

particular institutions or countries, or relating to the university training of school teachers; also occasionally on topics in physics at the interface between school and university;

b) articles of a reflective or speculative nature that bear on the fundamentals of physics or that offer new insights into known phenomena in physics;

c) articles concerned with the inter-relation between physics and other scientific disciplines;

d) the journal may include occasional articles on the cultural implications of physics."

That was the journal I agreed to "drive", as you put it, and that is what the members of the first Editorial Board stood behind. "The Editorial Board consists of members nominated separately by the EPS and the IOP", I wrote in my foreword to the first issue, in June 1980, "but who have begun their work more conscious of their unity than of the different routes by which they came together."

Your readers must judge for themselves how well we kept to our brief. I am sorry that, seen from Geneva, "a disquieting feature that emerged was the scope of the contents, as education seemed to take second place to more general articles." Seen from the editorial side, the acceptability of articles was determined by their standard in the context in which they were written, provided the subject matter lay within the categories set down in the Agreement. We made efforts to solicit articles in the various categories and tried — and, I believe, succeeded — to have them all represented. At the conclusion of my term as Editor (after five volumes had been published) I reported: "I believe I speak for the whole Board... that we have come to see *reflection* as the key-word which largely determines our decision on the suitability of MSS for acceptance: in whatever category articles are submitted, *reflection* must be an element in their conception and execution." Following that report the order of topics in "Subject Coverage" as it appears on the back page of the journal was amended so that the first is "Articles of a reflective nature that bear on the fundamentals of physics or of physics education". I trust that Geneva finds that neither disquieting nor meretricious.

G.W. Series  
Oxford

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Meeting Report

Budapest, 12-13 November 1993

### Europhysics News Editorial Board

The Executive Committee approved the appointment of J. Schacher and S. Ciliberto to the Editorial Board of *Europhysics News*. Jürg Schacher, an experimental high-energy physicist, has been a Titular-Professor in the Institut für Physik, Bern University, since 1991. He studied in Basel and has worked at PSI and at CERN where he specialized in Drell-Yan physics. Sergio Ciliberto, a solid-state physicist, has been a Director of Research in the Laboratoire de Physique, ENS, Lyon, since 1991 where he works on non-linear dynamics. He studied at the University of Florence and worked there in 1979-80 until joining the Istituto Nazionale di Ottica in Florence. The new members will strengthen

# Physica Scripta

An international journal for  
experimental and theoretical physics

Vol. T48 1993

## SPECIAL ISSUE

### Quantum Phase and Phase Dependent Measurements

Editors: W.P. Schleich, S.M. Barnett

This special issue presents the state-of-the-art in the rapidly moving field of phase and its quantum nature, which acquired a new significance with the development of lasers in the early sixties; theoretical problems were also highlighted. Phase-sensitive quantum noise as demonstrated in the production and detection of squeezed light created new interest in quantum optical phase, leading to the discovery of the Hermitian optical phase operator; there followed an explosion of theoretical activity stimulating fresh experimental investigations.

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# Physica Scripta

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## Proceedings of the

### 13th General Conference of the Condensed Matter Division of the European Physical Society

in conjunction with ARBEITSKREIS FESTKÖRPERPHYSIK

DEUTSCHE PHYSIKALISCHE GESELLSCHAFT

Regensburg, Germany, 29 March - 2 April 1993

Editors: H. Hoffmann, R. Klein, M. Schwoerer

With 3777 participants, the conference represented the largest meeting of physicists held in Germany. There were 8 plenary talks, 171 invited talks, 1480 contributed talks, 1441 poster presentations, and 33 exhibitors reports. The Proceedings comprise 6 plenary talks and 122 invited contributions given in Sections as follows: Plenary talks; Liquids; Low temperature physics; Macromolecular physics; Magnetism; Metals; Semiconductors and insulators; Surface, interfaces and thin films; Dynamics, statistical physics and neutron scattering; Chemical physics; Vacuum science.

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coverage of theoretical physics and of multi-disciplinary aspects of condensed-matter physics.

#### Council Delegates

J.T. Devreese from Antwerp University has been elected as a delegate of the Individual Ordinary Members to Council to replace Ph. Choquard whose term of office expired on 31 March 1993. The election was by postal ballot that repeated an earlier unsuccessful ballot based on completing a form published in *Europhysics News*.

