

Much later Bohr wrote about it: "It has been an important test of the methods of atomic mechanics and has, not least, offered instructive lessons as regards the extent to which the application of classical mechanical concepts is adequate and at what

point proper quantum mechanical analysis is required."

His fundamental paper on the subject appeared in 1913 in the *Philosophical Magazine*, just one volume ahead of his first paper on the constitution



*The four speakers at the Niels Bohr Memorial Session of the American Physical Society's spring meeting in Washington, John A. Wheeler, Léon Rosenfeld, J. Rud. Nielsen, and Felix Bloch, are shown with Aage Bohr, director of the Institute for Theoretical Physics in Copenhagen (whose remarks at the session honoring his father's memory are reproduced below), and with the president of the Society, John H. Williams of the University of Minnesota, who was chairman of the session.*

## Remarks of Aage Bohr at Niels Bohr Memorial Session

I would like to express my gratitude to the American Physical Society and also to the Bell Telephone Laboratories for inviting me to come over to this meeting and giving me the opportunity to be present at this session tonight. I need not say how closely connected my father felt to the community of physicists in this country. He came to the United States for the first time forty years ago and returned with increasing frequency as the activities here in the field of atomic and nuclear physics underwent such a rapid and great expansion. Both he and my mother, who often came with him, felt deeply attached to this country where they found so many close friends.

Over the years a large number of American physicists have also come to join the work in the Institute for Theoretical Physics in Copenhagen. They have given great stimulation to the activities of the Institute, which has been highly appreciated by my father and by our whole group. Many of us have also had the opportunity to work for a time in this country. We hope that this intimate collaboration will continue to develop in the future.

On this occasion I would also like to recall the generous support given to the Institute by Ameri-

can foundations. On his first visit to the United States my father received a grant from the International Education Board to enlarge the facilities of the Institute, and the Rockefeller Foundation for many years supported the activities of the Institute through grants and fellowships. In recent years, the Ford Foundation has made funds available to the Institute enabling it to expand and strengthen its endeavors in the field of international cooperation.

Under very special circumstances my father came to work in this country during the last years of the war, and I had then the experience to be with him here for the first time. The grave problems which arose from the discoveries in nuclear physics occupied my father very deeply; they were, I believe, foremost in his mind during the last twenty years. He had great visions as to the opportunities which these discoveries offer. In his hopes for an open world he attached much significance to what could be achieved through cooperation in science on a world-wide basis. Such cooperation was, from the founding of his Institute, an essential part of its endeavors and a tradition we shall do our best to continue. It is indeed an aspect of science which gives added scope and content to the work.