

LETTERS

to the EDITOR

Sirs:

As a member of the American Physical Society . . . I have received No. 2 and No. 3, Volume 1, of your valuable publication *Physics Today*. I congratulate you on your splendid achievement in popularizing physics and enabling workers throughout the world to get in touch with progress made elsewhere.

PAUL C. T. KWEI

The National Wu-Han University
Wuchang, China

Sir:

It appears that some of your readers are unhappy about the scope and coverage of *Physics Today*. As a layman in the field of physics, but very much interested in keeping track of what is going on in this field, I find that your magazine serves a useful purpose. The technical journals are for the specialists, while the popular science magazines tend to emphasize the gadgetry of physics rather than the important work that is undertaken. I hope that you will continue to stay on the middle ground.

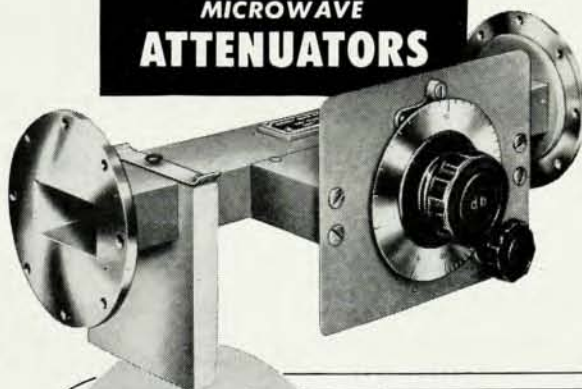
U. S. Dept. of State
Washington, D. C.

HOLLIS W. PETER

"Historically, physicists started from naive realism; that is to say, from the belief that external objects are exactly as they seem. On the basis of this assumption, they developed a theory which made matter something quite unlike what we perceive. Thus their conclusion contradicted their premise, though no one except a few philosophers noticed this. We therefore have to decide whether, if physics is true, the hypothesis of naive realism can be so modified that there shall be a valid inference from percepts to physics. In a word: if physics is true, is it possible that it should be known?"

—From the forthcoming book "HUMAN KNOWLEDGE: ITS SCOPE AND LIMITS" by Bertrand Russell, to be published in December by Simon and Schuster.

PRECISION MICROWAVE ATTENUATORS



PRD

TYPE 169 CALIBRATED VARIABLE ATTENUATOR

**Broadband Operation, Negligible Insertion
Loss, Low Reflection, Permanent Calibration**

PRD attenuators, utilizing metallic-film-on-glass resistive elements, are the most advanced design available. Supplied in standard waveguide sizes for use over the microwave spectrum, these units provide broadband matching, minimum frequency sensitivity and constancy of attenuation with time. Casing designs available satisfy all requirements from a simple power control to a precision calibrated secondary standard.

In addition to metallized-glass attenuators, the complete PRD line of microwave measurement components includes precision slotted sections and probes, impedance matching devices, frequency meters and standard cavities, tuners, directional couplers, signal generators and all other items essential to a complete measurements bench.

AN ILLUSTRATED CATALOG
IS AVAILABLE ON
REQUEST — WRITE DEPT. P-2



Polytechnic RESEARCH
& DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, Inc.

66 COURT STREET, BROOKLYN 2, N. Y.