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and conferences. A clear example is his last publication: On 2 December 1942, he was present at the startup of the first nuclear chain reaction at the University of Chicago. He had installed his cosmic-ray ionization chamber on a balcony about 20 feet from the graphite pile where it recorded the gamma-ray ionization levels during that eventful afternoon. However, it was not until 1980, long after retirement, that he published the chart showing these data; it now stands as the clearest and most dramatic record of one of the great events in physics.

A. H. SNELL

M. K. WILKINSON

W. C. KOEHLER

Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Malvern K. Iles

Malvern K. Iles, associate physicist at the Department of Energy's Ames Laboratory at Iowa State University, died unexpectedly on 19 May 1983, at the age of 28. Although young, his energy and enthusiasm for physical science and technology had already led to contributions in a wide spectrum of areas.

Iles had been hired by the Analytical Spectrochemical Group at Ames in 1975 while still an undergraduate at Iowa State, because of his expertise in laser technology, and became a full-time member of this group in 1978, upon receiving a BS in physics.

Laser technology was a central enthusiasm of Iles, and he designed and built a number of laser systems that are in use in pollutant detection, energy generation, and other research applications. Iles was a frequent consultant throughout Ames and at other laboratories on laser and detection systems; he developed concepts for "charge gates" and charge-to-count converters, as well as designing a novel rotation and displacement transducer and a rugged underwater vacuum gauge. A large enterprise, to which Iles contributed greatly in recent years, was the design of a large-scale kinetic-energy storage system.

Iles's love of life carried him into many activities outside his professional work. He designed, built, tested and used wilderness clothing. He was particularly interested in ultralight gear that could be used under extreme ranges of conditions, and he was experimenting constantly with new designs. At the time of his death, Iles was about to leave for the Andes mountains in Chile as a member of a climbing expedition. Those of us who were lucky enough to know him as a colleague or friend remember him as a free, creative spirit of tremendous energy and enthusiasm. He was in motion constantly,



ILES

and his joy in the world—in his own and other's activities—was evident to all who met him.

JOHN R. HULL

Argonne National Laboratory

ROBERT A. LEACOCK

JOHN F. McCLELLAND

Ames Laboratory, Iowa State University

Richard Work

Richard Nicholas Work, professor of physics at Arizona State University died 15 February 1984, after an extended illness.

Work was born in 1921 in Ithaca, New York. He received BA, MS and PhD degrees from Cornell University; Herni Sack supervised his doctoral work in the then-new field of polymer physics. His professional career included positions at the National Bureau of Standards and Princeton University; he was an assistant and associate professor at Pennsylvania State University from 1956 until 1965, when he moved to Arizona State University. While at Arizona State, Work served as assistant and associate dean of the college of liberal arts, and as chairman of the physics department (1977-81). He was a fellow of the American Physical Society and of the AAAS.

His research interests from his days at Cornell centered on the mechanical and dielectric properties of polymers. He was active in both experimental and theoretical studies of the details of dielectric relaxation phenomena in mixtures of polar and nonpolar polymers, contributing extensively to this field over many years.

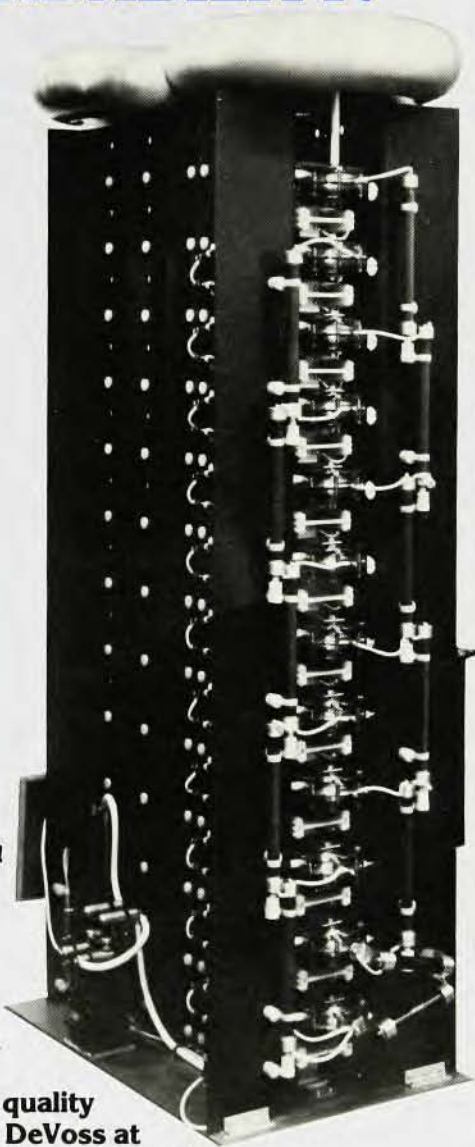
Work was a generous, consistent and modest physicist. He contributed substantially to Arizona State during a very important period of its growth, and he is greatly missed by his colleagues.

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