

and atomic energy. Previously, he said, the company's development of new products was largely confined to the field of physics.

Education

The Astronomy Department of the University of California in Berkeley will arrange an astronomy conference between August 16 and September 15 for college and university instructors and other qualified persons. This conference will be held under the auspices of the National Science Foundation and the Extension Division of the University of California. The purpose is to acquaint instructors with modern developments in the fields of astronomy and astrophysics. Membership will be limited to about twenty. The National Science Foundation will pay travel and subsistence expenses. The principal lecturer will be Professor Bart J. Bok of Harvard University who will discuss the structure of our galaxy. A half-time lecturer will speak on problems of the sun and physics of the stars. The participants will be encouraged to take an active part in all discussions. Applications should be addressed to the Department of Astronomy of the University of California at Berkeley, before June 15.

The University of Pennsylvania has announced the reorganization of its administration of teaching and research in engineering. Under the new plan, the University's Towne Scientific School has been divided into four separate Schools of Chemical, Civil, Mechanical, and Metallurgical Engineering, each of which will have its own faculty. Directors have been named to head the four newly created schools and the Moore School of Electrical Engineering, while two assistant vice-presidents for engineering also have been appointed. In addition, provision has been made for the establishment of an Institute for Cooperative Research to stimulate, coordinate, and manage investigative activities in the engineering field for industry, foundations, and government. All of these various engineering units will function under the University's vice-president in charge of engineering affairs, Carl C. Chambers.

Boston College has announced a special two weeks intensive course in modern industrial spectroscopy at Chestnut Hill, Boston, Massachusetts, from July 12 to July 23. The course is particularly designed for chemists and physicists from industries in the process of installing spectrographic equipment. Information on the course can be obtained from Professor James J. Devlin, S. J., Physics Department, Boston College, Chestnut Hill 67, Boston, Massachusetts.

Publications

A new journal in the field of noise control is to be published within the year by the Acoustical Society of America, according to a decision made at the meeting of the Society's Council on February 13th. Designed to meet the growing needs of diverse groups of noise control specialists, the journal is expected to be issued

four times each year beginning next October. The quarterly is not intended to be archival in character and will not compete with the *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, the organization's official publication. The contents will include recitations of case histories and regular columns on technical, medical, and legal aspects of noise control.

The Library of Congress is offering for sale to the general public a continuing bibliography with abstracts prepared under an agreement with the Snow, Ice, and Permafrost Research Establishment. Abstracts on the basic properties and applications of snow, ice, and perennially and seasonally frozen ground are printed on conventional three-by-five-inch cards. Each item is completely cataloged and the location of the original publication is included. Any number of cards may be ordered at a price of 3 cents each. Payment may be made either by enclosing the exact amount with the order or by having the cost charged against a pre-purchase deposit. However, no cash refunds can be made. Orders or inquiries should be directed to the SIPRE Bibliographic Project, Library of Congress, Washington 25, D. C.

The British Chemical Society has announced a new publication which is to list titles, authors, and journals of published papers in pure chemistry throughout the world. Since it is not an abstract journal, *Current Chemical Papers* is able to list all relevant papers that appear in the month previous to its publication dates. The subscription rate for U. S. subscribers (copies sent by air mail) is \$12.75. Information may be obtained from The Chemical Society, Burlington House, London, W. 1, England.

In Japan, a monthly, English-language periodical entitled *Reports of the Electrical Communication Laboratory*, is now being published by the Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Public Corporation, 1551 Kichijoji Musashino-shi, Tokyo. A condensed version of two existing publications of the Laboratory, the journal describes various aspects of the program of the parent company. The first issue includes articles on telegraph transmission, magnetic dialing apparatus, and power supply equipment.

Organizations

The Committee on Vacuum Techniques, a non-profit corporation representing the vacuum equipment industry and institutions and industries employing vacuum processes, has recently been established in Massachusetts. Indicating that the functions of the new organization will be in the direction of the standardization of nomenclature, testing techniques, and equipment performance ratings, the Committee says it will welcome membership applications from individuals and companies involved in high-vacuum technology. The address is Box 1282, Boston 9, Massachusetts.

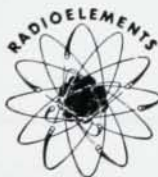
The American Physical Society has Hans A. Bethe of Cornell University as its 1954 president, succeeding

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Enrico Fermi of the University of Chicago. Raymond T. Birge of the University of California at Berkeley is the newly elected vice-president.

