

THE  
SCAS  
Clipboard

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No. 9

GEOSCIENCES DIVISION ANNOUNCED

DALLAS -- Official announcement to the press was made today of the Geosciences division of the Earth and Planetary Sciences Laboratory of SCAS, headed by Dr. Anton L. Hales.

Dr. Hales joins the SCAS faculty from the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa. At the University he was Carnegie-Price Professor of Geophysics and Director of the Bernard Price Institute of Geophysical Research, posts he had held since 1948.

The Geosciences division joins the Upper Atmosphere and Space Sciences division to form the first of four major laboratories of SCAS, the principal operating division of the GRC&W. Known as the Earth and Planetary Sciences Laboratory, this will be one of the major research activities located on the permanent SCAS campus site north of Dallas.

"The objective of the Geosciences division research program may be defined broadly as a contribution to the understanding of the processes by which the earth has developed," Dr. Hales said. During the past 50 years much detailed information has been gathered on the constitution of the interior of the earth, but there are still many fundamental problems to which the solutions are merely speculative.

(Continued on page 2).

BERKNER, DESSLER, HALES TO  
TO PARTICIPATE IN GEOPHYSICS CONFERENCE

YORKTOWN HEIGHTS, N. Y. -- Dr. L. V. Berkner, Dr. A. J. Dessler, and Dr. Anton L. Hales will attend the Conference on Data Handling, Reduction and Interpretation in Geophysics to be held at IBM's Thomas J. Watson Research Center in Yorktown Heights October 30 through November 1, 1962.

Dr. Berkner will deliver the banquet address Tuesday, October 30. His address is entitled "Man's Scientific Interest in His Environment."

It was noted by the organizing and program committee of the Conference -- of which Dr. Berkner is chairman, seconded by Sir E. C. Bullard of the Department of Geodesy and Geophysics, Cambridge -- that the problem of data handling and interpretation in geophysics is assuming enormous proportions and deserves as much attention by the scientific community as can be brought to bear. The Conference will discuss these mathematical and data problems that are common to the many fields of geophysics. (Continued on page 2).

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ITEM: Responding to the "machinations" of Dr. K. G. McCracken and Bill Wilkins, a SCAS oscilloscope showed its first cosmic ray pulse this week.

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) JOHNSON TO WASHINGTON MEETING

WASHINGTON -- Dr. Francis S. Johnson, Space Sciences div head, attended the regular meeting of the Planetary Atmospheres subcommittee of NASA's Space Sciences Steering Committee in Washington last week.

Consultant to the subcommittee, Dr. Johnson stated that discussion centered around the NASA program relating to planetary atmospheres, with a review of what moves are already planned, and consideration of what should be done in the area by the Space Agency. He said the next meeting of the subcommittee would be held in California next January.

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GEOSCIENCES (From page 1)

"Questions such as how the continents developed, in what way the continents differ from the oceans, whether the oceans have always been oceans, and what provides the energy for the mountain-building cycle, cannot now be answered with certainty," Dr. Hales explained.

"It is probable," he said, "that much of the difficulty in dealing with these problems results from the lack of sufficiently detailed information about the earth's upper mantle, including its composition, temperature, and especially its mechanical properties.

In describing the division's studies of the upper mantle and crust of the earth, Dr. Hales said its investigations "...should range over nearly the entire field of solid-earth geophysics.

"But it is also proposed that the investigations will be extended to other planets as the opportunity for conducting measurements in other planetary environments will be in the field of magnetism.

) Dr. Hales, in discussing broad objectives of his division, mentioned

possible cooperative programs with government agencies in research into the nature of the ocean's bottom.

"Since the broad objective of the Geosciences division is to make a contribution to understanding how the earth developed to the state in which we see it today, it would be unwise to restrict activities of geophysical research to land." It would seem clear, since 70 per cent of the earth's surface is covered with water, that the processes involved in the development of continents and oceans are related, Dr. Hales said.

"It is necessary that we should look at these areas as a whole," he continued, "and for this reason -- although the Center is situated at some distance from the sea -- it is nevertheless important that it should develop an interest in the study of marine geophysics.

Preliminary stages of the research planning for the Geosciences division are being carried out by a nucleus staff at the SIC Building on the SMU campus.

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CONFERENCE (From page 1)

By having people from the various disciplines of geophysics participating in all sessions, the Conference will serve a unique and important purpose.

Organized for top international participation, Dr. Piore of IBM said attendance is being limited so as to have considerable open and informal discussion.

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ITEM: Any improbable event which would create maximum confusion if it did occur -- will occur. -- McGurk's Law.

