Council of Canada from 1952 to 1962.

Bloom, professor at the University of British Columbia, has contributed significantly to both experimental and theoretical aspects of nuclear magnetic resonance. He has made detailed studies of molecular relaxation in gaseous liquid and crystalline forms of substances such as hydrogen and methane and obtained information about molecular reorientation in crystals. A year ago in collaboration with other researchers Bloom observed the resonant deflection of a beam of neutral atoms for the first time. This achievement makes it possible to do Stern–Gerlach experiments with charged particles such as molecular ions and to measure their low energy levels precisely.

Wolfgang Finkelnburg, Director of Siemens AG

Honorarprofessor at the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg Wolfgang Finkelnburg died on 7 Nov. at the age of 63.

Finkelnburg, who was born in Bonn in 1905, studied at the universities of Tübingen and Bonn, where he took his PhD in 1928. After qualifying as a lecturer at the Karlsruhe Technische Hochschule he took up duties there one year later. In 1938 he was invited to join the staff of the Darmstadt Technische Hochschule, and four years later he became an associate professor and head of the physics institute at the University of Strasbourg. After the war Finkelnburg spent seven years in the US, where he was employed as a university lecturer and scientific consultant. Upon his return to Germany in 1952, he joined the Siemens Co as head of the newly founded department for reactor research and in 1963 became director of Siemens-Schuckertwerke AG.

Besides the positions he occupied at Siemens and the University of Erlangen–Nürnberg, Finkelnburg was a member of nine German and foreign physical societies; he was also president—and later vice-president—of the Deutsche Physikalische Gesellschaft.

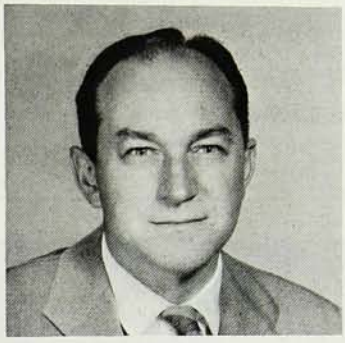
Head of Applied Mathematics Group at Brown, Rohn Truell

Rohn Truell, fellow of the American Physical Society, the Acoustical Society of America and professor of applied mathematics at Brown University, died of a stroke on 10 Jan.

Truell was born in Washington, D. C. on 6 April 1913, received his BS in engineering at Lehigh University in 1935 and his PhD in physics at Cornell in 1941. During the war he worked at RCA Laboratories, Princeton and Stromberg-Carlson. He came to Brown as an assistant professor in 1946.

In 1948, he organized the metals-research laboratory at Brown. Here he developed and refined pulse-echo techniques for studying properties of metals with ultrasound, especially in radiation damage, magnetoelastic losses, dislocations, thermoelasticity and phonon-phonon interaction.

This laboratory, which established a wide reputation in solid-state physics, served as an interdisciplinary group among physics, engineering and applied mathematics. In 1951 Truell became professor of applied mathematics and in 1963 chairman of applied mathematics. At his death he was chairman of the physical-sciences council at Brown.



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Truell was also a senior member of Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, and held memberships in the American Mathematical Society and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He had served as a member of the Rhode Island Atomic Energy Commission and was a trustee of Roger Williams General Hospital.

ROBERT T. BEYER
Brown University

Samuel Alexander, NBS Senior Research Fellow

A pioneer in the automatic digital computer field, Samuel N. Alexander, died on 9 Dec. at the age of 57. He was born in Wharton, Texas and he received physics and electrical engineering degrees from the University of Oklahoma in 1931 and from MIT in 1933. His graduate study at MIT ended when he became a physicist for the Simplex Wire and Cable Corp in 1935. In 1940 Alexander went to Washington and served as a physicist for the Navy Department, and from 1943 to 1946 he was senior project engineer for the Bendix Aviation Corp.

After joining the National Bureau of Standards in 1946 as chief of the electrical components laboratory, he was assigned the responsibility of organizing a group within NBS to conduct a research and development program for the US Army in electronic components suitable for use in automatic digital computers. Under Alexander's direction this group developed SEAC, one of the first modern electronic computers. He then proceeded to establish the first government laboratory entirely oriented to the development of automatic data-processing devices and their application to scientific and information handling problems. The NBS computer laboratory became the central source of technical assistance to Federal agencies seeking advice on the application of ADP systems to their particular problems.

William E. Bennett Developed Nuclear-Teaching Laboratory

William Ernest Bennett, professor at the State University in Buffalo since 1960, died on 12 Jan. in Buffalo General Hospital. He was born in Sutton's Bay, Mich., in 1907. After receiving his master's degree from Queen's University, Kingston, Ont. in 1934, he studied for his doctorate at Cambridge University.

In 1937 Bennett returned to the US and served as an instructor at Rice Institute in Texas until 1946 and was a Manhattan Project scientist in 1941–42. He was professor at Illinois Institute of Technology from 1947 until going to Buffalo. Under grants from the National Science Foundation and the Atomic Energy Commission he had done research at Buffalo on accelerators and the development of a nuclear-teaching laboratory. He was acting department chairman in 1963–64. □