

PREFACE

The Rossby-100 Symposium

An International Symposium was arranged 8–12 June 1998 in Stockholm, Sweden, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth of Professor Carl-Gustaf Rossby. Although 42 years have passed since the sudden death of Professor Rossby, it is remarkable how much actuality his visionary scientific work and views still have. Rossby made important, breakthrough contributions, especially in the areas of geophysical fluid dynamics and numerical modelling of weather, but the attention, first directed by him, to atmospheric chemistry questions, such as the sulfur and carbon cycles, also deserve genuine recognition. His enthusiasm and creativeness had a strong impact on the development of those disciplines and on contemporary scientific society, and many of today's research centres around the world originated at that time.

A series of invited review papers, presented at the symposium, were published in a joint special issue of *Tellus A* and *B*, no. 1, 1999. In the present issue of *Tellus A*, 29 papers, communicated at the Symposium, are published. The regular reviewing procedures of *Tellus* have been applied. The present issue contains papers from two of the three main themes of the symposium, namely *Geophysical fluid dynamics* and *Numerical modelling of weather and climate*. As the reader will find, some of the papers cover topics regarding analytical studies of atmospheric dynamics, where simplifications are adopted to facilitate focussing on the formulation of a specific problem. The majority of the papers reflect developments in numerical modelling, for which the available computer capacity of today is orders of magnitudes larger than at the time when Rossby was engaged in the pioneering model calculations. The papers on the numerical modelling present treatments of simplified, isolated questions, as well as results from experiments with highly complex and advanced general circulation/climate models.

Details of the hosting and organisation of the Rossby-100 Symposium are found in the Preface of *Tellus* 51, *A-B*, no. 1, 1999.

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