Nominations for two delegates of the Associate Members are presently being sought to replace P. Thomas and L.F. Feiner who stood down earlier this year.

#### Divisions and Groups

Martin Huber, the Treasurer of the European Astronomical Society (EAS) and formerly the Chairman of the **Astrophysics** Division of EPS, outlined the steps being taken to set up a Joint Astrophysics Division (JAD) with the EAS. In line with the agreement signed by the Presidents of EPS and EAS last year, a Board will be nominated whose task it is to propose Sections, election procedures and the fee structure, recognizing that members of national physical societies will be invited to become members of EPS Divisions if the proposed changes to the EPS *Constitution and By-laws* (see p. 230) are accepted by Council.

Elections to the Board of the Interdivisional Group for **Experimental Physics Control Systems** were held during the Group's biennial General Assembly at the ICALEPCS conference in Berlin on 19 October. The Board now comprises: A. Daneels (CERN; Chair), W. Busse (HMI; Vice-Chair), T. Blumer (PSI; Treasurer), M. Clausen (DESY), P. Clout (Vista, Los Alamos), T. Katoh (KEK, Tsukuba), J. Lister (CRPP, Lausanne; co-opted), L. Trasatti (INFN Frascati).

#### Action Committees

- Tomas Zemcik from the Institute of Physical Metallurgy, Brno, who was the Secretary of the Action Committee for Applied Physics and Physics in Industry died in September after a long illness.

- Robert Pick, Université P. et M. Curie, Paris, has replaced Klaus Bethge as the Chairman of the Conference Committee.

- André Landesman resigned as Chairman of the East-West Coordination Committee (EWCC) and is replaced by Jozef Spalek from the Institute of Physics, Warsaw.

- Raf Dekeyser from the Catholic University, Leuven, has become the Chairman of the Action Committee for Physics and Society. Formerly the Secretary, he replaces Eddy Lingeman.

- Heimo Latal from the University of Graz took over in October from Ernst Heer as the Chairman of the Mobility Committee.

#### Professional Qualifications

The Executive Committee agreed to put before Council next March in Cracow a proposal prepared by the Working Group on Professional Qualifications to set up a Register of European Physicists (*Eur Phys*). A Monitoring Committee which processes applications and make recommendations to a Register Commission will be based initially at the EPS Secretariat, Geneva, pending the creation of regional committees.

## Honorary Members Elected

In recognition of outstanding contributions to physics in Europe, the European Physical Society announced the election of four new Honorary Members at the General Meeting in Florence on 14 September 1993. They are: W. Buckel, Ph. Nozières, Sir Rudolf Peierls, and A. Zichichi.

**Werner Buckel** was born in Nördlingen and studied in Munich, Erlangen and Göttingen, receiving his *Habilitation* in 1954 from the University of Göttingen. After a year on the staff at TH Aachen, he became an *Ordinarius für Physik* at the University of Karlsruhe in 1960 and Director of the university's *Physikalischen Instituts* in 1969, a position he occupied until 1985. He was Dean of the Physics faculty in 1974-6 and Director of the Institute for Superconductivity at Kernforschungsanlage Jülich in 1970-73. President of the German Physical Society in 1971-73 and of EPS in 1986-88, Professor Buckel was awarded the IUPAP's 1984 Fritz London Memorial Award and Germany's *Verdienstkreuz* (1st Class) in 1990; he belongs to academies in Heidelberg, Austria and Finland, to Germany's *Akademie der Naturforscher Leopoldina*, and to the *Academia Scientiarum et Artium Europea*. With research interests in superconductivity in disordered materials and ion-beam irradiation of metals, he was the Editor-in-Chief of *Europhysics Letters* in 1989-92 and is the author of *Supraleitung: Grundlagen und Anwendungen* (1993).

