

A programme of lectures has been arranged as usual for the Summer students. In the photograph V.F. Weisskopf (former Director General of CERN who is also a summer visitor) continues discussion after one of his, by now traditional, introductory lectures on high energy physics.

power supply before the water actually rose (it rapidly reached a height of 1.4 m). The refrigeration plant had to be shut down and water was also threatening the pumps providing the vacuum which isolates the chamber thermally. It was therefore decided to evacuate the liquid hydrogen from the chamber. The muddy water was by then no longer coming from the surface but was welling up from the drains — as was the case in most of the flooded areas of the site.

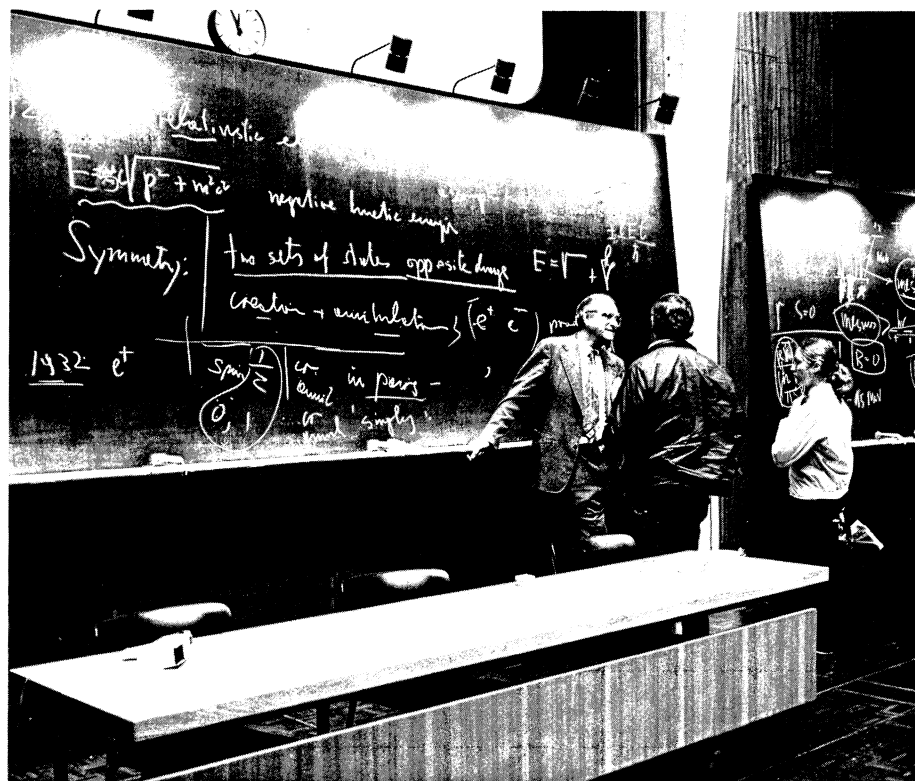
The entire staff of the 2 m chamber was on duty for 48 hours, carrying out safety precautions manually, clearing some two cubic metres of mud and cleaning up the vital circuits in the tunnels. The necessary repairs have meant a considerable interruption in the bubble chamber's experimental programme. Gargamelle, the heavy liquid chamber, and the large European bubble chamber (BEBC) were fortunately only slightly affected.

The most serious damage in the building of the Health Physics Group was the complete destruction of the low level counting laboratory. The laboratory is in the basement to reduce the influence of environmental radiation and its specialized equipment is a total write-off.

Every building suffered in some way or other. The new computer centre was inundated by mud covering a large area containing the converter units and power supplies of the CDC 7600 computer and its satellite machines. There was also damage to the linac, the booster and the PS itself. The total bill is still being worked out by insurance experts who have no easy task in front of them.

Vacation courses

As in previous years, during the season when many CERN employees are off on holiday, vacation students have



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arrived to follow a two to four months' course.

Circulars on the programme for these courses, which have been held for eleven years now, are sent out at the end of every year by the Fellows and Associates Service to the Universities in all the Member States. Students reading physics, electrical and electronic engineering, mathematics and information science at these Universities and Technical Colleges are invited to submit their applications before the following March.

A difficult choice then has to be made from among the applicants, taking into account their interests and the available places. CERN defrays travelling and board and lodging expenses.

There were some 350 applicants this year, of whom 148 were invited to follow the courses. They are distributed over the various scientific and technical Divisions — joining groups

working on experimental and applied physics, data handling, accelerators, technical services or Health Physics. Taking part as they do in the daily work of the groups, the students should be able to obtain a useful supplement to their education from the people they meet and work with. As well as their work in the groups, the students are offered a series of fifty-three lectures on elementary particle physics, accelerators, detectors and computer science through which they can become familiar with the various facets of particle physics research.

Booster struggles with instabilities

Commissioning of the 800 MeV Booster is at an intensive 'machine physics' stage where the behaviour of