Nobel Prize in Medicine Won By Ear Researcher at Harvard

BEKESY, George dr. Nobel prize With Physicist of taxian 1961 1011 NOBEL DITAG

Physicist Given the Award for Experiment Showing Movement of Sound

1961

By WERNER WISKARI Special to The New York Times.

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, Oct. 19-A Harvard University physicist who specializes in the mechanism of hearing has won the 1961 Nobel Prize in medicine.

Dr. Georg von Bekesy, who is 62 years old, was cited for work done more than three decades ago in Budapest. /Dr, Bekesy, who was born in Hungary, demonstrated experimentally how the spiral canal of the inner ear, known as the cochlea, differentiates between various sounds.

The prize money he will be numerous theories had existed given amounts this year to the on how the car worked. ecuivalent of about \$48,300. His selection was announced today iology prize.

for having opened the way to like the strings of a piano. Acmajor advances in the diagnosis cording to his theory, high and correction of damaged sounds would cause the short hearing.

Prior to his experiments,



Dr. Georg von Bekesy

The noted Nineteenth Century by the Royal Caroline Institute, German scientists, Herman von which chooses the annual re- Helmholtz, for example, had cipient of the medical or phys-suggested that the basilar membrane in the inner ear contained Dr. von Bekesy was acclaimed fibres that were activated much

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HARVARD EXPERT WINS NOBEL PRIZE

would affect longer ones.
Dr. von Bakesy is credited with having been the first operation of dynamic dynamic

out that his contributions and not stop. "There is hardly any problem concerning the physical me-chanics of acoustic stimulation." the institute said, "to which vor Bekeen has not added clarity and understanding and this applies even to those cases in which the primary discov-erizes have been made by others." The has demonstrated exper-He has demonstrated exper-imentally the function of each of the components of the three the middle and the internal, He has devised numerous instrunents for use in his studies. Dr. Bekesy has also devised

an audiometer to test the hearing function, especially of the cochlea. It can determine whether deafness is caused by damage to the ear or to damage to that part of the brain that is supposed to receive the im-

Dr. Bekesy began his career in Hungary as a communica-tions engineer working in the research laboratory of the Hungarian telephone system the But physiological accustics soon became his main interest. After the Communists came to power, he moved to Stock-

holm and worked for two years impulses for transmission to the at the institute that awarded brain. him the Nobel Prize, It was More important and basic, here that he constructed his Dr. von Bekesy's "ingenious" audiometer.

In 1949, he went to Harvard

Continued From Page 1, Col. 6 The award is the first of the gence. T

experiments have elucidated the mechanisms by which the information that sounds contain conveyed to the seat of intelli-

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