

It is a privilege to write an introduction to this special issue of the *Bulletin* in which Professor Fiat has collected together the Felix Bloch Commemorative Lectures.

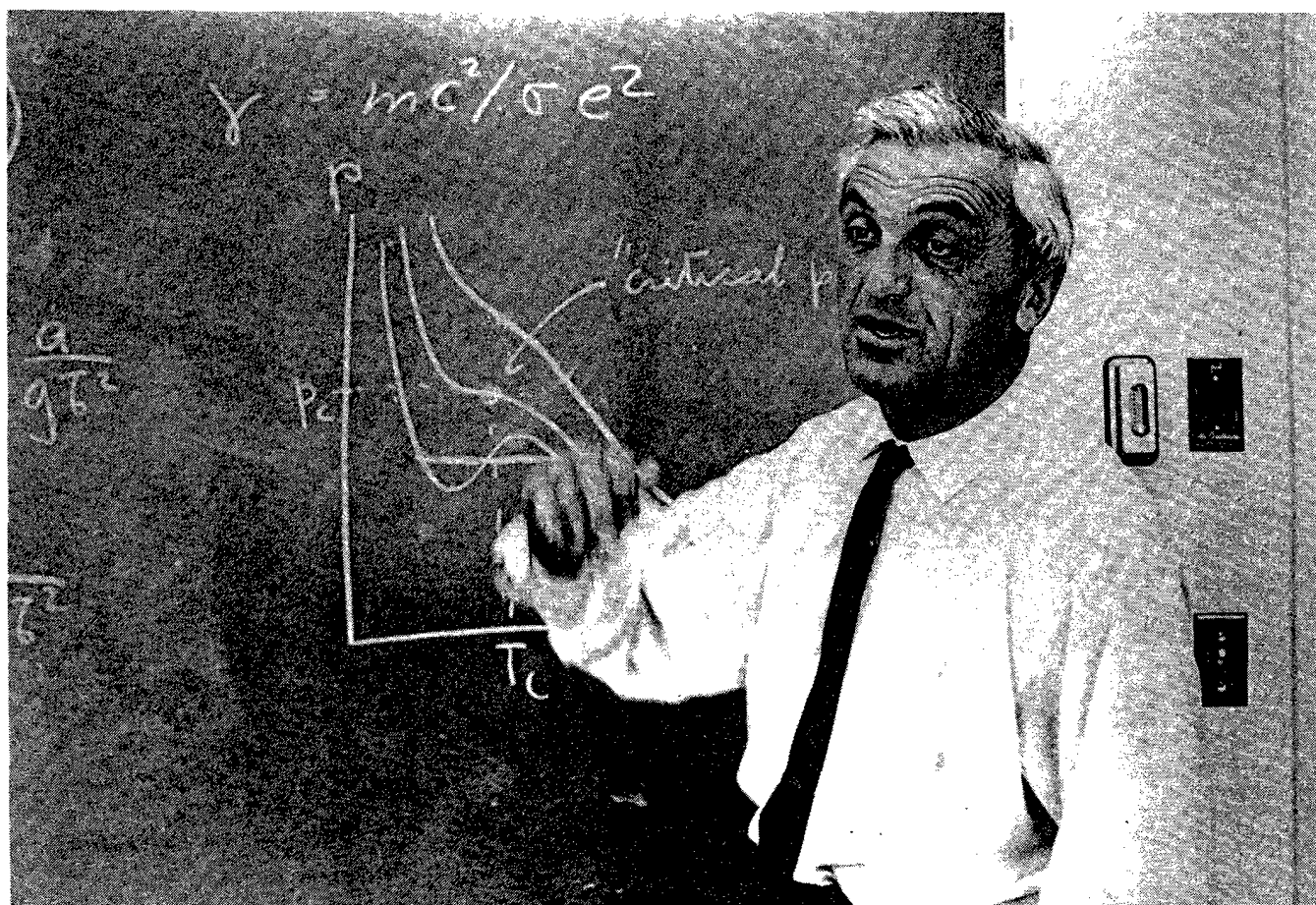
Professor Bloch was one of the great physicists of our time who made many fundamental contributions to Physics. He and Professor Purcell and their colleagues first discovered and demonstrated nuclear magnetic resonance. Now, forty years later, we see what a tremendous impact his discovery has had on Physics, Chemistry, Biology, and Medicine. He made many further contributions to NMR over the years and retained a close interest to the end of his life.

I first met Professor Bloch when I was a graduate student in Cambridge, England and he gave a lecture on NMR (or Nuclear Induction as he then called it) to the Royal Society in London

in 1948. The following year, while doing a post-doctoral year with Professor Purcell at Harvard, I had the good fortune to visit Professor Bloch's laboratory in Stanford, and I kept in touch with him ever since. He participated in the formation of ISMAR in Israel in 1971 and played a most valuable advisory role in the Society's affairs since then. Shortly before his death in 1983 he convened a meeting to assist in the further development of the Society, leading to the new ISMAR Constitution agreed later that year.

Scientists everywhere and ISMAR members in particular have reason to remember gratefully Professor Bloch as a scientist and friend and this issue is our contribution to his memory.

E. Raymond Andrew
President, ISMAR



PROFESSOR FELIX BLOCH