problems of inter-atomic arrangement, particularly with respect to the structure of crystals.

Dr. Harker, an authority on electron microscopy, received his B.S. from the University of California in 1928. After receiving his Ph.D. at Caltech in 1936 he taught chemistry at Johns Hopkins University for five years. He has been at the GE Research Laboratory since 1941.

NEW AEC RESEARCH DIRECTOR

Dr. R. Kenneth S. Pitzer, '35, who has already distinguished himself as one of the nation's leading physical chemists, has been appointed Director of Research for the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission. Dr. Pitzer, who took over his new duties on January 1, was professor of Chemistry at the University of California. He had been a member of the faculty at Berkeley since 1937.

As Director of Research, Dr. Pitzer will have charge of the AEC's research program in the physical sciences, and supervise the administration of the isotope production and distribution program.

GENE PHOTOGRAPHER PEASE

Dr. Daniel C. Pease, M.S. '38, and Dr. Richard F. Baker, both of the University of Southern California, reported this month that they had observed and photographed genes—the infinitesimal particles that transmit physical characteristics of living things from one generation to another.

Dr. Pease is Assistant Professor of Anatomy at the U.S.C. School of Medicine. Dr. Baker is Assistant Professor of Experimental Medicine. They made their observations with a standard electronic microscope on unprecedentedly thin cross-sectional slices of animal tissue. Chromosomes of the fruit fly, which are relatively large, were used in the experiments. By hardening the tissue specimen with paraffin, collodion, and air chilled by dry ice, and using a new cutting technique which they developed themselves, the two scientists obtained slices only 1/250,000th of an inch thick. Electrons were thus able to penetrate the tissue sections to reveal their structure.

Observation of genes has been an ambition of scientists ever since Gregor Mendel first indicated the existence of these smallest particles of life, almost a century ago. If these actually are genes which Pease and Baker have observed and photographed, their discovery will be of enormous importance to medical and biological research. To date, though, other scientists are skeptical, waiting for further proof before they agree that genes have finally been seen.

(Please find the next page)
1941
Gilbert A. Jones was recently married to Miss Hazel May of Lynchburg, Va. They are living in Richmond, where he is employed as an officer engineer by the Stone & Webster Engineering Corp., on power plant construction.

J. Vern Hales, M.S., heads up the new department of meteorology at the University of Utah, in Salt Lake City. Hales joined the university staff in 1946, after he returned from overseas duty on power plant construction.

Quentin Elliott, M.S. ’42, and Mrs. Elliott announce the arrival of a son, Quentin Benedict—on Christmas day.

1942
Phil T. Mahaffey, M.S., was married in October to Miss Sally Ruth Retzys in Fort Worth, Texas. He is with the Consolidated-Vultee Aircraft Corp. in Fort Worth.

Alvin R. Piatt was married in Los Angeles on December 31 to Miss Glenna Hartley. They are living at 2505 South Hope St., Los Angeles.

1943
Robert M. Francis is an equipment designer for Pacific Airmotive Corp., Burbank. He and his wife have a year-old daughter, Leslie Louise.

David Shonerd, M.S., ’48, and his wife announce the arrival of their first child, a boy, on December 2. Dave is studying for an A.E. degree at Caltech and working at the Jet Propulsion Lab.

1944
Ray A. Saplin writes that he and Delos Flint ’90 have been on Okinawa for the past two and a half years mapping the island for the Army. Visits have also been made to the other islands in the Ryukyus. They hope to return to the States this spring.

Merritt A. Williamson, M.S., is Associate Director of Research and Development at the Pullman-Standard Car Manufacturing Co. in Hammond, Ind. He is living in Chicago.

Fred Robins and his wife have a baby girl, Jan Marie, born in October. Fred is teaching Science and Math at Trona Unified Schools, Trona, Calif.

Arthur J. Critchlow writes that he, Jim Smith ’47, and Louis Dameson ’44, are working with Owen Olds ’44 on a U. S. Army guidance project at the Ryan Aircraft Corp. in San Diego.

William R. Bellw is studying at the Stanford Graduate School of Business.

Edwin J. Cowan was married in October to Miss Joyce Kullgren. He is working with the Day & Night Manufacturing Co. in Monrovia.

Bob Weidman spent the year after graduation at Indiana University, a summer doing geology field work with the Indiana Dept. of Conservation, and is now taking graduate work at the University of California, where he holds a teaching assistantship.

1948
M. D. Quigley is employed as a geologist with the Sinclair Oil Co. in Salt Lake City, Utah.

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