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Laboratory on Mt. Wrangell

NYU—University of Alaska Project

Mt. Wrangell, a fourteen thousand-foot mountain in the interior of Alaska southeast of Fairbanks, will be the site of a scientific research station if an expedition now in progress is successful. Under the joint leadership of Serge A. Korff, professor of physics at New York University, and Terris Moore, president of the University of Alaska, a group of physicist-mountaineers from both institutions is attempting to establish a laboratory at the summit for use in studies of cosmic rays, high altitude biology, meteorology, and other fields requiring facilities at high altitudes. A far-northern station such as this will be of especial importance in investigations of the latitude effect in cosmic radiation.

The headquarters of the expedition are at Copper Center, a town on the Richardson Highway 42 miles west of Mt. Wrangell. According to announced plans, the mountain was first to be climbed on foot, with the U. S. Air Force subsequently parachuting supplies and equipment for building huts to the summit. Attempts are to be made by Dr. Moore, an expert bush pilot, to land a light plane on the side of the mountain itself as close to the top as possible in order to bring in scientific equipment too delicate or valuable to be dropped by parachute. As envisioned at the start of the expedition, the completed station would consist of two 16-by-16-foot huts and some storage tents, with several kilowatts of power available from a suitable generator and accommodations for about four scientists and their equipment. If conditions permit, some cosmic-ray measurements will be made there this summer.

In addition to Drs. Korff and Moore the physicist members of the party include Arthur Beiser, who handled many of the details of the project, Hugo Neuberg, and Robert Haymes, all of NYU, and Philip C. Bettler and Charles Wilson of the University of Alaska. The expedition is partly financed by the Office of Naval Research under a contract with the NYU cosmic-ray project.

Guggenheim Fellowships

Twelve Awarded in Physics

191 fellowships have been awarded for 1953 by the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, with the accompanying grants totaling \$780,000. The fellowships, established in 1925 by the late Simon Guggenheim, are in thirty-eight categories ranging from poetry to microbiology. The following physicists received awards: Robert K. Adair, University of Wisconsin, for a study of the low lying excited states of heavy nuclei; J. G. Daunt, Ohio State University, for studies in

the field of low-temperature physics; Martin Deutsch, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, for a study of nuclear transitions and radiations; Henry A. Fairbank, Yale University, for studies of the superfluidity of liquid helium at very low temperatures; Bernard T. Feld, MIT, for researches into the interactions involved in the production of mesons by nucleons and by electromagnetic radiation; Leonard H. Hall, University of California, Santa Barbara, for a theoretical calculation of acoustic relaxation times in liquids; Peter Havas, Lehigh University, for studies in the relativistic theory of interacting elementary particles; Wayne E. Hazen, University of Michigan, for studies of *V*-particles in the cosmic-ray group; George Jura, U. C., Berkeley, for studies of the physics of the solid state; Charles K. McLane, University of Wisconsin, for studies of the properties of matter at demagnetization temperatures; A. J. F. Siegert, Northwestern University, for investigations in the field of statistical mechanics and random processes; and Samuel Siver, U. C., Berkeley, for studies on the diffraction of electromagnetic waves by apertures in an infinite plane sheet.

AEC Contracts

For Unclassified Physical Research

The Atomic Energy Commission has awarded thirty-seven contracts for unclassified basic research in the physical sciences to universities and private research institutions so far this year. Among those in physics are: Case Institute of Technology (R. S. Shankland and E. F. Shrader), "Study of Gamma Ray Spectrums Produced from a 30 Mev Betatron"; Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (W. A. McKinley), "Fast Coincidence Techniques and Beta Ray Spectroscopy"; Johns Hopkins University (S. S. Hanna), "Fast Neutron Cross-Section Measurements"; Bausch and Lomb Optical Co. (N. J. Kreidl), "Irradiation Damage to Glass"; Princeton University (M. G. White), "Nuclear Research Using 17 Mev Cyclotron—Scope II"; Washington University (J. W. Kennedy), "Generation of High Voltages by Means of Nuclear Radiations"; University of Wisconsin (D. A. Lind), "Inelastic Scattering of Fast Neutrons"; and Case Institute of Technology (E. Shrader), "Reactor Studies".

Visiting Foreign Scientists

Information on Travel Plans

The Office of International Relations of the National Academy of Sciences—National Research Council has circulated a bulletin giving information on the interests and itineraries of foreign scientists and engineers visiting the United States. A number of the visitors listed in the first issue of this bulletin are in fields touching on physics: Dr. I. G. C. Dryden, head, Chemistry and Physics Section, British Coal Utilization Research Association, will be here from August 28 to September 30 and attend the Gordon Research Conference on Coal August 31–September 3. His address is c/o U. K. Sci-