



Frederick Seitz



George R. Harrison

Seitz Elected AIP Chairman

THE GOVERNING BOARD of the American Institute of Physics, at its meeting in New York City on March 13th, elected Frederick Seitz, research professor in the physics of solids at the University of Illinois, as Chairman for 1954. Professor Seitz succeeds George R. Harrison, dean of science at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who has served for the past seven years as Chairman and has been a member of the AIP's Governing Board for a total of ten years.

Professor Seitz, a member of the Governing Board on nomination of the American Physical Society, has been a member of the APS Council and is a former chairman of the Society's Division of Solid State Physics. A native Californian, he received his bachelor's degree at Stanford University in 1932 and his doctorate in physics at Princeton University in 1934. After working as a research physicist with the General Electric Company and serving on the physics faculties of the Universities of Rochester and Pennsylvania, he joined the Carnegie Institute of Technology in 1942 as professor and head of the department of physics. He left Carnegie Tech in 1949 to accept his present post at Illinois.

During World War II, Professor Seitz headed a section of the theoretical division at the Manhattan District's Metallurgical Project at the University of Chicago. After the war, he was appointed director of a training program in nuclear physics conducted at Oak Ridge. He has served as a civilian with several government agencies, including the Atomic Energy Commission and the Office of Scientific Research and Development.

Dean Harrison, also from California, received his bachelor's, master's and doctor's degrees at Stanford (PhD, physics, 1922), and served as an instructor in the Stanford physics department from 1919 until 1923. He then went to Harvard as a National Research Fellow (1923-25), returned to Stanford as assistant professor (1925-27), was promoted to associate professor (1927-30), and accepted a professorship at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1930. He has been Dean of the School of Science at MIT since 1942.

As chief of the Southwest Pacific section of the Office of Field Service of the OSRD and chief of the research section at General MacArthur's headquarters during World War II, Dean Harrison traveled widely in Australia and New Guinea to investigate the scientific needs of the troops in that area. He was also chief of the division of optics and chief of the division of physics of the National Defense Research Committee. For his war-time services, which included notable contributions to the development of optical and other equipment for the armed services, he received both the Medal of Freedom and the Medal for Merit.

A fellow of the Optical Society of America, Dean Harrison is a former president of the Society (1946-48) and for ten years was editor of the *Optical Society Journal* (1939-49). In 1939 he was awarded the Rumford Medal of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences for his many contributions to the advancement of optics and spectroscopy, and in 1949 he received the Frederick Ives Medal of the Optical Society of America for Distinguished Work in Optics. Dean Harrison also belongs to the American Physical Society and the American Association of Physics Teachers.