# Dr. Henry G. Booker appointed Prof. of Applied Electrophysics

## November 30, 1964

Dr. Henry G. Booker, IBM Professor of Engineering and Applied Mathematics at Cornell University, has accepted an appointment as Professor of Applied Electrophysics at the San Diego campus of the University of California, it has been announced by University President Clark Kerr and San Diego Chancellor John S. Galbraith. The appointment is effective July 1, 1965.

Dr. Booker, an expert in the field of applied mathematics and electrical engineering, has done research in magnetospheric, ionospheric, and tropospheric wave propagation. He was born in Essex, England, and attended Cambridge University where he received a B.A. degree in 1933 specializing in ionospheric physics.

He later taught at Christ's College, Cambridge, and served as a Visiting Scientist at the Department of Terrestrial Magnetism of the Carnegie Institution of Washington.

Prior to World War II, Dr. Booker evolved the theory of propagation of radio waves through a stratified doubly-refracting ionosphere, demonstrating the twisted unsymmetrical paths followed by wave packets. Since the war, he has been awarded three Premiums by the Institution of Electrical Engineers, London, for his work.

During World War II, Dr. Booker was in charge of theoretical research at the radar research establishment of the Royal Air Force where he was involved in the development of new ideas in antennas and propagation. Following the war he returned to Cambridge as a University Lecturer in Mathematics before moving to Cornell University in 1948.

At Cornell he has built up research in electrical science and particularly in propagation of electromagnetic waves in the earth's atmosphere. From 1959 to 1963 he was Director of the School of Electrical Engineering and Associate Director of the Cornell Center for Radiophysics and Space Research.

Dr. Booker was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1954 to conduct research on the theory of radio reflections from aurorae and to visit scientific institutions in England, France, Belgium, Holland, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, and Norway. He has been International Chairman of the Commission on Tropospheric Radio Propagation of the International Scientific Radio Union and is currently International Chairman of the Commission on the magnetosphere.

He is a member of the American Geophysical Union, the American Astronomical Society, the American Meteorological Society, and the Institution of Electrical Engineers. He is a Fellow of the Royal Meteorological Society and of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. In 1960 he was elected a member of the National Academy of Sciences.

Statement by Henry G. Booker on Accepting the Position of Professor of Applied Electrophysics in the University of California:

Great interest attaches to the new university campuses now being created in California. Publicly supported universities have a much greater role to play in the future than in the past, and possibly a role in leadership comparable with the private universities. I greatly admire the lead that the State of California has already

given with its array of technical colleges, junior colleges, state colleges and multiple university campuses with internationally famous graduate schools. The current activity in the development of higher education in California is ahead of that in any other state or any other country of which I am aware.

I am particularly interested in the new university campus being created at La Jolla in San Diego. This is partly because of the scientific bent of the new institution and of the fact that this has stemmed from the subject of geophysics with which I have a long standing connection. My interest arises mainly, however, from the unusual wisdom and vision with which this institution has so far been developed, and particularly from the fact that operations have been initiated at the graduate level prior to the acceptance of undergraduates. This, combined with the unusual distinction of the faculty that has been assembled so far, and the fact that the development is based on public funds, gives the University of California at San Diego the opportunity to establish a new concept in university education in the United States. I regard it as an honor to have the opportunity to take part in this development.

There is to be created in the University of California at San Diego a Department of Applied Electrophysics of which I expect to be the first chairman. The department will be involved in activities of the type found at Cornell in the Department of Engineering Physics and the School of Electrical Engineering. The faculty is expected to grow steadily for many years. Graduate education will commence in the new department in September 1965.

How successful the University of California at San Diego will be it is difficult to predict. It is bound to get most of its faculty from conventionally developed universities, and this will doubtless lead to importation of the conventional difficulties. It is bound to become large. In consequence problems will develop and some of them may get out of hand. However, at present, the operation is small, well managed, and unusually forward looking.

The Booker family currently residing in New York will move to La Jolla, California in August 1965.