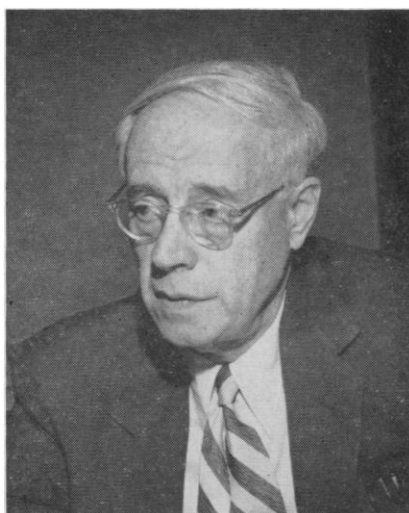


of the devices developed by this group were of great and lasting value. In addition, his work provided a foundation for the later development of the transistor at other laboratories.

After the end of the war his interests turned largely toward a study of the fundamental properties of semiconductors, as disclosed by systematic measurements of a great variety of their properties under a wide range of conditions. A major contribution from this period was his opening up of the field of study of semiconductors bombarded by energetic particles, which has thrown much light on the production and effects of lattice defects in crystals. Throughout this development, Dr. Lark-Horovitz' wide-ranging interests and knowledge of physics made him an effective catalyst and coordinator of the group working around him.

Worthy of special mention in this place are the contributions of Professor Lark-Horovitz to the work of the AAAS. He was general secretary from 1947 to 1949 and a member of the AAAS Editorial Board from 1949 to the time of



his death. His colleagues testify to the great energy that he brought to this work and to the high value of his contributions. He was an original member of the AAAS Cooperative Committee on the Teaching of Science and Mathematics, and chairman of the committee from 1945 to 1950. His activities on behalf of this committee were indicative of his

strong interest in the teaching of science at all levels, from kindergarten to graduate school. He was influential in the preparation of numerous reports, such as "The preparation of high school science teachers" and "Manpower for research," a report to the President of the United States by the President's Scientific Research Board. His work had direct effect in producing an improvement in the requirements for the certification of science teachers in his home state of Indiana. He received from the American Association of Physics Teachers a Distinguished Service Citation for exceptional contributions to the teaching of physics.

In recent years the work of Dr. Lark-Horovitz was hampered by continuous ill health, but he never surrendered to his difficulties. His death came as he wished it, while he was engaged in an active program of work in a wide range of fields. He will be greatly missed by his many friends and associates.

HUBERT M. JAMES  
*Purdue University, West Lafayette,  
Indiana*

## News of Science

### Strauss Retires

Lewis L. Strauss retires on 30 June as chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission after 5 years as the principal director of the atomic energy program. However, Strauss will remain in the Administration as special assistant to President Eisenhower in the President's atoms-for-peace program. The disagreement between Strauss and some members of the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy is said to have strongly influenced Strauss in his decision to retire.

One of the principal objections to Strauss has been that for the last 5 years he has also been special adviser to the President on atomic energy, and thereby has been able to circumvent the commission in influencing the Administration's atomic policy. An editorial in the

6 June *Christian Science Monitor* said:

"Retirement of Admiral Strauss as chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission marks the end of an era. For five years he had dominated American atomic policies.

"Not without controversy. His emphasis on secrecy brought him into sharp conflict with the press, and influential members of Congress often differed with him vigorously on major policies. The AEC was sometimes divided. But, serving also as special adviser to the President and being a man of ability and tenacious purpose, Mr. Strauss very generally prevailed.

"No one questioned his patriotic dedication. But much opinion had developed both among technical experts and in Congress holding that less rigid attitudes would also serve national security. His opposition to a ban on bomb tests

had recently been by-passed in the naming of experts to talk with the Russians about policing a ban. Mr. Strauss had himself modified his earlier opposition to sharing atomic information. . . .

"Cooperation between the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy and the AEC is especially essential. We trust that in the period ahead new hopes for more flexibility and cooperation will be realized."

John A. McCone, a West Coast businessman and former Under Secretary of the Air Force, has been nominated to succeed Strauss on the AEC. McCone has been closely connected with West Coast shipbuilding and ship-operating interests and is president of Joshua Hendy Corporation in Los Angeles, a steamship operating concern. In announcing the nomination the White House did not say that McCone would succeed Strauss as chairman of the five-man commission. The President will not designate the new chairman until the Senate has acted on the nomination. A *New York Times* article on McCone commented that "The immediate reaction of Democrats on the Atomic Energy Committee was restrained but friendly, raising the possibility that the McCone nomination may restore some degree of harmony between the committee and the commission."