I. THE OBSERVATIONAL DATA ON THE HERTZSPRUNG-RUSSELL DIAGRAM

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Opening the first session of the symposium, the chairman said :

In opening the symposium on the Hertzsprung-Russell diagram I would like to say how happy we are to have here in our midst one of the originators of this diagram, Professor Hertzsprung, who already in the beginning of this century pointed out the existence of groups of stars with similar surface temperatures but widely differing intrinsic luminosities. I hope that with the discussions at this symposium we can show him once more the extreme fertility of the field of research that was so vitally instigated by his early research.