CONTENTS

PREFACE

RESEARCH ARTICLES

A Tribute to Georges Lonchampt
Jean-Paul Biberian

An Historical Experiment of Neutron Detection Near an Electrolytic Cell
Michel Buxerolle and Jacques Kurkdjian

Jacques Ruer

Proton Conductors: Nanometric Cavities, H_2 Precipitates under Pressure, and Rydberg Matter Formation
François de Guerville

Relativity and Electron Deep Orbits of the Hydrogen Atom
J.L. Paillet and A. Meulenberg

The Dark side of Gravity and LENR
Frederic Henry-Couannier

Investigations of the Lugano HotCat Reactor
Mathieu Valat, Alan Goldwater, Robert Greenyer, Robert Higgins and Ryan Hunt
Preface

It was with a profound sense of duty that our French Society for Condensed Matter Nuclear Science held its first “Symposium sur les Réactions Nucléaires à Basse Énergie” during the weekend of March 18–20, 2016, in Avignon, France. After 27 years of sustained research in the field of CMNS, this was the first time a conference was held for the French speaking community.

Numerous subjects were presented and discussed within a group of 50 attendees. It was a great opportunity for unreleased work done in France to finally follow the path of publication. This volume is composed of seven papers written in English in order to reach a wider audience.

Most notably, one of these research programs was done in 1989 by researchers affiliated to the French Nuclear Agency (CEA), before research was officially forbidden, never pursued again, officially at least. It bears important findings which we hope will trigger insights from the community.

Some major theoretical works on relevant and related subjects are also presented in this volume, alongside fundamental engineering analysis, aiming at a better understanding of claimed figures within our field of research.

Some new young and talented scientists have also presented their findings on this occasion regarding proton conductors and fundamental interpretation of hydride behavior.

I would like to acknowledge Jean-Paul Biberian and his wife Rachel who helped me in organizing and facilitating the venue of this conference. Anaïs Kedikian provided tremendous efforts since then. She has recorded, cut, uploaded and organized the entire conference in a playlist on our YouTube channel for everyone to watch. Additional work is being processed to provide new material for the French community to spread curiosity and public interest in CMNS. Nicolas Armanet and Michel Bonnard provided inspiration and valuable advices at the very beginning of this journey to make this conference successful. Finally, I want to thank my friend, Joris van der Schot, who helped me running this humble organization behind-the-scenes.

Taking advantage of this first editorial, my journey in the CMNS so far has been fruitful because it has introduced me to some of the most brilliant human beings I have ever met. People who bear the loss of their scientific reputations, and strong opposition, are going forward to meet the challenges we face for the sake of humankind’s future. Together we will prevail! Last but not least, I want to express my profound thanks and admiration to Jed Rothwell who is dedicating so much effort in reviews, translations, verifications and publications of the community’s work on the Internet and within the JCMNS.

Happy reading :)

Sincerely,

Mathieu Valat

(President of the French Society on Condensed Matter Nuclear Science)

November 2016

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