

37. The jokes of science

Mathematics is the science in which you do not know what are you talking about and not even if it is true what you are saying.

(Bertrand Russel)

The great chemist Victor Mayer was admitting: "I wanted to study mathematics, but the three years I spent in the Prussian army broke me from the habit to think logically and then I had to content myself with the study of chemistry."

The physicist John Bernal was saying:

"The scientists discover first something and only then they think about, generally without success, the procedures they have used in order to make those discoveries."

No matter the occupation of the scientists is, they always get a weapon.

(Kurt Vonnegut, Writer)

The physicist Wolfgang Pauli was extremely sarcastic in the relationships with his colleagues. One day he told a colleague:

"I have nothing against the fact that you do not get it so quickly, but I cannot imagine how you can publish articles faster than you think them!"

After a short attempt to make the future chemist Emil Fisher a good merchant, his father came to the conclusion: "The boy is too stupid to make a merchant, I have to let him be an educated person!"