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M eetings

Structure of Glass

The first Gordon Research Conference on glass, held at Kimble Union Academy, Meriden, New Hampshire, August 15 to 19, had as its particular subject the structure of glass. The scientists participating in the conference arranged under the chairmanship of F. C. Flint, Hazel Atlas Glass Company, included those working in the fields of unusual inorganic glasses and organic high-polymer glasses as well as the more conventional silicate glasses. They included representatives from England, Belgium, Norway, Japan, and Sweden.

Research approaches discussed included the relatively direct investigation of structure by x-ray and neutron diffraction and electron microscopy, the investigation of glass transformation phenomena through measurements of heat capacity, viscosity, high pressure, and ultrasonic effects. Theoretical treatments of the glassy transition, particularly in polymers, raised considerable discussion of the applicability of these theories to inorganic glasses.

E. U. Condon conducted the final session of the conference, which was given over to résumé and conclusions. He emphasized the lack of general agreement as well as the good prospects for clearing up much of the mystery of glass as he called upon various scientists for a five-minute description of their current endeavors.

O. L. Anderson, Bell Telephone Laboratories, this year's vice chairman, was named chairman for next year. Harrison Davies of the Mellon Institute will be vice chairman. Other members of this year's committee were N. J. Kreidl and J. R. Hensler, Bausch & Lomb Optical Company.

N. J. Kreidl

Bausch & Lomb Optical Company

AAAS Meets in Atlanta

The 122nd meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (Atlanta, Georgia, December 26-31) will include some 300 sessions of 17 AAAS sections and of 63 participating organizations.

The program of Section B (Physics) of AAAS includes symposia on the following subjects: Radiation Measurements (December 27, afternoon); The Role of Physics in Premedical Education (December 28, morning), program of Sigma Pi Sigma, cosponsored by Alpha Epsilon Delta and Section B; Research Progress in Physics (December 28, afternoon); Training for Careers in Physics (December 29, afternoon); and Radiation Chemistry and Related Fields, Parts I and II (De-

cember 30, morning and afternoon), program of AAAS Section C—Chemistry, cosponsored by Section B and American Chemical Society, Georgia Section. Section B will hold a joint dinner with Sigma Pi Sigma at 6:00 PM, December 28. The dinner program will permit attending the AAAS Presidential Address by Warren Weaver at 8:00 PM.

A general session of AAAS on "The Crisis in Science Education", cosponsored by science teaching societies and other organizations, will be held the morning of December 29th. On December 30th the AAAS Council Meeting II will consider what organized science can do to solve the shortages of science teachers.

A joint program on "Atomic Energy and Agriculture", arranged by AAAS and the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies and cosponsored by several AAAS sections, is described as the first presentation to a large audience of the latest research and thinking on the applications of radioisotopes in the agricultural sciences. It is designed to anticipate (and to a considerable extent to complement) the related and coordinated Conference on the Use of Isotopes in Agriculture to be held January 12-14, 1956, at East Lansing, Michigan, under the sponsorship of the Council of Participating Institutions of the Argonne National Laboratory. The AAAS-ORINS joint program on atomic energy and agriculture consists of the following parts: I. Soil-Plant Relations (December 27, afternoon); II. Plant Metabolism and Crop Improvement (December 28, morning); III. Animal Metabolism (December 28, afternoon); and IV. Food Sterilization (December 29, afternoon).

The International Geophysical Year will be the subject of a joint program of the AAAS, the US National Committee for the International Geophysical Year of the National Academy of Sciences—National Research Council, the American Geophysical Union, and the National Science Foundation. Sessions on various aspects of the earth and its atmosphere which are of interest in planning for the International Geophysical Year will be held during the mornings of December 27, 28, and 29.

In addition, there will be a joint session of contributed papers of the American Meteorological Society and the American Geophysical Union on the afternoon of December 28th.

Other events will include a conference on scientific editorial problems (December 28-29), the Annual Sigma Xi Address, by J. R. Killian, Jr., "Is There a Scarcity of Scientists?" (December 27), and the AAAS Science Theater and Annual Exposition of Science and Industry (December 27-30). Further details will be found in *Science* and *The Scientific Monthly*.

Western Spectroscopy Association

The Western Spectroscopy Association is a loosely knit group, organized over three years ago to fill the need felt by spectroscopists in the eleven western states for regular west-coast scientific meetings concerned with the general field of molecular spectroscopy. The first two-day meeting of the new group was held on the

MISSILE SYSTEMS PHYSICISTS

Research and development in the technology of guided missiles is not confined to any one field of physics. Broad interests and exceptional abilities are required by the participants. Typical areas at Lockheed Missile Systems Division include:

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