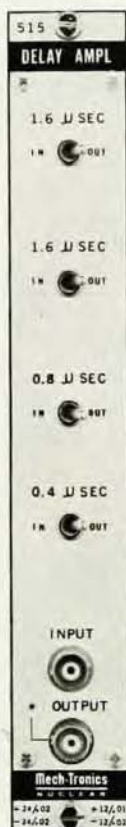
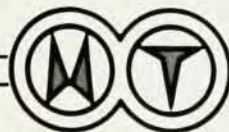


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ization and established what has come to be known as the "Serkowski law," which describes the uniform wavelength dependence of interstellar polarization, previously believed to be different for different stars. Serkowski discovered intrinsic linear and circular polarization of various types of variable stars. He loved to develop new instrumentation. He built a multicolor polarimeter for the observatories in Australia and optimized the "minipol" polarimeter of the University of Arizona. His greatest challenge, partially met, was to develop a method of measuring radial velocities precise enough to detect the reflex motion of stars due to orbiting planets. For a system such as the Sun and Jupiter a precision of ± 13 m/sec is needed. Someday such a system may be discovered because Serkowski's radial-velocity project is being continued.

TOM GEHRELS
University of Arizona

Irving I. Zinnes

Irving I. Zinnes, physics professor at Fordham University since 1962, died at the age of 63. He was a mathematical physicist whose main interests were in the foundations of quantum mechanics and the quantum theory of scattering.

Born in Canada in 1916, Zinnes received a bachelor's degree from the City College of New York in 1940. During the war years, he worked for the US Navy in their degaussing section and later became a research assistant at the Columbia University Radiation Laboratory. He received his doctorate from New York University in 1952.

After a year as an instructor at the Newark College of Engineering, Zinnes joined the faculty of the University of Oklahoma as an associate professor of physics. During his tenure at Oklahoma, he collaborated with the late Josef Jauch on a mathematically rigorous formulation of quantum scattering theory. In 1960-61, he was an American Philosophical Society Fellow at Princeton University, where he studied with Arthur Wightman; the following year he was a visiting professor at Princeton. In 1962, he joined the physics department at Fordham University, where his main contributions were to the development of scattering theory for Coulomb and other long-range potentials. In 1968, he took leave for two years to go to the Institute for Theoretical Physics at the University of Geneva, where he continued to work with Jauch and his group. He returned to teaching and research at Fordham in 1970. At the time of his death, he was engaged in studying the inverse problem of scattering theory and applying it

to problems in the spectroscopy of diatomic molecules.

JAMES R. KLEIN
Pennsylvania State University

Eric Rodgers



Eric Rodgers died on 17 October 1981, his 77th birthday. He was head of the department of physics at the University of Alabama from 1947 to 1958 and Dean of its Graduate School from 1958 until he retired in 1971. He was Secretary, 1946-49, and Chairman, 1950, of the Southeast Section of APS and was also an associate editor of the *American Journal of Physics* from 1948 to 1951. He served on the AIP Board of Governors from 1954 to 1957 and on its Executive Committee from 1955 to 1957.

He was born in Goshen, Pike County, Alabama. After elementary education in a small rural school, two months in a small high school, and a bit over a year at Troy Normal School, he entered the University of Alabama, where he received a BS in 1931 and an MA in 1932. He became a full-time graduate student at the University of Chicago in 1935. In October of that year his choice of a study of polarization of hard x rays as a dissertation topic was approved, with A. H. Compton as his director. With a total conference time of about three hours with Compton, he completed the research in time for it to be published in the 15 November 1936 issue of the *Physical Review*. After receiving his PhD in 1936, he returned to the University of Alabama.

There he rose through the academic ranks to department head. During his tenure as head he strengthened the department by staff additions sufficiently for it to become a respected southeast research center offering the PhD.

E. SCOTT BARR
University of Alabama, Retired □