

presiding officers were H. A. Bethe of Cornell University and P. E. Klopsteg of the NSF, the retiring president of AAPT. Professor Enrico Fermi of the University of Chicago, as the retiring president of the American Physical Society, addressed the group on the subject of "What Can We Expect to Learn From High Energy Accelerators?". Dr. Fermi stressed solid state physics and nuclear physics as the two fields that are now in the foreground, and discussed the physics of the elementary particle, including an outline of nuclear particles and how these particles are released or excited. He stated that the large volume of data that now exists in the field of nuclear physics will be collected together in order to try to answer the question of further release of energy from the nucleus. There is as yet no particle as such that can be called the elementary particle in the field of high-energy work. This lecture was filled with wit, fact, and prophecy.

Professor C. N. Wall of the University of Minnesota was the recipient of the Oersted Medal. Professor Wall addressed the group on "The Metaphysics of a Physics Teacher". He stated that it is the way in which the information is transmitted from the professor to the student that counts and that the zest for information must be instilled into the student. If there were nothing but just transmitting the information, then we would not have needed teachers since the invention of the printing press. Progress in physics depends mainly on the ability of the student to build up a supply of information and substrata and form the connections, through the use of logic, to basic laws and principles. Learning is a process of going from vague to definite ideas.

John A. Wheeler of Princeton University, who gave the Richtmyer Memorial Lecture on "Fields and Particles", stressed the three main types of fields in which the physicist works as the electrical field, the gravitational field, and the neutrino field, and stressed the necessity for basic training in the fundamental properties of these three areas of work.

During Saturday morning R. J. Stephenson of Wooster College and T. D. Phillips of Marietta College were presiding officers, while R. Ronald Palmer and James M. Bradford of Beloit College presided during the afternoon session. The morning was given over to ten-minute papers, which included one by S. C. Brown of MIT in which he explained the type of instruction given in the physics laboratories in England and compared this to laboratory procedures in the United States. Much more time is given to the laboratory type of instruction in England; however, little time is spent in training engineers and thus a greater amount of laboratory is needed in the physics program. J. W. Buchta then outlined the work shop given last year at the University of Minnesota. The work shop was divided into two sections, one for college physics teachers and one for high school physics teachers. Its success was so great that it is planned to repeat the program again this summer at the University of Minnesota.

B. C. Dees, program director for fellowships of the National Science Foundation staff, outlined the work of

the fellowship committee of the NSF and answered questions concerning fellowship openings. On Saturday afternoon M. W. Zemansky of the City College of New York showed two recently developed films which have been prepared by the AAPT Visual Aids Committee; F. W. Parker of Lincoln Memorial University presented several demonstration puzzles based upon principles of physics; and Eric M. Rogers of Princeton University gave a dramatic presentation of a demonstration experiment in mechanics.

At the annual business meeting on Saturday morning, at which President Klopsteg introduced the president for 1954, M. W. White of Pennsylvania State University, the following report of officers was made: President-elect, R. Ronald Palmer; Treasurer, F. W. Sears; Member of Executive Committee to 1956, V. L. Bollman. The secretary of the Association is R. F. Paton. D. W. Bronk was elected to Honorary Membership in the AAPT and T. D. Cope, P. Kirkpatrick, C. J. Overbeck, and M. H. Trytten were voted Special Citations for outstanding service to the Association. Eric Rodgers of Alabama University has been nominated and elected to represent AAPT on the Governing Board of AIP, serving until 1957. Several proposals for action by the organization were discussed with appropriate resolutions and committee recommendations resulting.

The Association is keeping well abreast of its new horizons and growing responsibilities as evidenced by many of the reports and panel discussions referred to above, by plans projected by the officers of the Association and the Council members at their meeting on Thursday evening, and by the work laid out for the coming year by the resolutions and committee recommendations resulting from the annual business meeting.

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Nuclear Engineering

The American Institute of Chemical Engineers has announced that an International Nuclear Engineering Congress will be held at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, June 20-25. More than one hundred papers and addresses will be given during the six-day meeting, twelve of which are from authors in Canada, England, Belgium, France, Norway, Italy, Spain, and India. The technical program, which was planned by the Nuclear Energy Committee of the Institute, consists of some ninety papers on the following seven subjects: materials of construction for reactors, reactor technology, research and educational reactors, reactor fuel refining and preparation, nuclear power reactors, processing of irradiated materials, and applications and uses of radioactive products. In addition, there will be symposia on education in the nuclear field and on the social and political impact of atomic energy. Additional information concerning the Congress can be obtained by writing to Professor Robert R. White, 2028 East Engineering Building, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.