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CALENDAR OF WEEKLY SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

- October 25 International Cooperation in Space Science --  
Dr. Hugh Odishaw, McFarlin Auditorium, SMU --  
7:30 p. m.
- October 25 The Physics of Ultra-High Pressure -- Dr.  
B. C. Deaton of the Applied Research Department  
of General Dynamics, sponsored by American  
Nuclear Society, 7:30 p.m., Student Center,  
Arlington State College
- October 26 Historical Sketch of Theories of Electrical  
Conduction in Pure Metals -- Dr. W. V. Houston,  
President, American Physical Society, Room 102,  
Physics-Math Bldg., N. Texas State University,  
Denton, 8:00 p. m.
- October 26 Classical Models of the Elementary Particles --  
E. J. Sternglass, Johns Hopkins University,  
Baltimore
- October 26 - 27 17th Midwest Quality Control Conference --  
sponsored by the ASQC, Denver
- Oct. 28 - Nov. 1 American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical  
and Petroleum Engineers, Fall Meeting --  
Los Angeles
- Oct. 29 - Nov. 2 Electronics in Management, 9th Institute --  
American University, Washington, D. C.
- Oct. 29 - Nov. 2 Annual Convention, Society for Nondestructive  
Testing, New York, N. Y.
- Oct. 29 - Oct. 31 Dynamics of Manned Lifting Planetary Entry --  
(AF--OAR, AF--OSR) Philadelphia
- Oct. 29 - Nov. 4 4th Annual AIEE Western Technical Conference --  
Los Angeles
- Oct. 29 - Oct. 31 15th Annual Conference on Electrical Techniques  
in Medicine and Biology, sponsored by IRE/  
PGBME, AIEE, ISA -- Chicago
- Oct. 30 - Nov. 1 Conference on Data Handling, Reduction and  
Interpretation in Geophysics -- Tarrytown,  
N. Y. (IBM, Thomas J. Watson Research Center  
in Yorktown Heights)

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WEEKLY CALENDAR (Continued)

Oct. 30 - Nov. 1            Armour Research Foundation -- Electromagnetic  
Compatibility, 8th Tri-service Conference --  
Chicago

Oct. 30 - Oct. 31         Spaceborne Computer Engineering, National  
Conference -- Disneyland, Anaheim, California

October 31                Atmospheric Structure -- Dr. Francis S.  
Johnson, SCAS Seminar Room, Dallas

Oct. 31 - Nov. 3         American Vacuum Society, 9th National  
Symposium -- Los Angeles

November 1 - 2            Conference on U. S. Government Research and  
Development Contracts, sponsored by George  
Washington University and Federal Publications,  
Washington



WORLD PREMIERE AT THEATRE CENTER

"Sister," a new play by Glenn Allen Smith opened the Dallas Theatre Center 1962-63 season Tuesday. There will be performances tonight, through Oct. 31; Nov. 1-3, 7-10; Jan. 30-31, Feb. 1-2, and 6-9.

Directed by Ivan Rider of Casa Manana fame, "Sister" is the story of a woman and her struggle "against the forces of the devil" and her desires as a woman. Set against a background of flamboyant evangelism the story unfolds from the moment Sister returns from her revival tour of Europe to her eventual disappearance.

Raymond Allen, who has just returned from the Seattle World's Fair where he served as musical director for "The Fantasticks," has written a special musical score for the production.

Box Office: LA 6-8857.

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### BUDDING GRANDMA MOSESSES

DALLAS -- A local artist, Nina B. White, is holding Saturday morning art classes in her Dallas studio. Working in water color and oil, the class is limited to art-inclined ladies over the age of seventy years.

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"I am a great friend to public amusements; for they keep people from vice." -- Dr. Johnson.

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### A LITTLE KNOWLEDGE

New language of the New Age of Science and Technology: A national news magazine noted the following:

"...In cocktail party chitchat and in the importunate advertisements of companies trying to pirate talented scientists, laymen are now confronted by ... names that mean little or nothing in normal, educated English.

"Some of the current crop that laymen are exposed to more and more and understand less and less:

Cryogenics, aerothermodynamics, data processing, polymer chemistry, celestial mechanics, solid state physics, microbiology, plasma physics, molecular biology, high energy physics and magneto-hydrodynamics.

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"...Eppur si muove." -- Galileo.

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"The terrible tragedy of science is the horrible murder of beautiful theories by ugly facts."- Anon.

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An order was issued recently for a book entitled, "Satellite Environment," edited by Dr. Francis S. Johnson of SCAS, co-authored by Dr. A. J. Dessler and W. B. Hanson, also of SCAS.

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"An institution is the lengthened shadow of one man." -- Emerson.

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