W. P. Allis (left), MIT mathematical physicist and master of ceremonies at the annual dinner of the Gaseous Electronics Conference, shown during the meeting with D. Gabor and S. Dushman.

guished guests who included, among the pioneers in the field, I. Langmuir, A. W. Hull, S. Dushman, W. D. Coolidge, W. B. Nottingham, A. v. Engel, and L. Tonks. Dr. Langmuir spoke about studies in the crystallization of super-cooled water vapor and Dr. Tonks discoursed on the physiological effects of warm Martinis. The affair concluded with an illustrated talk by Dr. Coolidge of his personal studies of the Mayan culture of the Yucatan peninsula.

The conference committee for the 1951 meeting consisted of J. D. Cobine, W. P. Allis, R. B. Holt, J. A. Hornbeck, A. O. McCoubrey, and L. Malter. The success of the conference was due largely to the efforts of Dr. Cobine, excellently supported by the host organization, the General Electric Company.

The executive committee elected for the 1952 conference consists of W. P. Allis, D. Alpert, J. D. Cobine, J. A. Hornbeck, L. Varney, and L. Malter. The hosts in 1952 will be RCA Laboratories and Princeton University. The conference will be held at Princeton University on September 4, 5, 6, 1952.

Bound copies of abstracts of the papers presented at the conference may be obtained, while the supply lasts, from Dr. J. D. Cobine, General Electric Company, Schenectady, New York.

L. Malter
RCA Laboratories

Electron Emission

APS Division of Electron Physics Meets

A meeting of the Division of Electron Physics of the American Physical Society was held November 1, 2, and 3 at the National Bureau of Standards. This was one of the events commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Bureau. The subject of the meeting was the emission of electrons from surfaces.

The meeting opened with a review by Dr. Conyers Herring of the theory of the metallic surface. About half of the program was concerned with thermionic emission. In this part of the meeting there were a number of papers on electron emission from BaO and on the physical and chemical experiments contributing to an understanding of this emission. Barium sulfide, thorium dioxide, and "L-cathode" thermionic emitters were discussed.

Several papers were presented on experimental and theoretical studies of secondary emission from metals and semiconductors. A feature of this part of the program was an experimental study presented by Dr. R. R. Law which indicated that a time delay of the order of 3×10^{-10} seconds may be intrinsic in the secondary emission of electrons. There were several papers on field emission, electron emission by ion bombardment, "flicker effect", contact arcing, and the periodic deviation in the Schottky effect.

The attendance at this meeting was about 250. The program was arranged by a committee headed by Dr. J. B. Johnson. Dr. and Mrs. L. Marton and their associates at the National Bureau of Standards provided excellent local arrangements. A dinner was held on November 2 with Professor S. C. Brown as toastmaster and with talks by Professor A. E. Ruark and Dr. E. R. Piore.

R. L. Sproull
Cornell University

Physics Teaching

The AAPT Meeting in Chicago

The American Association of Physics Teachers held their own special part of the twentieth anniversary meeting of the AIP on Friday and Saturday (October 26–27) of that most interesting week of meetings last fall. Quite a few people were heard to remark that they enjoyed the frequent contacts with many physicists made possible by the location of all the meetings in the same building. The excellent exhibits arranged by the cooperating industries also provided an attractive general feature.

The committee who planned the program for the AAPT performed a most significant service. The invited papers were timely, presented with appropriate emphasis, and covered a wide range of interest. The program consisted of five sessions of contributed and invited papers dealing with problems and methods of teaching physics, demonstration experiments and lectures, and numerous topics in physics of particular interest to the teaching profession. Teachers who reported recent successes in presenting physics to students in the "contributed papers" part of the program provided stimulating ideas for their associates for many phases of the subject; and that the leaders of the panel titled "Cooperation of High Schools and Colleges on Problems of Physics Teaching" did a fine job was evidenced by the pointed and constructive reactions heard in the general discussion. It was unfortunate that all of the high school and college teachers of the nation could not have been there to listen and participate.

One vivid impression growing out of this meeting of physics teachers should be stated and pondered. Phys-