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Glückwunsch-Adressen gelehrter Gesellschaften

Messages de Sociétés Savantes

Messages from learned Societies

Les messages suivants, rangés dans l'ordre alphabétique des pays représentés, ont été prononcés ou lus par les savants indiqués.

ANGLETERRE, Message prononcé par W. H. McCREA, Délégué de la Royal Society de Londres.

I have the privilege of representing the Royal Society at this meeting. It is a great pleasure to express to Professor PAULI and the other members of the Organizing Committee the Society's felicitations on the Jubilee which we are now celebrating. I have the honour of conveying the very good wishes of the Royal Society for the success of this Conference.

BELGIQUE, Message prononcé par J. GÉHÉNIU.

Mesdames, Messieurs,

Je veux dire ici combien cette initiative de célébrer le cinquantième de la théorie de la Relativité a été appréciée par les physiciens et les mathématiciens belges.

La Relativité générale a été introduite en Belgique dès sa création par le professeur DE DONDER. Ses contributions à cette théorie ainsi que celles du chanoine Lemaître sont bien connues et la Relativité continue à susciter chez nous un vif intérêt. Aussi les participants belges à ce Congrès tiennent à exprimer au Comité d'organisation leurs remerciements pour l'aimable accueil qui leur a été réservé. Ils rentreront en Belgique avec une connaissance meilleure et plus vaste de la Relativité, ce qui leur permettra de mieux travailler au développement de cette partie de l'œuvre d'EINSTEIN.

DANEMARK, Message du professeur NIELS BOHR, Président de l'Académie Royale des Sciences de Danemark, lu par CHR. MØLLER.

The Royal Danish Academy of Science and Letters wish to join in the tribute offered by the Jubilee Conference on the Theory of Relativity in Berne to the memory of the great genius who widened the

horizon of mankind by his immortal work which originated in your city just fifty years ago. Sharing in the universal deploration of ALBERT EINSTEIN's recent death, the Academy send to the Conference their warmest greetings and express the hope that it will fruitfully contribute to the elucidation of the scope of the relativity principle.

ÉTATS UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE, Message de M. DETLEV W. BRONK, président de la National Academy of Sciences à Washington, lu par HERMANN WEYL, délégué de cette Académie.

Gentlemen:

In response to the kind invitation of the Organizing Committee for the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Theory of Relativity, the National Academy of Sciences is honored to be represented by our distinguished member, HERMANN WEYL, Professor of Mathematics at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, and long-time colleague and friend of our late fellow member, ALBERT EINSTEIN.

Like the Principia of NEWTON, the Theory of Relativity has had an influence upon our concept of the universe so profound as to assure its place among the foremost advances of history. The National Academy of Sciences takes particular pleasure in conveying its greetings and good wishes to the participants in the exercises commemorating this great achievement of scientific thought.

Taking place a half-century after EINSTEIN's first exposition of the Theory of Relativity, and during the year of his death, the anniversary celebration is especially appropriate. For in the last fifty years the consequences flowing from his several great discoveries have placed the world at the threshold of a new era, an era that we are confident can be one of unprecedented accomplishment for human welfare if we are but equal to the task of using the fruit of his work to that end.

The Theory of Relativity will remain as a monument to the living memory of ALBERT EINSTEIN. May it also serve as a perpetual inspiration for us and our successors in science to strive for that greatness of soul and detachment of point of view that foster the unfettered pursuit of truth, founded upon an abiding faith that the exploitation of nature is a worthy challenge to the highest aspirations of the human mind and spirit.

With every good wish for the full success of the celebration, I am

Yours sincerely,

DETLEV W. BRONK, President

FINLANDE, Message prononcé par G. JÄRNEFELT.

Die Finnische Akademie der Wissenschaft (Academia Scientiarum Fennica) und die Finnische Gesellschaft der Wissenschaft (Societas Scien-

tiarum Fennica) gestatten sich, der Konferenz „Fünfzig Jahre Relativitätstheorie“ und den Organisationskomitees der Konferenz ihrer hohen Schätzung Ausdruck zu geben für die bei der Konferenz den Naturwissenschaftlern dargebotene Gelegenheit, im Rahmen des Ideenkreises ALBERT EINSTEINS neue Inspiration zu erhalten.

