

we hear that

Albany. He succeeds Curtis L. Hemenway who continues to serve on the faculty and as director of Dudley Observatory.

Earle C. Fowler, formerly of Duke University, has been appointed head of the department of physics at Purdue University.

Norihiko Fukuta, professor of environmental engineering in the University of Denver College of Engineering, has been named head of the university's Denver Research Institute Cloud Physics Laboratory and appointed as lecturer in physics.

James S. Langer has been appointed associate dean of Carnegie-Mellon University's Mellon Institute of Science.

The new director of research at Chalk River Nuclear Laboratories of the Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. is **G. C. Hanna**, formerly director of the physics division.

Joining the staff of the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory are **Dennis V. Brockway** and **Charles W. Vossler** in the theoretical design division; **Johnny M. Romero** in the theoretical division, and **Donald L. Thompson** in the explosives testing division.

obituaries

Mervin J. Kelly

Mervin J. Kelly, former president and chairman of the board of Bell Telephone Laboratories, died on 18 March at the age of 77.

Kelly, who worked for Bell Laboratories until his retirement in 1959, had begun his association with the Bell System in 1918 after receiving his PhD degree from the University of Chicago. At Chicago he was assistant to Robert A. Millikan and participated in the famous oil-drop experiments. He then joined the Western Electric Co as a research physicist. When in 1925 the company was incorporated into the Bell System, Kelly was transferred to Bell Laboratories. His projects at Bell Labs included making commercially practicable the art of vacuum tubes, the applications of acoustics in telephony, work on photoelectric cells, vacuum thermocouples, ballast lamps and other communication devices.

At the beginning of World War II, Kelly took charge of the Bell Labs war

research and development efforts, concentrating on radar, gunfire control and bombsights. For this work he was awarded the Presidential Certificate of Merit.

After his retirement from Bell Labs, he served as adviser to the administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. He also acted as research and technology consultant to International Business Machines Corp, Ingersoll-Rand Co and Kennecott Copper Corp.

Paul Huber

Paul Huber died 5 February 1971 at the age of 60 following heart surgery. He was internationally known for his work in nuclear physics and his contributions to science as chairman of the Commission for Nuclear Physics of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics.

Huber, born in the Swiss village of Rekingen, graduated from a small teacher's college and then entered the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) to study physics under Paul Scherrer. His doctoral thesis and other papers between 1937 and 1941 reflect the excitement of the early days of fast neutron physics. Huber left the ETH in 1941 to take a position at the technical college (*Technikum*) in Winterthur.



HUBER

A year later he was offered the chair of experimental physics at the University of Basel. In spite of the isolation and limitations imposed by the war in Europe, research was started immediately. During the nearly three decades of his directorship, the laboratory achieved international recognition for experiments on scattering and reactions of fast neutrons. In addition Huber pioneered the investigation of polarization phe-

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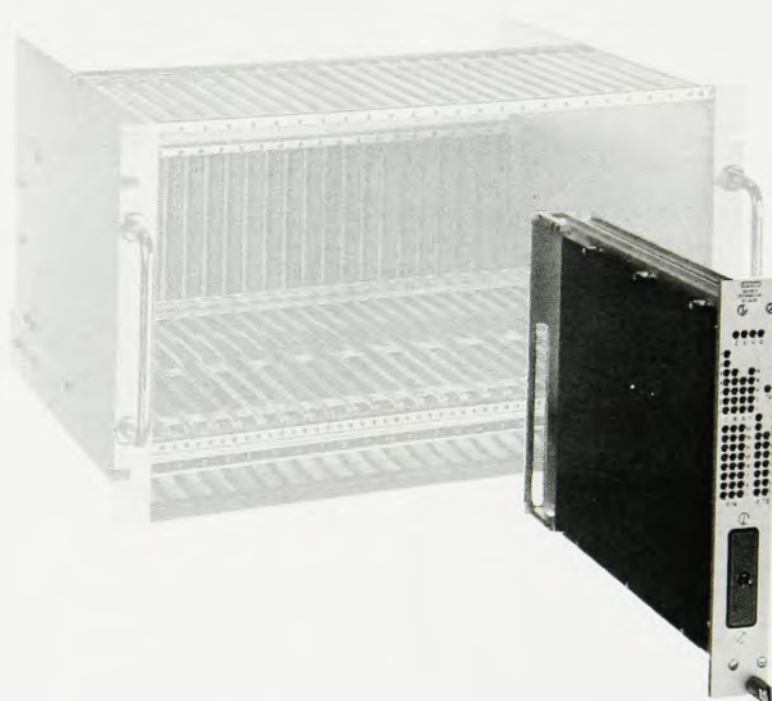
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nomena. He first observed polarization of neutrons from nuclear reactions in 1953. Later, he guided the construction of a source of polarized ions, and in 1960 his group was the first to show that a beam of useful intensity and polarization can be obtained.

He took intense pleasure from his contacts with colleagues abroad. As a student of his in Basel I remember well the enthusiasm he brought back from his first visit to the US soon after the war. A lively exchange of young PhD physicists between Basel and many laboratories in the US started at that time and has continued through the years. In 1949 Huber organized the first European postwar conference in nuclear physics. A decade later, he organized the first International Symposium on Polarization Phenomena and later initiated the subsequent two symposia on the same subject in Karlsruhe and Madison, Wisconsin. As chairman of the Commission for Nuclear Physics of IUPAP he contributed to numerous other international conferences.

The brilliant introductory physics lecture, which Huber taught during his entire career at Basel, was perhaps the greatest evidence of his enthusiasm for physics. Shortly before his death he finished the last of a four-volume physics text.

Willy Haeberli

University of Wisconsin, Madison

Milo B. Sampson

Milo B. Sampson, professor at Indiana University, died on 10 April at the age of 62.

Sampson, who came to the university in 1946, had been one of the chief researchers with the Indiana University's old cyclotron, now dismantled, which was one of the first in the US. At the time of his death he was helping to design the cyclotron now being built at the university.

Before coming to Indiana University, Sampson was a physicist with the Manhattan Project Laboratory at the Los Alamos National Laboratory. He had also worked for the Biochemical Research Foundation at the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia from 1937 to 1943, and was in charge of the cyclotron at the University of Chicago Metallurgical Laboratory from 1943 to 1944.

Otto Laporte

Otto Laporte, professor at the University of Michigan, died on 28 March. Laporte was 68.

Laporte, who was born in Mainz, Germany and received his PhD degree from the University of Munich, has been