

Last Month at CERN

In the course of a few weeks, CERN suffered the loss of two of its staff members. **Albert Fehlmann** died on March 12th after a long illness. Aged 50, Mr. Fehlmann had been a mechanic at the PS workshop since July 1956. **Jack MacCabe** who passed away on April 17th, joined CERN in September 1955. Here, CERN wishes to express once more its sympathy to their families, in their sad loss.

There has been no full operation of the **25 GeV proton synchrotron (PS)** between the end of the 32 cm hydrogen bubble chamber run, on March 24th, and Monday, April 11th.

A new programme of PS operation has been set up. Beginning after Easter the machine has been operating on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays, from 08.30 until midnight. Wednesdays, are reserved for maintenance and experimental set-up, while on Thursdays mainly parts tests are conducted. Each day of operation is divided into three shifts which, on the whole serve for:

- nuclear physics experiments, official or "parasitic";
- starting procedure, training of operators, machine studies and component tests.

Early in May, work began on the ground adjacent to the **PS laboratories**. A **third wing** is being erected there to house more laboratories as well as the PS workshop which will have to vacate its actual floor in the south experimental hall.

Near the water tanks, on the southernmost part of the site, a propane distillation unit is being erected. It will supply the propane bubble chamber group with the indispensable fluid for the operation of its 1 m-diameter apparatus.

The **Site and Buildings Division** has undertaken new borings at Peney, near the Rhône river, and at St-Genis (France) in the hope to double CERN's supply of refrigeration water, the needs of which now reach 7000 litre/minute.

While on the subject of civil engineering it may be worthwhile to mention here the petition circulated early in April among the staff. The hundreds of signatures gathered will help—it is hoped—to accelerate, not particles for once, but the work on the Meyrin road which, for more than 6 months has been a bumpy, car-shattering open trail.

Evaluation of 40 000 pictures recently taken with the 32 cm hydrogen bubble chamber was carried on. So far it led to interesting results on which more may be said later.

Facilities for vacation students have been announced by the Personnel Office. A limited number—about 30 in all—of vacancies for university and technical high-school students are available for the coming summer vacation period. Students selected will be required to contribute to the work of the group to which they will be assigned. Though they will receive no formal training they will be given every opportunity to learn about the work in their group and about CERN activities in general. The tenure of the appointments will be for periods of one to three months, during which students will be regarded as temporary staff members.

With deep regret, I must convey to the death of one of my close collaborators: staff of the Organization, the news of the **J. R. MacCabe**, CERN senior Public Information officer. I am certain all staff members, and particularly his many friends in CERN, will wish to join me in expressing the Organization's sympathy to his widow and family.

C. J. Bakker
Director-General

FAREWELL TO A FRIEND

Jack R. MacCabe



Jack R. MacCabe died in the morning of April 17. On this Easter day, when all the trees were in full bloom, none of us knew that we had lost a friend, up in the Rhône valley.

To many of us at CERN and to all at the Public Information Office, Jack

MacCabe was more than just the Senior Information Officer. His humane approach to the problems of all kinds he had to deal with in his position, made him more a friend than a colleague.

Jack was born on May 4th, 1914 at Edmonton, Canada, where, in 1930, he entered the University of Alberta. Two years later he went to McGill University, Montreal, where, by 1937, he had taken his degrees of Bachelor of Science and Master of Science (natural sciences), while working as a demonstrator and lecturer in physiology at the University's Faculty of Medicine.

Jack MacCabe came to Europe soon after finishing at McGill and continued medical and biological studies and research at Munich University, up to the outbreak of World War II, in 1939. When he arrived in Switzerland, Jack found a position as a lecturer at the Ecole Internationale and at the Ecole d'Interprètes of the University of Geneva, where he remained until 1944. In the meantime, in 1942, he had been taken on the staff of the well-known aviation magazine "Interavia" where, in 1951, he became executive editor of the daily "Air letter".

Joining CERN in September 1955, Jack MacCabe worked for the Synchro-cyclotron Division until March 1956, when he transferred to the Scientific and Technical Services Division as Public Information Officer. When the Public Information Service was expanded and placed under the immediate supervision of the Director-General, on January 1st 1957, J. MacCabe became Senior Information Officer.

Jack devoted his considerable energy and intelligence to meeting the general desire of the public for further information about the Organization and to bringing CERN's achievements to the notice of all those in the press and in the public, who might not be aware of them.

Already stricken by a serious illness in the Spring of 1959, Jack had made a wonderful recovery. However, his health had recently shown signs of failing again and he had decided to take a short rest. We were all looking forward to seeing him come back in good health after his holiday. Unfortunately, heart failure robbed us of a friend and CERN of one of its most devoted staff members.

Jack is survived by his wife Hertha, also one of our CERN colleagues, to whom in this sad moment we extend our most heartfelt sympathy.

R. A.

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The cover photograph shows, in the foreground, the large 25 GeV proton synchrotron; the inset picture shows S. Minor inspecting the model of the 1 m propane bubble chamber which C.A. Ramm's group is now constructing.