FRANCE, Message remis par Mme M. A. TONNELAT au nom du professeur LOUIS DE BROGLIE, Secrétaire Perpétuel de l'Académie des Sciences de Paris.

En apprenant que M. BOREL ne pourrait venir au Congrès de Berne, M. LOUIS DE BROGLIE aurait voulu pouvoir le remplacer.

Il m'a donc chargé, avant mon départ, de le représenter à un double titre:

Comme Secrétaire Perpétuel de l'Académie des Sciences, il tient à préciser que l'Institut de France s'associe très vivement aux cérémonies organisées en l'honneur du cinquantenaire de la Relativité. Il remercie vivement le Comité d'organisation. Par la conjonction de la «bienveillante autorité» du Professeur PAULI et de l'«aimable dévouement» du Professeur MERCIER, nous emporterons un souvenir très précieux des journées passées à Berne.

Comme ami personnel d'ALBERT EINSTEIN, M. LOUIS DE BROGLIE tient aussi à s'unir moins officiellement à ces journées. Le discours prononcé cette année à la rentrée de l'Académie des Sciences sera consacré à retracer l'œuvre d'ALBERT EINSTEIN et la vie de celui qui laisse une marque si profonde sur nos esprits.

L'Institut de France et singulièrement son Secrétaire Perpétuel, M. LOUIS DE BROGLIE tient à vous dire très chaleureusement: Merci.

INDE, Message envoyé par M. BORN, membre de l'Académie des Sciences de l'Inde.

The President of the Indian Academy of Science, Bangalore, has asked me, as one of the members of this learned society, to convey his greetings to this Conference and his best wishes for successful and inspiring discussions.

IRLANDE, Felicitations to the Organisation Committee of the Jubilee of Relativity Theory from the Royal Irish Academy and the School of theoretical Physics, Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies, presented by FELIX E. HACKETT.

As Treasurer and Delegate of the Royal Irish Academy to this Conference I am glad to have the opportunity of associating the Academy

with the other learned bodies represented here in the presentation of felicitations to the Swiss Organisation Committee of the Conference of the Jubilee of Relativity Theory.

The Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy have been enriched in recent years by contributions, close to the topics discussed by this conference, coming from SCHRÖDINGER, HEITLER, SYNGE and their fellow workers in the School of Theoretical Physics in the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies.

May I, therefore, as chairman of the Governing Board of the School of Theoretical Physics unite the School with the felicitations of the Royal Irish Academy.

EAMON DE VALERA, the founder of the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies some twenty years ago, will rejoice to learn that more than 10 per cent of the participants of this Conference have been associated with the School of Theoretical Physics in one way or another.

We, of the Institute, regret that SCHRÖDINGER, the inspiring Director of the School, has not been able to come here also.

In conclusion, may I express my appreciation of the simplicity of style in the organisation of this Conference so much in keeping with the essential simplicity that characterised the great man whose work we are commemorating.

ISRAEL, Message prononcé par NATHAN ROSEN.

In the course of this conference a number of speakers have brought messages from academies of various countries. Israel, a very small country, but with a great interest in EINSTEIN, does not have as yet an academy of science. However, there does exist the Israel Physical Society, and I was asked to represent it at this conference by its president, Prof. RACAH. On behalf of this organization of physicists I therefore bring you greetings and the wish that this conference, together with the memory of EINSTEIN which it honors, will serve as an inspiration for much fruitful work in the future.

ITALIE, Message prononcé par A. SIGNORINI, Délégué de l'Accademia dei Lincei à Rome.

Ho l'onore di dichiarare l'adesione a questo Giubileo dell'Accademia che può vantarsi di avere avuto tra i suoi Soci anche GALILEO GALILEI: ALBERTO EINSTEIN apparteneva ad essa dal 1921. Ricordo bene la data, perchè il tanto compianto mio Maestro TULLIO LEVI-CIVITA volle un certo giorno farmi leggere la relazione, l'entusiastica relazione da lui scritta per proporre la nomina.

