

References

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Based on a talk given at the 1977 Annual Washington Meeting of The American Physical Society, where Joel Primack and Frank von Hippel were awarded the APS Forum on Physics and Society Award for Promoting the Understanding of the Relation of Physics to Society through their book, *Advice and Dissent: Scientists in the Political Arena* (Basic Books, 1974; New American Library, 1976).

## Support for history

The AIP Balance Sheet and the Summary Statement of Operations for 1976 as published in the July issue of *PHYSICS TODAY* do not reflect the support provided by the physics community and its friends to the Center for History of Physics. In these necessarily highly condensed statements many details of AIP activities, though present and accounted for in a financial reporting sense, are inevitably combined or dispersed in a way that makes difficult, if not impossible, an understanding of what is going on

in any particular program. Another kind of reporting is required.

In the calendar year 1976 the following funds were raised or pledged for the Center for History of Physics. Foundations: \$70 400; Industry: \$32 056; Physicists and Friends: \$14 020. Some of these funds were pledged over a period of three years, and some were for an endowment. Also, federal agencies gave or promised \$103 092 for specific studies and programs. The Center for History of Physics will be happy to give details upon request regarding specific activities and programs.

On behalf of the Council of the Friends of the Center for History of Physics, I want to express my gratitude for the contributions and grants received. The American Institute of Physics is continuing to provide annual basic funding for the Center, amounting to about \$120 000 per year.

The Center is a unique activity in the history of physics and has received enthusiastic acceptance within the scholarly community. Other groups are modeling their history programs on the Center's. Greater funds are needed as physics activities have grown and as physicists have increased their participation throughout society. We are still trying to catch up so that reliable historical documentation can be available to contemporary and future scholars. The needs are expanding. The Center needs long-term stability.

I do hope that those who contributed in the past can continue to contribute and that an interest can be generated to obtain additional contributions.

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8/22/77

## Nuclear error

Before an inadvertently perpetrated mistake grows into a perpetuated error, may we rectify a statement made in our article on "Recent Advances in Neutron Physics" (February, page 40) when on page 49 we wrote that "the phenomenon of intermediate structure in sub-threshold fission was discovered in the neutron bombardment of  $\text{Pu}^{240}$  some eight years ago, and other examples have meanwhile been brought to light, as reviewed by Andre Michaudon."

In the review to which we referred,<sup>1</sup> as indeed in other detailed reviews<sup>2</sup> and in a report in *PHYSICS TODAY*,<sup>3</sup> it is made clear that the first discovery of intermediate structure was in fact made as early as 1966 in the neutron-induced fission of  $\text{Np}^{237}$  by the Saclay group of A. Michaudon, D. Paya, J. Blons, H. Derrien, A. Fubini and P. Ribon. The results were presented at several meetings, including a joint Saclay-Geel seminar, following which similar measurements at Geel in

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