

Quebec science prize presented to Bachynski

Morrell P. Bachynski, director of research and development for RCA Limited in Canada, has been awarded the 1973 Prix Scientifique de Québec by the Department of Cultural Affairs of Quebec. The \$5000 award is presented every fourth year for accomplishments in the physical sciences and related fields.

Bachynski was given the Prix Scientifique for his contributions to the knowledge of high-energy plasmas and their interaction with electromagnetic waves. He has been with RCA Limited since 1955 when he completed his PhD at McGill University. Besides guiding the firm's research in electromagnetic wave propagation, as well as microwave, laser and plasma physics, Bachynski supervises the laboratories for communications and space technology, digital-information technology, and semiconductor and physical-electronics research.

H. Eugene Stanley, an associate professor of physics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, was recently named a Helmholtz Associate Professor of Health Sciences and Technology, one of four associate professorships that have been established in the Harvard-MIT Program in Health Sciences and Technology. Stanley retains his position in the physics department at MIT.

Heinz K. Henisch, a professor of physics and associate director of the Materials Research Laboratory at Pennsylvania State University, has been given the additional title of professor of the history of photography. Henisch's appointment is involved with new course developments in the department of art history.

Frank R. Paolini has been appointed vice-president of engineering at Philips Electronic Instruments, Inc. He was formerly technical director for the company.

obituaries

Satyendra Nath Bose

Satyendra Nath Bose, who fifty years ago developed the new quantum-statistical theory that became known as the Bose-Einstein statistics, died on 4 February, in Calcutta, West Bengal, at the age of eighty.

Bose was born in Calcutta, where, after obtaining his master's degree in applied mathematics, he became a lecturer in the newly created post-graduate department of physics at Calcutta University. Later he moved to Dacca University as reader in physics.

Bose worked on the statistics of photons while engaged in teaching at Dacca. In fact, the idea that classical Boltzmann statistics was not adequate to describe the behavior of photons dawned on him during a classroom lecture. Bose pursued the problem and eventually came out with a new theory. Realizing the importance of the work, he sent his paper, "Planck's law and hypothesis of light quanta," to Albert Einstein in Berlin. Although he had known Einstein only through his publications, Bose thought him to be the one person who would appreciate the value of the work.

Einstein was so impressed by the paper that he translated it into German and sent it to the *Zeitschrift für Physik*, where it was published under Bose's name in July 1924. Einstein later applied the statistics to particles.

Thus, in brief, was the Bose-Einstein statistics born.

Shortly after the publication of his statistics Bose secured a fellowship



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and went to Europe. There he came in contact with Einstein, Louis de Broglie, Max Planck, Max Born, Madame Curie, Max Laue, Herman Mark, Paul Ewald and many others with whom he participated in the development of quantum physics.

Two years later Bose returned to Dacca to devote himself to teaching, an

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