I proposed that we use what later became known as Franckensteins (for their designer, Jack Franck), which would quickly measure the track coordinates on the film itself, in a semi-automatic track following mode. These coordinates would then be subjected to computer analysis, which would give us the coordinates in real space. That was a very successful program, involving several generations of more and more automatic devices, culminating in the Spiral Readers, of which we had two, each capable of measuring very nearly one million events per year. Our group's scanning and measuring department eventually employed about 100 people, most of whom were undergraduate students, working part time. From the earliest days, we always measured more events per year than any other group, and we (almost) always had the largest hydrogen bubble chamber from our first one, in 1953, until the Brookhaven 80-inch came on in 1964. (The one exception was a period of a few months, when Jack Steinberger's 12-inch chamber came on shortly before our 15-inch was operational.)

I'll now take off my detector designer's hat, and exchange it for my "user's" hat. The first experiment we did with the 15-inch chamber was designed as a test of the Gell-Mann-Nishijima strangeness rules, that predicted the existence of a neutral cascade particle, the Ξ^{o}. We set out to measure the mass of a new neutral particle, the Ξ^{o}, which should decay into two other neutral particles, the K^{o} and the Λ. (Victor Weisskopf had recently given a humorous Rochester Conference banquet talk, the high point of which had him showing a perfectly blank cloud chamber picture, and claiming that it showed the existence of a new neutral particle decaying into two other neutral particles. So that was the unlikely task we set for ourselves.) We found one excellent event that let us measure the mass of the Ξ^{o}, thereby proving it existed.

But the most important result of that first 15-inch bubble chamber exposure to a medium energy well-separated K^{-} beam was the discovery of the first three "strange resonances," that set off the "population explosion" of what were for a time called fundamental particles, but which couldn't hold that title for long, in view of their rapidly increasing number. We have all been brought up with Eddington's concept of an "experimental fish-net." A fisherman who throws out a net will catch no fish with dimensions less than that of his mesh. But our discovery of