

then, how could he be expected to know? To him my reports² were not worth examining!

References

1. The resolution "An Affirmation of Freedom of Inquiry and Expression," was passed by the National Academy of Sciences on 26 April 1976.
2. R. V. Gentry, *Science* **173**, 727 (1971); *Science* **184**, 62 (1974); *Science* **216**, 296 (1982); *Geophys. Res. Lett.* **9**, 1129 (1982); R. V. Gentry, *et al.*, *Science* **194**, 315 (1976); *Science* **216**, 296 (1982); *Nature* **244**, 282 (1973); *Nature* **252**, 564 (1974); *Nature* **274**, 457 (1978).
3. R. V. Gentry, *EOS* **61**, 514 (1980); *PHYSICS TODAY* **35**, No. 10, 13 (1982); *PHYSICS TODAY* **36**, No. 4, 13 (1983).

ROBERT V. GENTRY
Columbia Union College
Takoma Park, Maryland

2/84

The truth about Rowland

R. E. Bell inquires (February, page 89) about the old story that Henry Rowland, on the witness stand in an 1894 lawsuit, declared himself to be the world's greatest electrical authority, explaining later that he had to tell the truth under oath. This often-repeated story is apocryphal, according to the research of John David Miller as reported in his Oregon State University PhD Thesis, "Henry August Rowland and his Electromagnetic Researches" (a copy of which Miller donated to the AIP Niels Bohr Library). Inspecting the trial record, Miller found that Rowland had no need to boast; as the judge said, it was conceded by all that he was "the highest known authority in this country upon the subject of the laws and principles of electricity..." (page 330). Rowland did make similar statements himself, however, in private letters. Like many apocryphal stories, this one is probably more revealing of real character than anything publicly seen at the time.

SPENCER R. WEART
Center for History of Physics
American Institute of Physics
New York, New York

2/84

Oversight in overview

In our overview article on Surface Spectroscopy in November (page 62), we would like to point out that the data points in the dispersion curve of figure 4 summarize the results of two different groups, one of which was omitted in reference 4. We wish to correct this omission and to cite R. I. G. Uhrberg, G. V. Hansson, J. M. Nicholls and S. A. Flodstrom, *Phys Rev Lett* **48**, 1032 (1982).

JOE E. DEMUTH
PHAEDON AVOURIS
IBM Thomas J. Watson Research Center
12/83 Yorktown Heights, New York □

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