



**BENEDICT CASSEN
RECEIVES FIRST
DISTINGUISHED SCIENTIST
AWARD—JULY, 1970**

The following remarks, in part, were made by Dr. Asa Seeds upon the occasion of the award: Dr. Casse was born on November 13, 1902, in New York City. He received a degree in physics and mathematics from the Royal College of Science in London in 1927. In 1927 he returned to the United States, where he received a Masters Degree in physics and mathematics at Cal Tech. During his work for a PhD (1930 magna cum laude) he spent considerable time working on high-potential x-ray tubes. At various times during this period he worked for Westinghouse Research Laboratories and for different hospitals, including Harper Hospital in Detroit. Following the good fortune of his marriage to Wylie Balfour, he worked as a physicist in the U.S. Naval Ordnance Test Station in Pasadena, California and

was then appointed research physicist at the UCLA Atomic Energy Project in the School of Medicine, now the Laboratory of Nuclear Medicine and Radiation Biology. He has also been a consultant to the Medical Division of the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies and to the Los Angeles Veterans Administration Hospital.

Out of this background developed an interest in directional gamma detection, on which he worked with Larry Curtis, Cliff Reed, Herb Allen, and Ray Libby. This resulted in the publication in the August 1951 issue of *Nucleonics* of the description of the prototype rectilinear scanner. This has since developed into a diagnostic tool of widespread application and great value.