

tory for operation over an approximate range of 1 to 100 mass units.

British nucleonic and radiological instruments are now available in this country from the Atomic Center, 489 Fifth Avenue, New York 17, New York. The Atomic Center is exclusive American distributor for several major British manufacturers of this equipment, and will supply catalogs and descriptive literature on request.

A new beryllium-copper alloy that combines high strength and high conductivity has been announced by The Beryllium Corporation. Termed "Beryldur", the alloy is expected to find application in the field now occupied by phosphor bronze and brass. Other new products of this company, including a flake form of metallic beryllium of 99.5 percent minimum purity, were exhibited at the 35th National Metal Exposition and Congress held in Cleveland during the week of October 19.

The department of physics at Tennessee A & I State University, Nashville, Tennessee, has announced the availability of its infrared spectroscopy laboratory facilities to industrial research laboratories and universities in the southeastern section of the country. The laboratory will supply spectrograms and analyses of spectra for samples furnished embracing the spectral region 2 to 25 microns. Professor James R. Lawson is in charge of this service.

Calutrons, large mass spectrographs designed for isotope separation, have been used at Oak Ridge since 1946 in a program devoted to the isotopic enrichment of forty-three elements. At present elements enriched in any of 177 different isotopes are available in amounts ranging from milligrams to grams, with purities as high as 99.99 percent in some cases; a goal of 257 isotopes of fifty-nine elements is contemplated. A review of the electromagnetic separation of stable isotopes by C. P. Keim of Oak Ridge National Laboratory appears in the October issue of the *Journal of Applied Physics*, and covers the subject in a fairly comprehensive way. The principles and operating technique of the calutron are discussed qualitatively, and some of the applications of enriched stable elements are mentioned as well. An especially useful feature of this article is a table giving the isotopes involved in the Oak Ridge program, their natural percentage abundance and the abundances attainable by enrichment.

Fred E. Wright, former president of the Optical Society of America (1918-20) and physicist at the Carnegie Institution, died on August 25th at the age of 75. Dr. Wright studied in Germany, receiving his PhD from the University of Heidelberg and later teaching at the Michigan State College of Mines. He served as petrologist and research physicist at the Geophysical Laboratory of the Carnegie Institution from 1906 to 1944 and as chief physicist in the Air Force, U. S. War Department, from 1942 until 1946. He was a fellow of the American Physical Society.

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*Included in the current investigations are problems in mass spectrometry, light scattering, fluorescence, thermistors, radioactive tracers, and electron and ion optics.

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