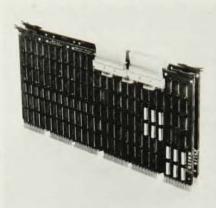
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obituaries

work of functional integration. This work will be completed by his collabo-

Everyone who was acquainted with Andre soon came to appreciate his ingrained politeness, his deep kindness and his unassuming ways. He never looked for or went after personal power, but contented himself in quietly devoting his entire life to the pursuit of a little more clarity and precision in his chosen area of physics.

BERT SCHROER Institut für Theoretische Physik der Freien Universität, Berlin (on leave from University of São Paulo São Carlos A. L. L. VIDEIRA Pontificia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro

David Herr Rank

David Herr Rank, retired professor and past chairman of the Penn State Physics Department died on 17 January. He was 74 years old. Rank, who received the Optical Society Ives Medal in 1969, had worked extensively in the fields of optics, spectroscopy and quantum elec-

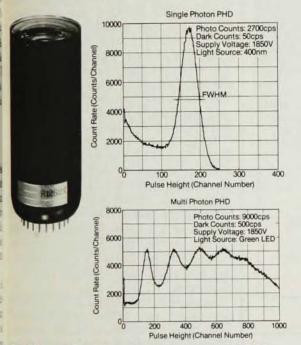
Born the son of a doctor in Annville, Pennsylvania, he received his undergraduate education at Lebanon Valley College. In 1930 he enrolled as a graduate student at the then Pennsylvania State College, received his PhD degree in 1939, and continued to work in Penn State's Physics Department until his retirement in 1972. At the time of his death he was the director of product development of the Edmund Scientific Corporation.

By the time of his graduation, he published nine papers on such subjects as heavy water, spectroscopic instrumentation and Raman spectroscopy. In 1942 his application of the recently invented photomultiplier tube to spec-

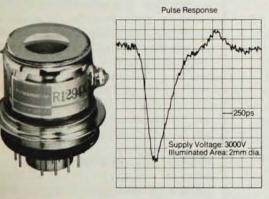
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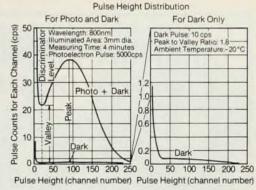


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obituaries

troscopy marked the beginning of investigations in Raman spectroscopy that gained him an international scientific reputation. He invented methods for determining accurately the depolarization factors, quantities that must be known if the correct assignments of vibrational bands in Raman spectra are to be obtained.

Around 1952, Rank changed his research program from Raman to highresolution infrared spectroscopy, the field for which he is perhaps best known. His infrared investigations, which set new standards for wavelength accuracy and resolution, enabled him to study fine structures that had not previously been observed, to measure shapes of lines and collisioninduced shifts, pressure narrowing, and quadrupole effects. Some of his work related to planetary atmospheres.

When lasers, both pulsed and cw, came into his laboratory in 1964, Rank and his coworkers exploited them to investigate various light scattering phenomena. Three nonlinear optical phenomena were discovered in the course of his investigations: optical mixing in stimulated Brillouin scattering, stimulated Rayleigh wing scattering and stimulated thermal Rayleigh scattering.

Rank also concerned himself with lens design, optical testing, and optical materials. His success as an experimental physicist resulted partly from his skill as a designer and his exacting optical craftsmanship. Several master opticians began their training as his apprentices. His optical designs can be found in such everyday products as surveying instruments, medical cystoscopes, magnifying lenses on butchershop scales and highway retroreflec-

T. KING McCubbin Jr. T. A. WIGGINS The Pennsylvania State University

Walter M. Nielsen

Walter M. Nielsen, James B. Duke Professor Emeritus of Physics at Duke University and chairman of the Department of Physics from 1938 to 1961, died in Durham, N. C. on 8 January. Before World War II, he was active in cosmic-ray research, conducting counter studies of electromagnetic showers and measuring the lifetime of the mu meson. These experiments were carried out in Linville Caverns and on Mt. Mitchell in North Carolina and on Mt. Evans in Colorado. He spent a year at the Bartol Research Foundation as a National Research Council Fellow. After the war, he concentrated mainly on the develop-