

copiously produced. A narrow peak has been found in the invariant-mass distribution of the  $(\psi K\pi)$  system, at 5.3 GeV. It could be interpreted as a meson carrying the newly discovered b-quark (plus a light quark). This meson (usually denoted by B) has thus a new quantum number, associated to the b-quark (otherwise called beauty). Although the branching ratio for the weak decay of the B-meson into  $\psi K\pi$  is expected to be of the order of 1%, this final state provides a good signature. If the peak is confirmed, it can be considered as the first evidence for a particle carrying the beauty quantum number.

From the study of the massive muon pair production with  $\pi$  beams, the momentum distribution of the quarks inside the  $\pi$  has been determined for the first time, in three experiments. The results are in qualitative agreement with the theoretical expectations.

In the theoretical sessions, several imaginative speculations were discussed at the Conference in connexion with the intriguing question of what is going to happen in the vast region of energies between the weak boson masses, of the order of  $10^2$  GeV, and the Planck mass of  $10^{19}$  GeV where the gravitational interaction becomes relevant. This, however, is looking far to the future and there is already plenty to think about.

**C.A. Savoy**  
Geneva University

## Electromagnetic Interactions of Hadrons

edited by **A. Donnachie** and **G. Shaw**  
University of Manchester, England

in two volumes

Examining the definitive evidence photoproduction experiments have provided for quark model ideas, and the similarities between high-energy electromagnetic interactions and hadron-induced reactions, these volumes focus on photoproduction and electroproduction in the resonance region and at medium energies, multiparticle production and inclusive reactions, deep inelastic scattering, and electron-positron annihilation. Volumes in *Nuclear Physics Monographs*.

**Volume 1:** 458 pp., illus., 1978, \$59.40/£31.19 outside US

**Volume 2:** 590 pp., illus., 1978, \$69.00/£36.23 outside US

## New Frontiers in High-Energy Physics

edited by **Arnold Perlmutter** and **Linda F. Scott**  
University of Miami, Florida

This volume surveys recent advances in high-energy physics stressing results in the study of strong interactions, and examining several areas that will prove especially significant in the coming years. *Studies in the Natural Sciences, Volume 14*. 680 pp., 1978, \$71.40/£37.49 outside US



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## Quantum Electronics Division

The 1979 General Business Meeting for all members of the Quantum Electronics Division will be held at Poggio Imperiale, Florence, on 3 September at 21.00, to coincide with the Divisional Meeting on Lasers in Photomedicine and Photobiology, organised by Professor R. Pratesi, Laboratorio di Elettronica Quantistica, Via Panciatici 56/

30, I - 50127 Florence, tel. (55) 416 128.

The Quantum Electronics Division will be acting as an Advisory Programme Committee for the International Quantum Electronics Conference in Boston 1980. The Chairman (Professor S.D. Smith, Department of Physics, Heriot-Watt University, Riccarton, Currie, Edinburgh EH14 4AS, UK, telephone (0) 31-449 5542) would like to hear about any important work, worthy of inclusion.

The Quantum Electronics Division will be organising the First European Conference on Optical Systems and Applications in Utrecht from 23 to 25 September 1980. The chairman is Dr B. Bölger, Philips Research Laboratories, NL - 4500 Eindhoven, telephone (040) 742179.

## EPS 5th GENERAL CONFERENCE

7-11 September, 1981

The EPS 5th General Conference will be held in Istanbul in collaboration with the Turkish Physical Society. Chairman of the International Programme Committee is **E. Matthias of Berlin (West)** and of the Local Organizing Committee, **E. İnönü of the Bogaziçi University, Istanbul**.

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