L'adesione dell'Accademia dei Lincei è di circa un anno fa, quando EINSTEIN ancora viveva e neppure era prevista l'immaturo fine di ENRICO FERMI. In questi ultimi mesi si sono avute in Italia due celebrazioni del cinquantenario della Relatività.

Tra aprile e maggio si è svolto tutto un ciclo di conferenze all'Istituto nazionale di Alta Matematica e sono certo che il Presidente dell'Istituto, FRANCESCO SEVERI, se fosse qui vorrebbe ripetere i più vivi ringraziamenti al prof. INFELD per il suo contributo al successo di quella manifestazione.

Negli stessi giorni è stata condotta a termine la stampa di un poderoso volume dal titolo «Cinquant'anni di Relatività». L'idea di questa pubblicazione è dell'ing. MARIO PANTALEO, direttore generale al Ministero italiano della Pubblica Istruzione. Nelle sei o settecento pagine di grande formato, dopo un'introduzione generale dell'ing. Pantaleo e prima della traduzione in italiano di tutte le Memorie fondamentali di EINSTEIN, sono contenuti scritti di Armellini, il direttore dell'Osservatorio astronomico di Monte Mario, del prof. FINZI del Politecnico di Milano, del prof. POLVANI, direttore del «Nuovo Cimento», di Severi, di PAOLO STRANEO e di altri.

So che alcuni dei presenti sono già a conoscenza di tale volume. Comunque, mi sia permesso di terminare il mio dire richiamando l'attenzione sulla prefazione, costituita da un certo numero di pagine appositamente scritte da ALBERTO EINSTEIN il 4 aprile di quest'anno, cioè solo due settimane prima della morte.

Si tratta, in certo modo, di un testamento scientifico, che si conclude, ciò che pure impressiona, con una dichiarazione di estrema umiltà rispetto ai limiti delle conoscenze umane: io ritengo, dice EINSTEIN nelle ultime righe, che siamo molto lontani dal possedere una base concettuale della fisica alla quale poterci in qualche modo affidare. Il testo originale è il seguente:

„Die letzteren, flüchtigen Bemerkungen sollen nur dartun, wie weit wir nach meiner Meinung davon entfernt sind, eine irgendwie verlässliche begriffliche Basis für die Physik zu besitzen.“

PAYS-BAS, Message prononcé par A. D. FOKKER, Délégué de l'Académie Royale Néerlandaise.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

One may be sure that it is quite in the spirit of ALBERT EINSTEIN that we should first of all here discuss scientific problems and not speak of his person. Nevertheless, it is impossible to leave him out of our thoughts.

The Royal Netherlands Academy of Sciences, which sent us as delegates, wishes to convey a message to testify of its highest esteem and profound gratitude, and professor MERCIER pointed out to us, that this now might be the right moment to do so.

Fairly often EINSTEIN attended the meetings of the Netherlands Academy as a member. He had many good friends there who liked to have him in their midst and who loved him, and we are proud and grateful that we may believe he reciprocated our feelings.

You know that after the first world war a special chair was created for him in Leiden University to enable him as a guest to spend some time every year in Leiden.

This was done in 1920 and for a dozen of years we had the privilege of his stimulating annual visits. Professor BARGMAN just brought over from Princeton the letters which professor LORENTZ wrote to EINSTEIN when preparing this chair. One of these bears a somewhat emotional character. It was written after the first attack had been launched on EINSTEIN in Germany. LORENTZ wanted to show his sympathy. From this letter, which is now in my hands, I wish to quote a few lines.

Alle, die Ihre Arbeiten kennen und Ihnen in Ihren Forschungen gefolgt sind, wissen, daß Sie in aller Bescheidenheit bestrebt gewesen sind, die Wahrheit zu suchen und ihr zu dienen. Wer Sie persönlich kennt, ist davon doppelt überzeugt. Das gilt von Ihren Freunden in diesem Lande und glücklicherweise auch von den besten der deutschen Physiker.

