gale, Director of the Summer Session, Room 3-107, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge 39, Mass.

INTERFEROMETRY LECTURES AT FT. MONMOUTH

Professor S. Tolansky of the University of London will deliver a series of lectures on multiple-beam interferometry at the Squier Signal Laboratory, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, on June 28 and 29, 1951. Those interested in attending should address an inquiry for further details to the Director of the Squier Signal Laboratory, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey before June 9, 1951.

SPECTROGRAPHY AT BOSTON

A special two weeks' intensive course in modern industrial spectrography, designed for physicists and chemists from industries in the process of installing spectrographic equipment, is being offered by Boston College from July 23 to August 3. Information on the course can be obtained from Professor James J. Devlin, Physics Department, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Boston 67, Massachusetts.

WASHINGTON COLLEGE COURSES

Fluid dynamics and mechanical vibrations will be the theme of two summer courses at Washington College, Chestertown, Maryland, offered for the first time with the opening of this year's summer session. Extending from June 18 to July 28, the courses are aimed for the junior-senior undergraduate level, and will contain an introduction to the mathematics used beyond calculus. The mechanical vibrations course will also include some acoustics. Inquiries concerning the session should be addressed to Daniel Z. Gibson, President of the College.

ON THE CAMPUS

WASHINGTON COLLEGE SCIENCE CLUB

Washington College's undergraduate science club, the Society of Sciences, presented the following speakers at their regular meetings during the spring semester: Richard M. Foote, of Franklin and Marshall College, on how the geologist uses physics; John Sloan, a professional demonstrator of liquid air; Chauncey R. Tatem, with the Bell Laboratory microwave show; and Richard M. Sutton, of Haverford

College, on demonstration experiments in physics. Dr. Sutton's talk, "Recreations in Mechanics", was a feature of the Fifth Annual Science Exposition, an event which attracts several hundred people each year to watch the students perform or entertain with physical apparatus. The Club visited the Franklin Institute and the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory during the semester, and also procured a field demonstration of geophysical prospecting by a seismograph company. The Club awards two prizes at commencement; the Society of Sciences Award will be presented this year to Stanley Sweeney and the Society of Sciences Certificate of Merit will go to Richard C. Lewis.

A. Wilmer Duff

A. Wilmer Duff, emeritus professor of physics at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, died in Worcester on February 24 at the age of 86. Born in New Brunswick, Canada, Dr. Duff studied there and in London, Berlin, and Edinburgh, where he received his doctorate in mathematics and physics in 1901. From 1889 to 1890 he was professor of physics at Madras University in India, and joined Worcester Polytechnic Institute in 1899. His professional interests, other than the teaching of physics, were at first centered mainly in acoustics, but in later years shifted to electricity. The author of several widely used college textbooks in physics, Dr. Duff was one of the first to receive the Oersted Medal of the American Association of Physics Teachers. He was an early member of the American Physical Society and the American Academy of Science.

Takashi Nagai

Takashi Nagai, forty-three-year-old radiologist, died May 1st in Nagasaki after nearly six years of illness following the explosion of the atomic bomb in Nagasaki on August 9, 1945. His life-long exposure to x-rays, incurred while professor of radiology at the Nagasaki University Medical College, complicated the radioactive effects of the bomb, according to reports from Japan, causing the number of white corpuscles in his blood to increase enormously. The cause of his death was listed as leukemia. From the day of the blast, Dr. Nagai devoted the rest of his slowly ebbing life to studying the mental, physical, and psychological effects of the bomb on himself and on others. Honored by Pope Pius XII for his works on this subject, his book *We of Nagasaki*, published in the United States by Duell, Sloan and Pearce in January, presented first-person accounts of the atomic bombing by six adults and three children who survived the blast. His latest book, *Atomic Battleground Psychology*, is to be published in the United States soon.

Robert B. Taft

Robert B. Taft, fifty-one, originator of the radium electroscope for the detection of radium particles, died April 16th in Charleston, South Carolina. He had been professor of radiology at the Medical College of the State of South Carolina since 1924. For his work in radioactivity, particularly with radium, Dr. Taft received numerous awards, including the silver medal of the American Roentgen Ray Society in 1936 and 1942 and the Jefferson Gold Medal of the South Carolina Academy of Sciences in 1939. He was a member of the board of consultants of the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies, and was a fellow of the American Physical Society.