

eliminated completely. In the past these small errors of observation have concealed high explosives, and there is no reason to think that they will not do so in the future. In the light of this reasoning, the eventual reduction of all physical constants to four or to twenty, while highly desirable, seems difficult to conceive.

Pennsylvania State College
State College, Pennsylvania

RICHARD C. RAYMOND

Triple Trouble

Sir:

On page 8 of your December issue of *Physics Today* is a picture captioned "Max Planck," and in the text he is referred to as Max Karl Planck. This is quite a mixup. You have, in the text, joined the father and the oldest son in one person, and in the picture confused the father with a second son, Erwin.

Max Planck, discoverer of the quantum theory, was born on April 23, 1858. Karl Planck, his oldest son, was born on September 3, 1888, and was killed in the first World War. Erwin Planck, the second son, was born on December 3, 1893 and executed by Hitler in March, 1945. The picture on page 8 is of Erwin Planck, according to friends of the family.

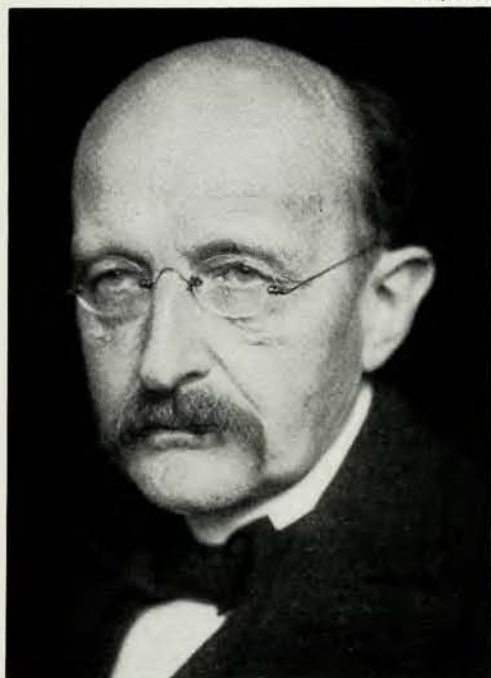
ING. BRUCHE

Physikalische Blätter
Mösbach (Baden), Germany

The transmutation involved could not have been more complicated, more wrong, more embarrassing, or made in more good faith. To set matters right we print below a cut of Max Planck, the father, and originator of the quantum theory.

MAX PLANCK

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