That is: All those, who know your papers and who have followed you in your investigations, also know that in utmost modesty you have been striving to search for truth and to serve truth. One who personally is acquainted with you is twice convinced of that. This applies to your friends in this our country and fortunately to the best of German physicists too.

The Royal Netherlands Academy of Sciences, after thirty-five years still adheres to these words, written by its former great leader, and is grateful to remember how EINSTEIN embodied the ideal so soberly outlined in these few lines. Perhaps it was his modesty, which made EINSTEIN retain the name of relativity theory for what in fact has shown to be far more: a new science of absolute relations of space and time which well deserved to be named chronogeometry.

That new science has confronted the world with serious problems. Mankind cannot undo its inventions. It has to face the consequences of the relation between energy, momentum and mass. It has to find a way out of the terrible dangerous situation, created by the vulcanic energies now at its disposal. EINSTEIN was fully aware of the responsibility of scientists in this respect.

The Royal Netherlands Academy of Sciences wishes to pay its tribute to the great genius which dwelt in ALBERT EINSTEIN. A mortal man like ourselves he revealed to us a great sternity.

POLOGNE, Message prononcé par L. INFELD, Délégué de L'Académie Polonaise des Sciences à Varsovie.

Before I open the meeting, allow me to say a few words in the name of the Polish Academy of Science, which I have the honor to represent here. I should like to express its great appreciation of the work of the organizing committee in preparing this splendid meeting. I should also like to express the Polish Academy's best wishes for the great scientific success of this meeting to commemorate 50 years of Relativity Theory and the death of its great founder.

RÉPUBLIQUE FÉDÉRALE ALLEMANDE, Message prononcé par O. HECKMANN, président de la Gesellschaft Deutscher Naturforscher und Ärzte.

Verschiedene Teilnehmer dieser Konferenz haben im Auftrage der nationalen Akademien ihrer Länder oder anderer gleichbedeutender Organisationen Begrüßungsworte an die Konferenz gerichtet oder Adressen verlesen.

Es ist vielleicht für die Situation in unserem Lande bezeichnend, daß dort schwer eine Organisation zu finden ist, die einen solchen Auftrag hätte geben können.

So spreche ich nicht mit einem eigentlichen Auftrag und doch als Vorsitzender der Gesellschaft Deutscher Naturforscher und Ärzte im Namen vieler.

Die Möglichkeit, Fragen der Relativitätstheorie frei zu behandeln, war unserem Lande durch eine Reihe von Jahren genommen. Wir sind den Veranstaltern dieser Konferenz dankbar, daß wir an ihr teilnehmen und daß wir in Freiheit wieder jene Probleme erörtern können, deren Behandlung damals in unserem Lande – von außen unsichtbar – gleichsam in Katakomben weiterlebte.

Wir haben die Hoffnung und bitten um Ihrer aller Hilfe, daß die Arbeit in dem Felde, das ALBERT EINSTEIN eröffnete, auch in unserem Lande wieder zu kräftigem Leben gedeihen möge.

URSS, Message prononcé par V. A. FOCK, Délégué de l'Académie des Sciences de l'URSS.

En ouvrant la séance que j'ai l'honneur de présider je voudrais présenter les salutations de la part de l'Académie des Sciences de l'Union Soviétique et de mes collègues russes. Je suis convaincu que notre réunion sera non seulement très intéressante en elle-même, mais aussi qu'elle donnera naissance à des liens scientifiques qui seront durables.

Wissenschaftliche Beiträge samt Diskussion derselben
Contributions scientifiques et interventions dans leur discussion
Scientific Papers and their Discussion

Die Hauptreferate und deren Diskussion sowie die kurzen Mitteilungen samt deren Diskussion werden hiernach in der gleichen Reihenfolge gedruckt, wie sie gehalten worden sind.

Les exposés principaux et leur discussion, ainsi que les brèves communications avec leur discussion, sont reproduits ci-dessous dans l'ordre suivant lequel ils ont eu lieu.

The main lectures and their discussion, as well as the short ones with the discussions, are printed hereafter in the same order as they have been delivered.

