G.E. and I.B.M. Announce LaserFeat Same Day

BY ROBERT C. TOTH

In a striking coincidence, two companies announced independently yesterday the same scientific achievement, they said, promises to open the door to communication by light waves.

Both had raced with inducements of making a "laser" amplification device that could be operated by a simple electrical current rather than by an inefficient beam of intense light.

Compounding the coincidence was the fact that a third group of researchers, at a university laboratory, had reached similar success a week or less after one company.

It had been members of this university team who first reported the basic observation that intensified the technological race. In fact, one company feared the university team, not the other company, might win.

General Electric Research Laboratories announced that, for the "first time," its scientists had used an electric current to "pump" a semiconductor, a transistor-like device, to emit coherent, or "in-step," light waves.

Dr. Robert N. Hall and four associates reported their accomplishment in the issue of the Physical Review Letters published today.

Both 'For First Time'

International Business Machines Corporation announced that G.E. that it would market experiments in its experimental "laser" device of this type in 30 days for $1,900.

Two men at Lincoln Laboratory of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Robert J. Keyes and Theodore M. Quist, are current rather than by an external light source, they said.

Dr. Marshall I. Nathan and conductor diode would emit in one of several nearby, light squared, and effective, the beam from the incident on the paper.

Both scientific journals are in response to a query to the published by the American In-laboratory, a spokesman said the paper. They have not learned that research reported pre- with several associates, had succumbed in as a news conference yesterday to the Lincoln team, not claims. The achievement, however, that the people who would accept for their research. The an-lished soon in the Applied near the beams was made, according to the companies, due to efforts the United States'" results are not claimed.

Credit for the achievement ing priority, G.E. achieved success, usually goes to the first public-"a couple of days or a week" published report. It will now depend before the M.I.T. group, he said.

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