But if I had come to believe that instinct and enthusiasm were enough, it would have been an inadequate education, so I have always been grateful that Bernie was part of the group. First, although he was quite experienced, he had just come to Berkeley. So, as the new members of the group, we developed a close relation - possibly as a slight defense against the two old pros - Stan and Al. Bernie combined careful, logical thinking and deep understanding. The same precision, care, and understanding were evident in his laboratory work.

So each of my co-workers affected me greatly and I thank them for that. I also thank them for three exciting years during which mendelevium was born.

Comments Following G. Choppin's Talk

Dr. Seaborg

Thanks, Greg. I'm glad you brought up this capacity of Stan Thompson for intuitive thinking in chemistry. He had the best--and I hesitate to say this in German because Mike Nitschke is here--"chemisches gefuhl" of anybody that I know. That was true throughout his career, especially at Chicago, at the Metallurgical Laboratory, when we developed the chemical process for the isolation of plutonium. This was of extraordinary importance for the free world at that time. He was the moving spirit behind that process, the originator of the process which wasn't supposed to work. Our main problem at Chicago was that we were working on something that was considered to be impossible. It just didn't follow the principles of chemistry, but Stan kept saying that