QUANTUM THEORY
AND BEYOND
CONTENTS

List of participants vii

Preface ix

I INTRODUCTION 1
The function of the colloquium – editorial 1
O. R. Frisch – The conceptual problem of quantum theory from the experimentalist’s point of view 13

II NIELS BOHR AND COMPLEMENTARITY: THE PLACE OF THE CLASSICAL LANGUAGE 23
C. F. von Weizsäcker – The Copenhagen interpretation 25
D. Bohm – On Bohr’s views concerning the quantum theory 33

III THE MEASUREMENT PROBLEM 41
H. J. Groenewold – Quantal observation in statistical interpretation 43
G. M. Prosperi – Macroscopic physics, quantum mechanics and quantum theory of measurement 55
Jeffrey Bub – Comment on the Daneri–Loinger–Prosperi quantum theory of measurement 65
J. H. M. Whiteman – The phenomenology of observation and explanation in quantum theory 71
M. A. Garsten – Measurement theory and complex systems 85

IV NEW DIRECTIONS WITHIN QUANTUM THEORY: WHAT DOES THE QUANTUM THEORETICAL FORMALISM REALLY TELL US? 91
D. Bohm – On the role of hidden variables in the fundamental structure of physics 95
C. W. Kilmister – Beyond what? 117
Discussion: Space-time order within existing quantum theory 129
Yakir Aharonov and Aage Petersen – Definability and measurability in quantum theory 135
Geoffrey F. Chew – The bootstrap idea and the foundations of quantum theory 141
CONTENTS

V A FRESH START?

Roger Penrose – Angular momentum: an approach to combinatorial space-time 147

B. J. Hiley – A note on discreteness, phase space and cohomology theory 151

R. H. Atkin – Cohomology of observations 181

Ted Bastin – The origin of half-integral spin in a discrete physical space 191

VI PHILOSOPHICAL PAPERS

C. F. von Weizsäcker – The unity of physics 213

Mario Bunge – A philosophical obstacle to the rise of new theories in microphysics 227

H. R. Post – The incompleteness of quantum mechanics or the emperor’s missing clothes 229

Ted Bastin – How does a particle get from A to B? 263

Jerome Rothstein – Informational generalization of entropy in physics 275

H. H. Pattee – Can life explain quantum mechanics? 283

Discussion – D. S. Linney and C. F. von Weizsäcker – Phenomena and sense data in quantum theory 291

INDEX OF PERSONS

INDEX OF SUBJECTS
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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PREFACE

The essays that form this book are based on papers read at an informal colloquium held at Cambridge in July 1968. The book takes the title of the colloquium which set before the participants the possibility that a paradigm change in quantum theory may be imminent. The colloquium was intended to provide opportunity, first to discuss the seriousness of the difficulties in quantum theory from points of view which do not presuppose the inevitability of the current approaches, and second, to discuss some possible alternative theories to see what a real change might involve.

Indications of the trends taken by the discussions have been given in short introductions to the different sections of the book. This division into sections approximately follows the order of proceedings of the colloquium.

Invitations to the colloquium were limited to twenty-five people, so that the participants could in fact discuss informally. This meant naturally that the selection had to be arbitrary, but an effort was made to see that all schools of thought which have seriously been put forward were presented.

The organizers of the colloquium were E. W. Bastin and D. Bohm. The general chairman was O. R. Frisch.

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