

ice in the US Navy during World War II. He completed an AB in physics at Middlebury College in 1947 and received MS and PhD degrees in 1948 and 1954, respectively, at Northwestern University.

Upon completing his doctoral studies, Plumb joined the staff of NBS, where he studied the Kelvin thermodynamic temperature scale using the speed of sound in He^4 gas as an absolute thermometer and the germanium resistance thermometer for transferring the absolute scale. This work provided a provisional but internationally recognized temperature scale for the range 2–20 K. Plumb's laboratory served for more than a decade as the primary international source of thermometer calibrations in that temperature range.

From 1966 to 1974 Plumb served as chief of the NBS temperature section. During that time he organized a cohesive temperature staff for disseminating to the nation's thermometry community the new International Practical Temperature Scale of 1968 for the range 13.81–1337.58 K. He also bore major responsibility for the Fourth Symposium on Temperature, Its Measurement and Control in Science and Industry (1971) as head of the program committee and as chief editor for the resulting proceedings. He vigorously supported both research to improve the 1968 temperature scale and education of the thermometry community to make more meaningful temperature measurements. Plumb retired from NBS in 1980.

JAMES F. SCHOOLEY
Center for Basic Standards
National Bureau of Standards

George E. Moore

George Edward Moore, professor emeritus of physics at the State University of New York at Binghamton, died 18 September 1984 at the age of 80. Moore was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in 1903. He received his bachelor's degree from the California Institute of Technology in 1927 and his master's degree in physics from Columbia University in 1931.

As a member of Bell Laboratories from 1927 until his retirement in 1966, Moore studied a variety of problems related to the physics and chemistry of electron tubes. Much of the great improvement in electron-tube performance and life during this interval is traceable to his work.

During his early years at Bell Labs, Moore collaborated with such men as J. A. Becker and H. W. Webb of Columbia. During the war years he made important contributions to the development of magnetrons for radar. In 1950

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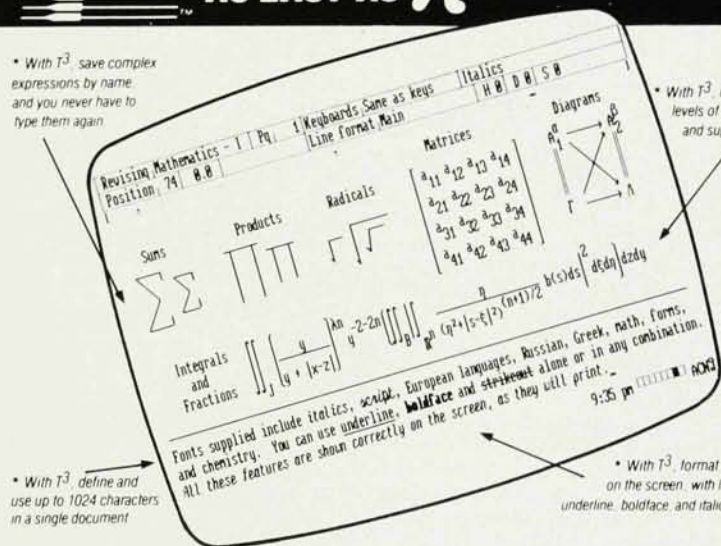
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he returned to chemical and physical research on a number of very difficult problems related to electron tubes, including the chemical reduction of MgO and SrO by tungsten in vacuum, the electron emission of Ba, SrO supported on an insulator, the excess-barium content of practical oxide cathodes, the diffusion of tungsten in nickel and the dissociation of adsorbed CO and solid SrO under slow-electron bombardment.

Moore was an extraordinarily gentle, generous and compassionate human being. His personal qualities, together with his lifelong experience in electron physics, admirably suited him for the teaching career he undertook at Binghamton after his retirement from Bell Labs. During his tenure at Binghamton the instructional program underwent many modifications. Moore was the first to teach the junior laboratory, and it has retained the form he initiated to this day. He also pioneered the electronics course and his influence on the other courses of the physics curriculum was sizable.

In 1973 Moore retired from active teaching, but he persevered in service to the university and its students. He gave freely of his time, particularly to students who were having difficulty with their studies. In addition to his activities in arranging colloquia with off-campus speakers, he was particularly effective in assisting graduates at all levels in finding employment. A large number of alumni have expressed their deep appreciation for his counseling and assistance. He will be missed by his colleagues on campus and in the community.

A. H. WHITE

Retired, Bell Laboratories

ROBERT J. HART

SOL RABOY

State University of New York
at Binghamton

Beryl Potter

Beryl H. Potter, a former research assistant in the astronomy department of Indiana University, died 10 August 1985 at the age of 84. Potter was hired as a research assistant in 1949, and participated in the university's minor-planet observing program from its inception in 1942 until her retirement in 1966. During that time she "blinked" nearly all the 6300 plates taken to search for "lost" minor planets, and she herself measured all the positions reported in the *IAU Minor-Planet Circulars*. In 1968 Paul Herget named a minor planet for her—(1729) *Beryl*, discovered on 19 September 1963 at the Goethe Link Observatory at Indiana University—in honor of her years of service. □