

WELCOME ADDRESS

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Ladies and Gentlemen,

On the occasion of the opening ceremony of the 15th International Conference on the Physics of Semiconductors I would like to say a few words on behalf of Science Council of Japan, one of the sponsors of this Conference.

First of all I wish to extend my hearty welcome to the executive members of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics headed by Prof. Sosnowski, president; Prof. Madelung, vice president; Prof. Hilsum, chairman of Semiconductor Commission, and also to the other scientists visiting from every region in the world. I have to add furthermore that I shall never be the second in expressing my gratitude for the cooperation readily given by the parties concerned with organizing this Conference.

Now we are to start presentation of the latest study results over the whole range of semiconductors physics and to bring them to an earnest discussion. The technology of semiconductors has continuously made remarkable progresses, especially in creating a great variety of new devices and sensors. Accordingly, it has substantially been enriched and expanded to cover a wider range of solid-state physics and to reach marginal sectors of materials science and quantum chemistry. The study of semiconductors will bring in important means for making ankind lead healthy and cultural life. Those who are concerned with semiconductors are certainly looking forward to brilliant success of semiconductor physics, as will be revealed in this Conference.

This is the second time in Japan since the 8th International Conference on the Physics of Semiconductors was held in Kyoto in 1966. In the past 14 years Japanese have much contributed to this particular field with increasingly important devotion. They are going to present a great many papers at this Conference, which I believe is a part of the successful meeting.

Except for some contributions to the fundamentals of statistical mechanics I personally have regretfully no connection with semiconductors physics. But I always take pride in having had a very bright student for the first time while I was Professor of Physics in Osaka University. His name is Prof. Hajime Kawamura acting as chairman of the Organizing Committee. In comparison with the prewar days the level of semiconductors physics has now risen so much as it seems to have completely changed. However, I assure you that you will come to the earlier achievements of Prof. Kawamura's when you try to find the roots of semiconductors physics in Japan.

This 15th Conference receives a good many researchers of younger generations who did not participate in the 8th Conference previously

held in Kyoto. Accompanied by such younger participants, expert scientists from every land who have accumulated study results in every sector of semiconductors physics are coming together again to Kyoto, ancient capital of Japan. I might be allowed to emphasize the importance of their meeting of different generations.

As one of the organizers of this International Conference the Science Council of Japan asks for your understanding of its nature and good will. The Council since its inception has made every efforts for fulfilling the mission, that is to promote scientific researches. For that purpose I have in mind the unparalleled importance of exchanging scientific information among nations. May I ask you to make the most of this opportunity for further development of sciences on the basis of international cooperation?

My another wish is to ascertain your realization of the research level of sciences in Japan as it is, and also your comprehension of the Japanese way of life and culture through friendly relations with Japanese people.

Finally I would like you to see a fruitful success of this Conference and sincerely hope the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics and also the Semiconductors Committee will continue the steady development.

Thank you