Co.; I. I. Rabi, professor of physics at Columbia University; and Charles A. Thomas, president, Monsanto Chemical Company. All questions on nominating procedures should be addressed to the Executive Secretary, Atoms for Peace Awards, Inc., 77 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge 39, Mass.

General Atomic, Division of General Dynamics Corporation, has announced the granting of a graduate fellowship of $4000 to each of the following universities for the aiding of graduate training and research: department of physics, Cornell University; department of physics, Carnegie Institute of Technology; and department of chemistry, Washington University at St. Louis. This amount is intended to cover a stipend to an outstanding graduate student, to pay his tuition, and to provide some funds to help support his research.

A four-year scholarship is to be awarded annually by the Society of Exploration Geophysicists to a high school senior or graduate who is "the son or daughter of a person engaged in geophysical work and employed by a geophysical company, geophysical branch of an oil company, or a contract drilling company". Funds for the award will be granted by seismic field equipment manufacturer C. M. Mayhew of Dallas. Further information can be obtained from SEG headquarters, Box 1536, Tulsa 1, Okla.

Radiation and Matter

A subcommittee on protection from high-energy electrons has been established by the National Committee on Radiation Protection, according to NCRP Chairman Lauriston S. Taylor, chief of the atomic and radiation physics section of the National Bureau of Standards. The new subcommittee, under the chairmanship of Lester Skaggs of the Argonne Cancer Hospital in Chicago, will deal primarily with problems of protection against high-intensity radiation produced by accelerators.

Standards for testing materials used in reactors or otherwise exposed to radiation are to be investigated by a special administrative committee organized by the American Society for Testing Materials. The committee's function is to advise other ASTM committees on relevant nuclear problems, to stimulate committee standardization and research projects related to nuclear energy, and to review periodically the status of such work. As a first step, ASTM Committee E-10 (radioisotopes) has been asked to develop basic procedures for specimen preparation, exposure to radiation, and special techniques for measuring properties after exposure. A symposium on radiation effects on materials, sponsored jointly by ASTM and the Atomic Industrial Forum, will be held September 17–21 in Los Angeles. Additional papers sponsored by Committee E-10 concerning radiation effects and radioisotope uses will be included in a companion symposium.

Requests for irradiation of gem stones in Atomic Energy Commission facilities will henceforth be treated

by the AEC in the same manner as requests for irradiation of other materials, according to a Commission decision removing a suspension of gem irradiations in effect since 1953. In April of that year the AEC temporarily stopped authorizing the artificial coloring of diamonds and other gems by irradiation in Commission facilities, pending a study of what the AEC's policy should be in such cases. The newly established policy is to authorize irradiations (at a fee covering costs) when reactor space is available. In announcing the new policy, the Commission noted that under a recent ruling by the Federal Trade Commission, it "is an unfair trade practice to advertise, offer for sale, or sell any diamond which has been artificially colored or tinted by coating, irradiating, or heating or by use of nuclear bombardment . . . without disclosure of such fact to purchasers. . . ." Radiations from a particle accelerator may produce blue or blue-green colors in diamonds, while irradiation in a nuclear reactor may produce a green which may be turned to brown under certain conditions of heating.

Publications

The Photoelectric Spectrometry Group (England) is investigating the possibility of publishing the proceedings of two summer schools in "Electronics for Spectroscopists" held at University College, Southhampton. The work treats theoretically aspects of electronics associated with photoelectric instruments, including ultraviolet and infrared spectrometers, dealing particularly with ac and dc amplifiers, stabilized power supplies, circuit design, and fault-finding with notes on noise, semiconductors, feedback, and other features of applied interest. The decision to publish will depend upon the demand that exists for this work; those interested are asked to contact the Hon. Secretary of the Photoelectric Spectrometry Group at Unicam Instruments Ltd., Arbury Works, Cambridge, England, for further details, including a list of chapter headings.

American scientific organizations and industries last year purchased 65% more government research reports through the Office of Technical Services, Department of Commerce, than in 1954, according to OTS Director John C. Green. Total sales for 1955 amounted to almost a quarter of a million dollars with reports selling at 10 cents to several dollars a copy. As reports are released to OTS by the Army, Navy, Air Force, Atomic Energy Commission, and other agencies, OTS announces their availability through press releases to the business and trade press and through its two monthly publications, *US Government Research Reports*, which abstracts about 300 reports each month, and *Technical Reports Newsletter*. These subscription publications are handled by the Superintendent of Documents, US Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. Subscription to the *USGRR* is $6 a year, and to *Technical Reports Newsletter* $1 a year.