# **Science Progress**

a review journal of current scientific advance

#### **EDITORS**

**Professor J.M. Ziman FRS** 

Science Policy Support Group, London

**Professor Patricia Clark FRS** 

Department of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering, University College London

Science Progress was first published in 1894, and its primary object has always remained the same - to publish articles written by experts to explain the latest developments in their own speciality to their colleagues working in other fields. Some of the most spectacular advances in science arise from the fusion of two or more disciplines, such as that of physics and chemistry with genetics to produce molecular biology. In this situation the journal's current practice of presenting non-specialist reviews is particularly valuable. It seeks as far as possible to emphasize current progress on the borderlines of the scientific disciplines in the hope that it may further the unification of science and stimulate scientists to think about problems outside their own immediate fields of interest.

#### **Subscription Information**

Science Progress is published quarterly. Subscription rates for 1989 are £47.50 (UK), \$98.00 (USA & Canada), £57.00 (elsewhere) post free.

### (

Order Form
Please tick the appropriate box and return to Blackwell Scientific Publications Ltd, P.O. Box 88, Oxford, England.
I would like to subscribe to Science Progress
L wish to pay by cheque/money order (delete as necessary) and enclose the sum of
I wish to pay by Access/Barclaycard/VISA/Mastercard (delete as necessary)
Please debit my credit card no.
Expiry date with the sum of
Signature Date
Please send me a specimen copy of Science Progress
Name
Address
Blackwell Scientific Publications
P.O. Box 88, Oxford, England

#### THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE

**Membership** of the Society, which normally includes a subscription to *The British Journal for the History of Science*, is open to all persons approved by the Council of the Society and elected at an ordinary meeting. The annual subscription for the membership year 1989 is £17.00 (\$37.00) or £8.50 (\$18.50) for associate membership, which includes students at centres of higher education. There is an Introductory Offer for ordinary members who pay £12.00 (\$26.00) for the first year. Applications for membership should be made on a form which is available from the Society's Executive Secretary at the address below.

**Meetings:** The Society mounts an ambitious programme of meetings. The pattern is flexible, the only fixture being the three day summer meeting, held at a different British University or Polytechnic each year. About four other meetings, lasting for between one and three days, are held during the year, sometimes devoted to a clearly-defined theme or an important anniversary, and often arranged in conjunction with other scholarly societies.

The British Journal for the History of Science is the official organ of the Society. All correspondence on the contents of the Journal should be addressed to the Editor, Dr J.H. Brooke, Department of History, University of Lancaster, Lancaster LA1 4YG, England.

**Books for review** should be sent to the Reviews Editor, Dr John Hendry, 58 Canfield Gardens, London NW6 3EB.

Advertising: Contact the Advertising Department, Blackwell Scientific Publications, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0EL. Fax no. (0865) 721205.

**Other publications:** BSHS Monograph Series is designed to allow the publication of monographic studies in the history of science quickly and cheaply. All correspondence on the subject of monographs, and any new suggestions for titles, should be sent to the Series Editor, Dr J. G. Smith, Department of History, University of Leicester, Leicester, Leics LE1 7RH, England. Monographs are available to members at a special price, post-free from the Society's Executive Secretary. Non-members may obtain them through bookshops, or post-free from the Executive Secretary. Titles are as follows:

2. The Letters of Georges Cuvier: A Summary Calendar. Ed. by Dorinda Outram. 1980. £4.50/\$10.00 (£3.50/ \$8.00 to members).

3. Rationality and Ritual: The Windscale Inquiry and Nuclear Decisions in Britain. By Brian Wynne. 1982. £7.00/ \$15.00 (£5.00/\$11.00 to members).

4. The Royal Society and Its Fellows 1660–1700: The Morphology of an Early Scientific Institution. By Michael Hunter. 1982, reprinted 1985. £9.00/\$19.00 (£6.50/\$14.00 to members).

5. Francis Bacon's Natural Philosophy: A New Source. A Transcription of Manuscript Hardwick 72A with Translation and Commentary. By Graham Rees, assisted by Christopher Upton. 1984. £7.90/\$17.00 (£5.60/\$12.00 to members).

6. Archives of the British Chemical Industry, 1750–1914: A Handlist. By Peter J. T. Morris and Colin A. Russell. Contributing editor John Graham Smith. 1988. £14.50/\$31.00 (£9.00/\$19.00 to members).

*Lists of theses:* Each year, the Society publishes a full list of current theses in history of science in British universities. This is available free to members, and at  $\pounds 2.00$  (\$4.50) to non-members on request to the Executive Secretary. Standing orders are accepted from members or non-members who wish to receive the list regularly.

The Society's *Newsletter*, an informal publication edited by Dr Mari Williams, Business History Unit, Lionel Robbins Building, 10 Portugal Street, London WC2A 2HD, appears in January, May and September each year. It is free to members, £4.50 (\$9.50) for institutions and non-members.

All the administrative business of the Society is handled by The Executive Secretary, Wing Commander G. Bennett, 31 High Street, Stanford in the Vale, Faringdon, Oxfordshire SN7 8LH.

The British Journal for the History of Science

Volume 22 Part 1 No. 72

# March 1989

- 1 Editorial
- 3 **C.E. Perrin:** Document, Text and Myth: Lavoisier's Crucial Year Revisited
- 27 Crosbie Smith: William Hopkins and the shaping of Dynamical Geology: 1830–1860
- 53 **Lawrence M. Principe** and **Andrew Weeks:** Jacob Boehme's Divine Substance *Salitter*: its Nature, Origin and Relationship to Seventeenth Century Scientific Theories
- 63 Mansel Davies: William Hampson (1854–1926): A Note

Essay Review

- 75 Robert Bud: The Seamless Webb
- 79 Book Reviews
- 125 Books Received



Published for

by

## The British Society for the History of Science Blackwell Scientific Publications

 $Oxford \cdot London \cdot Edinburgh \cdot Boston \cdot Melbourne$ 

© The British Society for the History of Science 1989 Printed in Great Britain at the Alden Press, Oxford