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Sulamith Goldhaber

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OBITUARIES

Sulamith Goldhaber

Dr. Sulamith Goldhaber, a research physicist at the University of California's Lawrence Radiation Laboratory, died in Madras, India, on 11 Dec. 1965 after a brain hemorrhage and exploratory surgery that revealed a brain tumor. She was 42 years old.

Mrs. Goldhaber was the wife of Dr. Gerson Goldhaber, professor of physics on the Berkeley campus. She was travelling on a Guggenheim Fellowship, accompanied by her husband and their son Nathaniel, studying and lecturing at various foreign research centers.

SULAMITH GOLDHABER

Born in Vienna on 4 Nov. 1923, she attended the Hebrew University in Israel from which she received a master's degree, and became a naturalized American citizen in 1953. She obtained her doctorate at the University of Wisconsin in 1951 in radiochemistry but turned to high-energy physics while doing postdoctoral work at Columbia University. She had been at Berkeley since 1953.

Mrs. Goldhaber made contributions to the fields of antiproton annihilation, strange particles and heavy bosons, usually in collaboration with her husband. Occasionally she taught courses in the physics department of the University of California.

Last year Mrs. Goldhaber and her husband were members of a team that produced experimental evidence for the existence of A mesons. In addition to her work at the Berkeley bevatron, she did research at the Brookhaven and CERN laboratories at various times. She was one of a small group of physicists invited last spring to lecture in the Soviet Union at a school conducted for some of the Soviet physicists in Yerevan, Armenia, an accelerator center.

Sulamith Goldhaber was a captivating woman. Her lectures were lively and stimulating. She was also deeply religious and strictly observed the rules prescribed by her faith. Her personality radiated warm friendliness, and she was admired by all who knew her.

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Mrs. Goldhaber's obituary is a contribution to PHYSICS TODAY *from some of her friends and colleagues.*

Herbert R. Lang

With the sudden, untimely death of Herbert R. Lang, secretary of the Institute of Physics and the Physical Society, 18 Nov. in London, American physicists and their organizations lost a warm and valuable friend in Great Britain. Lang, who was born in 1904, was educated in London and received his doctorate in 1927 for a thesis in the field of heat. After several years as demonstrator at the Imperial College of Science and Technology and as Research Fellow of the Institution of Petroleum Technologists, he was appointed in 1931 acting secretary of the Institute of Physics and editor of the *Journal of Scientific Instruments.* The adjective "acting" was dropped one year later when he was chosen out of 111 candidates to hold the position permanently. In his new capacity he was also chief executive officer of the Physical Society and the Optical Society. He was also responsible for starting the British *Journal of Applied Physics* in 1950, and became its editor.

Through the years he helped these organizations of British physicists to develop from small societies of restricted scope and limited resources into the present unified body of over 11 000 physicists with administrative offices in Belgrave Square and editorial offices in South Kensington. As to both approximate timing and the aim to "combine the strength of all for the purposes of all," this evolution was roughly parallel to that of the American societies now federated in the American Institute of Physics.

The genius of Herbert Lang for drawing people together for their mutual assistance reached effectively across the Atlantic as early as 1942 in the midst of World War II. A continuing and ever closer informal association was born between the British and American institutes, stimulated at the start by the American need to cope with many problems of physics in the national service, nearly all of which had already been encountered in England. Helpful assistance and suggestions proceeded in a westward direction through the war years on such matters as mobilization of the limited physics manpower with related problems of draft deferment and maintenance of national registers, establishment of accelerated physics courses in universities and publication of physics journals under wartime conditions of labor and paper shortages and censorship restrictions.

Once the war was over, the frequent exchange of correspondence broadened in scope to include also such matters as organization of scientific meetings, expansion and improvement of education in physics at all levels, assistance to physicists seeking appropriate positions of employment, a definition of "professional physicist" to set standards for government procedures and policies, practical relations between professional societies and the agencies of government (Lang was