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PREFACE

The Conference "Mathematical Results in Quantum Mechanics" took place from June 23rd to June 28th, 1996 at the "Centro S. Franscini", Monte Verità, Ascona (Switzerland). It was a follow-up to similar meetings held in Dubna, Liblice and Blossin-Berlin since 1987.

Most of the 78 participants, representing 20 different countries, were established research workers active in one or several of the fields discussed at the Conference. One third of them came from Eastern European countries, including Russia and Ukraine.

The following review talks, covering the main themes of the Conference, were delivered :

- *N-Body Schrödinger Hamiltonians. A Review*, by W. Hunziker
- *Random Matrices and Quantum Physics*, by L. Pastur
- *Semi-Classical Approximations in Quantum Mechanics. A Survey of Old and Recent Mathematical Results*, by D. Robert
- *Arithmetic Aspects of Atomic Structures*, by L.A. Seco
- *A Mathematical Analysis of the Structure of Atoms and Molecules*, by J.P. Solovej
- *Matter in Strong Magnetic Fields*, by J. Yngvason.

In addition all participants were given the opportunity to present an oral or poster communication.

This issue of Helvetica Physica Acta contains the contributions of W. Hunziker, D. Robert and L.A. Seco. We thank them for taking the time to write down their lectures in a nice and pedagogical form.

The editors : W.O. Amrein, G.M. Graf and Ph. Martin