

Foreword

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FOREWORD

From 4–8 July 1960, following the 500th Anniversary Celebration of the University, a Symposium on 'Polarization Phenomena of Nucleons' was held in Basel under the sponsorship of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics. In addition to the Union, the conference received financial support from the REGIERUNGSRAT BASEL-STADT, the SWISS NATIONAL FOUNDATION and the following industries: CIBA, ELEKTRIZITÄTWERK BASEL, GEIGY, HAEFELY, HOFFMANN-LA ROCHE, LONZA, and SANDOZ. The organizing committee consisted of:

P. HUBER, president
K. P. MEYER, secretary
E. BAUMGARTNER
L. BROWN
H. R. STRIEBEL
M. VERDE

The theme chosen for discussion was handled here for the first time by an international symposium. The organizers expected a small number of participants because of the special subject matter. Their expectations, however, were not fulfilled, as the meeting found considerable interest. It was fortunate, that nearly all physicists engaged in the development of artificial sources of polarized particles attended. The symposium gave an excellent survey of the present development of this new technique and allowed an intensive exchange of ideas between the various research groups. The production of polarized targets was also discussed, a problem whose realization will allow full utilization of sources of polarized ions. In addition to these new experimental techniques, which are being studied in several laboratories, the following topics came to discussion: Generation of polarized nucleons and deuterons by reactions; reactions and scattering of polarized particles; theories concerning polarization effects of nucleons. To keep the subject matter within reasonable limits, high energy physics was excluded except where its discussion was meaningful for the low energy areas.

The positive direction of polarization for particles of spin $1/2$ produced by reaction or scattering had not previously been unambiguously established, a situation obstructive for discussion and comparison of publications. The assembly adopted a convention—designated as the Basel Convention—at the suggestion of Prof. H. BARSCHALL and Prof. W. HÄBERLI eliminating this ambiguity. The general assembly of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics later approved this clarification at the Ottawa meeting. The Basel Convention, defined at the end of this volume, has been used throughout.

The rapporteur system, which is often used at international conferences, was not selected. We thought it worthwhile to hear original communications from physicists who participated directly in the work reported. A survey talk formed the introduction to each section.

We wish to thank all authors for the rapid delivery of their manuscripts, the publisher for the careful printing of the proceedings and Miss E. HOFMANN and Mr. F. SEILER for their help in the correction of the proofs.

P. HUBER