

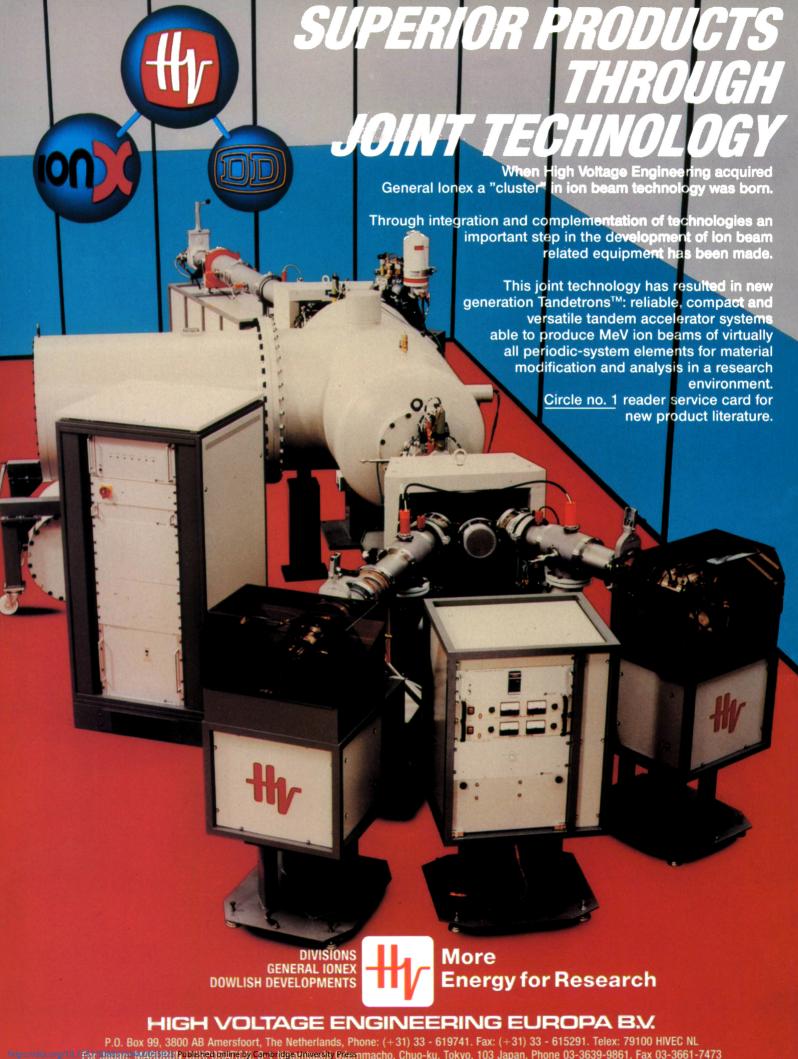
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September 1991

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ON THE COVER: Artist Leo Vroman describes his work as follows: "I imagined a simple atomic nucleus large enough to hold in my hand so that I could see the subnuclear particles. Then, the entire atom would be at least as large as the town hall of Gouda (the Netherlands, where I was born). A relatively small organic molecule such as cyclic AMP would then be almost as large as Holland. Placing that molecule in one cell of the pituitary gland, I would have to draw that cell as large as-and for convenience viewed as far away as-the moon. To place that cell inside the entire pituitary, that gland would have to be as large and as far away as the sun; and to contain such a gland, the human's dimensions must reach beyond the solar system." Leo Vroman is a senior engineer scientist in the Department of Chemical Engineering at Columbia University.



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About the Materials **Research Society**

The Materials Research Society (MRS), a nonprofit scientific association founded in 1973, promotes interdisciplinary goal-ori-ented basic research on materials of technological importance. Membership in the Society includes more than 10,000 scientists, engineers, and research managers from industrial, government, and university research laboratories in the United States and more than 40 countries.

The Society's interdisciplinary approach differs from that of single-discipline professional societies because it promotes information exchange across the many technical fields touching materials development. MRS sponsors two major international annual meetings encompassing approximately 50 topical symposia, and also sponsors numerous single-topic scientific meetings. The Society recognizes professional and technical excellence, conducts short courses, and fostantial international international statements. ters technical interaction in local geographic regions through Sections and University Chapters.

MRS participates in the international arena of materials research through the International Union of Materials Research Societies (IUMRS). MRS is an affiliate of the American Institute of Physics.

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