

Plans were made for holding the 1955 summer meeting of AAPT at Pennsylvania State University in conjunction with ASEE and the 1956 annual meeting in New York City in conjunction with the 25th anniversary meeting of the American Institute of Physics.

Glenn Q. Lefler
Eastern Illinois State College

Temperature Scale Revision

During the meeting of the American Physical Society in Washington, D. C., late in April, some fifty low-temperature physicists met at the National Bureau of Standards under the chairmanship of F. G. Brickwedde to discuss the problems associated with the shortcomings of the presently-used helium vapor pressure scale of temperature (1948 scale). The topic of greatest interest was a proposal by J. R. Clement of the Naval Research Laboratory arising out of his critical survey of the deficiencies in the 1948 scale. This was that recent and future thermometric work in this region be examined in relation, not to the 1948 tables, but rather to an empirical formula developed by Dr. Clement and his NRL associates which fits the published data within about two millidegrees over the entire range.

The meeting reacted favorably to the proposal and it was urged that all interested laboratories throughout the world be acquainted with the NRL research in the hope of obtaining a generally-acceptable revision of the 1948 scale during the Fourth International Conference on Low Temperature Physics, to be held in Paris later this year. The detailed reports were expected to be mailed before the first of June. For further information, those interested are advised to write to Dr. Clement at the Naval Research Laboratory, Cryogenic Physics Section, Washington 25, D. C.

Sigma Pi Sigma

The annual spring luncheon meeting of Sigma Pi Sigma, physics honor society, was held in Washington, D. C. on April 29th. Raymond T. Birge, president of the American Physical Society, and M. H. Trytten, retiring president of Sigma Pi Sigma, were the guests of honor. The society has elected the following officers for a three-year term: Vincent E. Parker, president (Louisiana State University); Stanley S. Ballard, vice president (Visibility Laboratory, Scripps Institution of Oceanography); Marsh W. White, executive secretary (Pennsylvania State University). Two members of the executive council were elected at the annual meeting of the council on April 28th: Donald H. Loughridge, dean of the Northwestern University Institute of Technology, and Frederic A. Scott, head of the physics department at the University of Connecticut. Retiring from membership on the council were E. Scott Barr of the University of Alabama, and W. B. Pietenpol of the University of Colorado.

The executive secretary reported to the Sigma Pi

Sigma council that the society has continued its growth during the academic year 1954-55. Four new chapters have been installed at Loyola University (New Orleans), Texas Technological College, the University of Hawaii, and Wabash College. The society now has about 13 000 members, with approximately 2000 active members in the 87 chapters.

50 Years of Relativity

A conference is to take place July 11-16 in Berne, Switzerland, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the theory of relativity, announced in 1905 by the late Albert Einstein. The program includes addresses by W. Baade, P. G. Bergmann, N. Bohr, P. Jordan, B. Kaufman, O. Klein, L. Kollros, A. Lichnerowicz, W. Pauli, H. P. Robertson, R. J. Trumpler, and E. P. Wigner. The conference is under the presidency of Professor Pauli; the secretary is Professor A. Mercier of the Institute of Theoretical Physics, University of Berne.

Glass Structure

The Gordon Conference on Glass Structure, one of the Gordon Research Conferences for 1955 sponsored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, is to be held at Kimball Union Academy, Meriden, New Hampshire, August 15-19. The meeting, the first of its kind, is designed to assemble physicists, chemists, and glass technologists who are interested in the details of the vitreous state and the properties of glass. The fields covered will be liquids, inorganic glasses, and polymers. Application for attendance can be made to O. L. Anderson, Bell Telephone Laboratories, Murray Hill, New Jersey.

Nuclear Science

The 2nd annual meeting of the Institute of Radio Engineers Professional Group on Nuclear Science (PGNS) will be held September 14-16 in Oak Ridge. Those interested have been invited to submit (by July 15th) abstracts of 200 words or less to: Dr. H. E. Banta, Papers Committee, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, P. O. Box P, Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

Electrical Techniques in Medicine

The 8th annual Conference on Electrical Techniques in Medicine and Biology will be held in November, probably in Washington, D. C. The exact date and place are to be announced later. Sponsored jointly by the Institutes of Electrical and Radio Engineers and the Instrument Society of America, the conference brings together research workers in biology, medicine, physics, electronics, and electrical and instrument engineering. Authors are invited to submit titles of papers for consideration by the program committee to E. Dale Trout, Conference Chairman, 4855 Electric Avenue, Milwaukee 1, Wisconsin.