THE MRS AND EUROPE

In Elton Kaufmann's Address To The MRS-Europe Meeting, He Describes A Transatlantic Relationship Of Mutual Benefit

[The second annual meeting of the European Branch of the Materials Research Society, held June 5-8 in Strasbourg, France, began with a ceremonial session in the main auditorium of the Council of Europe. Speaking were J.P. Massue, Scientific Advisor to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe; H.J. Queisser, Chairman of the Scientific Council of the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft (Germany); J. Hanus, Director of the Interdisciplinary Program of Research on Materials of CNRS (France); P.F. Gobin, Director of the Materials Division of the French Ministry of Industry and Research, and, representing the United States, the First Vice President of the Materials Research Society, E.N. Kaufmann, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Kaufmann's remarks to the group are reprinted here.]

Attending this second in the series of MRS-Europe meetings is a privilege I value both as a researcher in the area of one of the symposia to be held this week and as a

representative of the Materials Research Society. The organizers of this meeting have devoted a great deal of time, energy, and expertise to its planning, and have produced a superb program in the most pleasant surroundings of Strasbourg and the beautifully appointed facilities of the Council of Europe. This week three symposia with topics in the diverse areas of insulators. semiconductors, and metals will be held, each at the



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forefront of research in their respective materials. They reflect the broad technical interests of the international materials science community for whom such multitopic and multidisciplinary forums are of great value.

MRS Experiencing Rapid Growth

The Materials Research Society in the U.S. today is experiencing a period of rapid growth. We believe this reflects our success in filling the unique needs of materials researchers in a way that matches how such research is actually carried on: that is, in the interdisciplinary mode. Evidence of this growth can be seen in our new and expanded headquarters operation, in the advent of a second annual meeting, held in the spring, in the addition of a full program of short courses and a new equipment show to our fall meeting, and, of greatest importance, in the more than 50% increase in our membership over the past year.

European Contributions

Historically, participants from outside the United States-the majority of whom come from Europe-have

This affiliation permits the Effective coordination of topics To the benefit of all of our members

made crucial contributions to the quality of the technical programs at our meetings. It is gratifying for us to see the emergence of the companion organization, MRS-Europe, which is now well on its way to serving the needs of the European scientific community. We are of course ready to provide whatever assistance we can as your organization develops. We recognize, however, that the relationship among research laboratories of government, industry, and universities, and between these laboratories and the technical societies, is qualitatively different within Europe than in the United States. It is, therefore, entirely appropriate for MRS-Europe to tailor its services specifically to the needs of European scientists, and to promote the kind science-technology of interface suggested by the distinguished preceding speakers. We expect that from affiliation with an international Materials Research Society, MRS-Europe can draw upon existing resources to help in its already excellent efforts, and that the United States and Europe can effectively coordinate topical coverage to the benefit of all our members.

Let me close by transmitting to you the very best wishes for success from the Officers and Councillors of the Materials Research Society for this conference, and for future programs of MRS-Europe.