### we hear that

#### Julius P. Molnar

Julius P. Molnar, executive vice-president of Bell Laboratories and a member of the Board of Directors of Bell Labs and the Sandia Corporation, died on 11 January in Summit, New Jersey. He was 56.

A native of Detroit, Molnar received his doctorate in physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1940. In 1945 he joined the technical staff at Bell Labs where he did research in physical electronics and the development of microwave tubes. He was made director of electron-tube development in 1955 and in 1957 he became director of military systems development. Molnar left Bell Labs in 1958 to become president of Sandia Corporation and a vice-president of the Western Electric Company. He returned to Bell Labs as executive vicepresident in 1960.

#### S. Smith Stevens

S. Smith Stevens, an expert on the physics of sensory perception, died during his sleep on the night of 18-19 January in Vail, Colorado.

Born in 1906 at Ogden, Utah, Stevens completed his doctorate at Harvard University in 1933. He did research at the Harvard Medical School and in Harvard's department of physics prior to joining the staff as an instructor in psychology (1936). He was promoted to associate professor in 1944 and professor in 1946. During 1949–62 Stevens served as director of Harvard's Psychological Laboratory. He was professor of psychophysics and director of the Laboratory of Psychophysics at Harvard from 1962 until his death.

## Harald Herborg Nielsen

Harald Herborg Nielsen, professor emeritus in the department of physics at Ohio State University, died on 8 January at the age of 69.

Nielsen, who was born in Menominee, Michigan in 1903, attended St Olaf College and the University of Michigan, where he completed his PhD in 1929. After a year as an American–Scandinavian fellow in Copenhagen, Denmark, he joined Ohio State University as an instructor in the department of physics. He was subsequently promoted to assistant professor (1933), associate professor (1936) and professor (1943). From 1946 until 1967 Nielsen served as chairman of the department.

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