

LETTERS

to know that, by one of those strange coincidences, there is a rather tenuous relation. At the June 1967 commencement at Alfred University Weinberg was awarded an honorary doctor's degree and the man who presented him for the degree was Fréchet.

ROBERT R. MEIJER
Parsons College

Credit for gravity apparatus

In his article on "Geophysics Instrumentation" in the July issue of *PHYSICS TODAY*, John N. Howard of the Air Force Cambridge Research Laboratories refers to an "absolute gravity apparatus developed jointly by AFCRL and NBS [which] uses a freely falling rotation-insensitive corner cube as one element of an optical interferometer." This project was initiated by James E. Faller while he was a NAS-NRC research associate at NBS and was a direct outgrowth of earlier absolute gravity measurements that he had made at Princeton University (*J. Geophys. Res.* **70**, 4035, 1965). Work on the new apparatus is now being carried out at Wesleyan University by Faller and James A. Hammond. It should be pointed out that contributions by AFCRL and by NBS to this work have consisted only of financial support.

P. L. BENDER
L. M. BRANSCOMB
National Bureau of Standards

ERRATUM: Michael Polanyi tells me that the photograph printed with my review of the book *Science as a Cultural Force* (*PHYSICS TODAY*, April, page 76) is not of him but of a relative, Thomas G. Polanyi.

G. C. AMSTUTZ
University of Heidelberg

ERRATA: In our July article, "Wire Spark Chambers," figures were incorrectly numbered. If the confused reader will increase each figure number by one from the value that appears in the caption, he will find that the references to them in the text are correct. The editors apologize. □

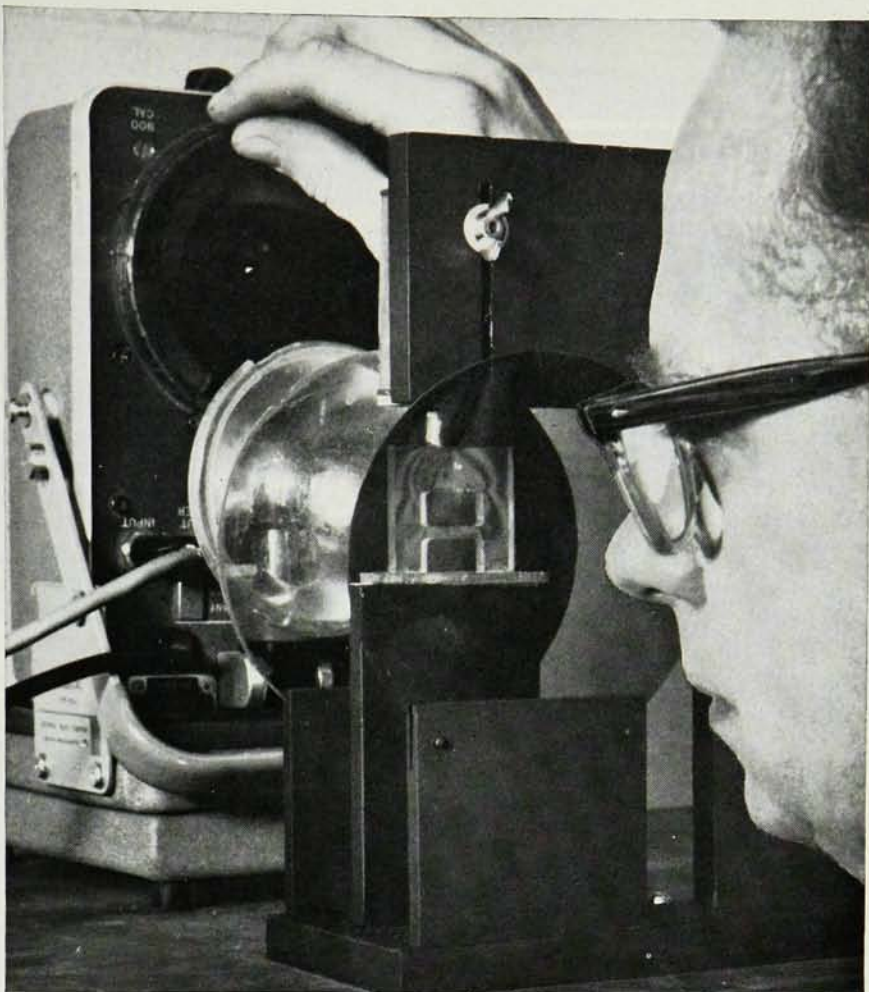


Photo courtesy Allied Research Associates, Inc., Concord, Mass.

An inside look at stress

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The Strobotac is synchronized with an electromechanical striker that repeatedly hits the model under test. Light from the Strobotac is directed through the model and polarizing filters to reveal the impact-generated fringe patterns. Impact frequency is chosen so that the stress wave can propagate and decay in the model within the time of one impact period. The addition of a Flash Delay to the Strobotac permits ready observation of any point in the travel of the stress wave.

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