

## CONCLUDING REMARKS

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Ladies and Gentlemen,

We have come to the end of an exceptionally successful meeting. During three very laborious days all the most important topics of X- and  $\gamma$ -ray non-solar astronomy have been revised and many new results have been presented.

After Rossi's beautiful introduction, Gursky has given an admirable summary of the observational techniques and Friedman presented a rapid survey of the studies of individual sources. Individual sources have been also considered in four excellent discourses by Clark, Peterson, McCracken and Giacconi, and optical results have been summarized by Johnson and myself. I do not name the great number of contributors of short communications, simply because time is short, but all of them brought excellent contributions to the success of this meeting.

Yesterday afternoon, we reached perhaps the highest point of scientific interest of the Symposium, through the discussion of the extraordinary results on pulsars by the NRL, MIT, Columbia and Rice Group, and an interesting presentation of their theoretical interpretations by the Frascati Group.

Woltjer and Felten contributed two excellent critical summaries of the theoretical problems of the sources.

Unfortunately time began to run too fast and many valuable contributions had to be compressed in a few hours. Being the last ones, the contributions which suffered most by this shortness of time were those corresponding to the background radiation. Nevertheless, I am sure you all have appreciated Oda and Kraushaar's summaries on this subject and we must be grateful to Dr. Setti, who in accepting at a two-days notice to replace the Russian colleagues, rendered an excellent service to the meeting. I think that all of you will agree that the fascinating subject of the cosmological implications of the X- and  $\gamma$ -ray background observations would have deserved a Symposium by itself.

Apart from the shortness of time in relation to the large number of contributions perhaps the most serious fault in this meeting was the absence of optical astronomers. I hope, being an optical astronomer myself, that this does not mean a lack of interest on the part of my colleagues for the subject of our meeting.

Before concluding, let me ask you to be excused for the many faults of our organization for which I alone am responsible. Indeed we did not expect such a large number of attendants and this is my main excuse for them. I must thank very heartily all of you for coming to Rome, some from very far; for your contributions which constitute the great success of the meeting, and for the patience and interest shown throughout.

Finally I thank in your name the International Astronomical Union for sponsoring

this Symposium, The Italian National Research Council for being our host during these days and for its financial contribution to the meeting.

Good-bye, au revoir, auf Wiedersehen, hasta la`vista, arrivederci!