This year's president of the American Association of Physics Teachers is Marsh W. White of Pennsylvania State University, who succeeds Paul E. Klopsteg, associate director of the National Science Foundation. The president-elect is R. R. Palmer, professor of physics at Beloit College.

Electron microscopists and their potential employers are invited by the Electron Microscope Society of America to make use of its free placement service. Those interested should contact the Society's placement officer for 1954, Dr. John H. L. Watson, The Edsel B. Ford Institute for Medical Research, 2799 West Grand Blvd., Detroit 2, Michigan. The Society has also announced that its officers for 1954 are R. G. Picard, president; T. F. Anderson, president-elect; Jeanette R. Cooper, secretary; M. Swerdlow, treasurer; and C. E. Hall, past-president.

1954 officers of the Physics Club of the Lehigh Valley are R. A. Boyer, president; W. Keck, vice-president; and J. R. DeVore, secretary-treasurer.

Basic Research Corporation, a nonprofit organization incorporated last year in Delaware, has established its headquarters office in the Wyatt Building, 14th Street and New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C. According to an announcement in January, the corporation has appointed Gordon Dean, former chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, as chairman of its advisory board. Harry A. Toulmin, Jr., patent attorney of Dayton, Ohio, is president. Described as being interested chiefly in encouraging fundamental research, the organization will use its income "in the public interest to promote invention and research".

The Society of Nuclear Medicine, a newly established organization whose purpose is "to promote discussion and communication of knowledge of nuclear phenomena, as they apply or are likely to apply to the understanding and control of disease", held its first organizational meeting in Spokane, Washington, on January 23rd. Twelve representatives from various areas in the Pacific Northwest were present. They elected an executive committee with the following members: Thomas Carlile, president; Asa Seeds, president-elect; Rex Huff, secretary; and Norman Holter, treasurer. The Society's first official annual meeting is to be held May 29-30 at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel in Seattle; abstracts should be submitted to William H. Hannah, RR No. 2, Box 896, Bremerton, Washington. Those interested in becoming charter members should make application to Milo Harris, 252 Paulsen Building, Spokane, Washington.

Grants for Research

Research Corporation grants in support of scientific research totalled nearly \$750 000 during the fiscal year 1953, when 252 grants were awarded for work in

166 colleges, universities, and other institutions. The largest single grant (\$48 000) was made to the University of Denver for high-altitude research, particularly in cosmic-ray studies, and consisted of the assets, property, and facilities located on Mt. Evans, Colorado, formerly operated by Research Corporation for the work of the Inter-university High-Altitude Laboratories. A modest program of grants for support of research in West Germany, long under consideration, was decided upon late last year, and has moved closer to realization with the formation of an advisory committee of German scientists to recommend West German grants. Research Corporation has already earmarked funds on deposit in Germany which will be used as soon as the program has been laid out.

The second series of grants by the National Science Foundation for the fiscal year 1954 has been announced, the 100 awards totalling \$1.045 million. This brings the number of NSF grants since the start of its program in 1950 to more than 625, worth more than \$6 million. Among the recent group of awards are the following: Harvard University (D. Hoffleit), Variable Stars in the Milky Way; Brown University (R. B. Lindsay), Liquid Structure and Acoustics; Harvard University High Altitude Observatory (W. O. Roberts), Observational Studies of Solar Activity; Northwestern University (A. B. Bronwell), Microwave Conversion and Detection; Louisiana State University (J. M. Reynolds), Electric and Magnetic Measurements on Bismuth at Low Temperatures; University of New Mexico (J. R. Green and V. H. Regener), Collision Cross Sections for Cosmic Ray Showers; Western Reserve University (R. G. Winter), Double Beta Decay; Harvard University (P. G. Frank), Study of Reasons for Acceptance of Scientific Theories; New York University (S. A. Korff), Survey of High Altitude Cosmic Ray Stations; American Institute of Physics (H. A. Barton), Establishment of a Register of Scientific and Technical Personnel in the Field of Physics; and American Meteorological Society (K. C. Spengler), Establishment of a Register of Scientific and Technical Personnel in the Field of Meteorology.

Paul H. Geiger, research physicist at the University of Michigan's Engineering Research Institute, died on January 27 after a month's illness. He was fifty-seven. A fellow of the Acoustical Society of America, he had served as an acoustical consultant for the American Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers, the American Society for Testing Materials, and with the Office of Scientific Research and Development.

Edwin F. Kingsbury, who retired as research scientist at Bell Telephone Laboratories in 1952, died in St. Petersburg, Florida, on March 4. He was sixty-seven years old. A graduate of Colgate University, he joined Bell Labs in 1920, where he was engaged in the