**Philippe Nozières** has been responsible for theoretical activities at the Institut Laue-Langevin, Grenoble, since 1976 when he was appointed Professor of Statistical Physics at Grenoble University. Born in Paris, he studied at the *Ecole Normale Supérieure*, Ulm, receiving his *Aggregation* in 1955. He then spent two years at Princeton before returning to the ENS, Paris, where he was awarded his doctorate in 1957 and became a project leader and subsequently Assistant Director in the Physics Laboratory. He joined the University of Paris in 1961 as a *Maître des Conférences*, becoming a professor before moving to the ILL in 1972. Professor Nozières is a member of the French *Académie des Sciences* and Professor of Statistical Physics in the *Collège de France* and belongs to academies in Hungary and the USA. He was awarded the French Physical Society's 1960 *Prix Langevin* and its 1974 *Prix Holweck* (jointly with the IOP), the 1985 Wolf Prize, and the 1988 *Médaille d'Or* of the *Centre National de Recherche Scientifique* (CNRS). He was the President of IUPAP's Solid-State Physics Commission, President of the French Physical Society, and responsible in 1978-80 for a CNRS working group on perspectives in condensed matter physics. He wrote *Le Problème à N Corps* (1963) and *Theory of Quantum Liquids* (1967; with N. Pines).

**Rudolf Peierls** was born in Berlin and studied in Berlin, Munich, Leipzig, and Zurich, becoming in 1929 Pauli's assistant at the ETH Zurich at the age of 22. After holding a Rockefeller Fellowship in Rome and Cambridge, he spent four years at Manchester and Cambridge on research grants before becoming Professor of Applied Mathematics (later Mathematical Physics) at The University of Birmingham in 1937, and Wykeham Professor of Theoretical Physics at Oxford and Fellow of New College, Oxford, in 1963 until his retirement in 1974. Professor Peierls, whose research interests concern the quantum theory of solids, nuclei and fields, carried out wartime work on the atom bomb both in Britain and the USA. He has written several books (*The Laws of Nature*, 1955; *Quantum Theory of Solids*, 1955; *Surprises in Theoretical Physics*, 1979; *Bird of Passage*, 1985, autobiography; *More Surprises in Theoretical Physics*, 1991) and has won the Royal Medal, the Copley Medal, the Royal Society Medal, the German Physical Society's Max Planck Medal, The Institute of Physics Guthrie Medal and Dirac Medal, and the Enrico Fermi Medal. He is a Fellow of The Royal Society and a member of academies in Denmark, France, Italy, Lisbon, Russia, and The Netherlands.

**Antonino Zichichi** heads the LAA Project at CERN and is the Director of the "Ettore Majorana" Interdisciplinary Centre for Scientific Culture in Erice (which he founded in 1962) and of the *Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare* (INFN) ELIOSATRON project. He is also President of the World Laboratory, of the World Federation of Scientists, and of the Galileo Galilei Foundation, and a member of Scientific Committee of the International Centre for Science in Technology, Moscow, and of the NATO Science Committee. Born in Trapani in 1929, Professor Zichichi worked at the University of Bologna where he became Professor of Advanced Physics, Director of the Graduate School, and Director of the INFN's Bologna Section before being appointed the INFN's Director in 1977. An experimental high-energy physics with over 300 research publications, he was President of EPS from 1978-80, was awarded Germany's Order of Merit in 1993 and UNESCO's 1986 Prize for Peace and International Understanding, and has been accorded some 68 Italian honours and prizes including the President of Italy's 1981 Gold Medal for Science and Culture. He has edited *Subnuclear Physics*, *Nuclear Strategy and Peace Technology for Planetary Emergencies*, and *Progress in Scientific Culture*, and was Vice-Director of *Il Nuovo Cimento*.

#### Europhysics Letters

Roger Balian, the Editor-in-Chief of *Europhysics Letters*, reported that the flow of manuscripts to the journal is 6.5% higher than last year (when 771 MSS were received) and that the rejection rate has increased slightly from 40.0%. Efforts are being made to reduce the delay to publication which is under pressure from Co-editors seeking more revisions and referee reports taking longer. It has been agreed with the editors of some EPS recognized journals that authors of MSS considered unsuitable for publication in *Europhys. Lett.* can be advised to submit their texts to a recognized journal, perhaps in an extended form.

#### 1996 General Conference

The Executive Committee has accepted a proposal by the Portuguese Physical Society and the Spanish Royal Physical Society to hold the 10th EPS General Conference in Seville in September 1996. Professor H. Walther from the MPI für Quantenoptik, Garching, has agreed to chair the International Programme Committee.

#### 1995 High Energy Conference

The 1995 Europhysics International High Energy Conference will take place in Brussels on 27 July - 2 August and not on 31 July to 6 September as announced in last month's meetings listing.