

we hear that

Ohio Section of the American Physical Society.

The Naval Postgraduate School at Monterey, Calif. has promoted **K. E. Woehler** to professor and **T. J. Williamson** to associate professor.

obituaries

Herbert J. Plagge

Herbert J. Plagge, associate professor of physics at Iowa State University, died on 1 May at the age of 87.

Before retiring from Iowa in 1965, Plagge taught physics to sophomore engineering students for 57 consecutive years. He had taught for one year at the Geneseo Collegiate Institute and at Wisconsin for two years before coming to Iowa.

His research included the study of sound absorption materials and methods of observing amounts of absorption and constant frequency electric oscillators for producing constant pitch tones.

Nikolai V. Fedorenko

Nikolai Vasilievich Fedorenko, the distinguished Soviet atomic collision physicist, died in Leningrad on 2 February 1972 from a heart attack.

Fedorenko was born in Chernigov, Ukraine in 1910 and moved to Leningrad in 1924. After completing school and working in a factory for three years, he entered the Polytechnical Institute of Leningrad in 1932. Upon graduation in 1938, he joined the A. F. Ioffe Physico-Technical Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences, where he rose from junior physicist to deputy director of the institute, a position he held at the time of his death.

His best known scientific work was in the field of heavy-particle collisions. Working in this area at a time when the field was not popular, Fedorenko developed experimental techniques that have been widely emulated, and he produced a body of basic experimental data and discoveries that have subsequently found widespread application in nuclear physics instrumentation, upper atmosphere physics and astrophysics and controlled-thermonuclear research. Fedorenko's prolific output and profound understanding of atomic collision phenomena earned him a position of the highest esteem among atomic physicists throughout the world.

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we hear that

tific work were his tireless activities on behalf of international cooperation in science. He was a member of IUPAP's Commission on Atomic and Molecular Physics and Spectroscopy, and was particularly active in the International



FEDORENKO

Conference on the Physics of Electronic and Atomic Collisions, serving as president of the conference from 1967 to 1969 and hosting the conference in Leningrad in 1967.

His many American friends will remember him best, however, as a kind and gentle man, who was always willing to give of himself and who enriched the lives of all those who were privileged to know him.

WADE L. FITE
University of Pittsburgh

Stephen MacNeille

Stephen MacNeille, chief scientist for American Optical Corp and a member of the Optical Society of America's board of directors, died of a heart attack on 23 March. He was 60 years old.

As a member of the OSA board, MacNeille was working on the finance committee, was chairman of the MEES medal committee and had just been recommended by the executive committee to represent OSA on the Pensions for Professionals Advisory Board. He was also the OSA's corporate associate representative to the American Institute of Physics.

MacNeille's research had included work on positive-ion sources for large mass spectrographs, pile control instrumentation, separation of isotopes by diffusion and optical instruments. He received his PhD from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1937. □

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