



#### PROFESSOR LAURI A. VUORELA 75 YEARS OLD

The Editor of *GEOPHYSICA*, Professor Emeritus Lauri A. Vuorela had his 75th birthday on 27 February 1988.

The career of Prof. Vuorela consists roughly of three parts, which to some extent overlap each other and all of which are remarkable accomplishments by themselves. First is his work as the Professor of Meteorology and Dean of the Science Faculty in the University of Helsinki. The second is his time as the Director General of the Finnish Meteorological Institute. The third part is the work he has done in many Finnish and international scientific bodies. The main features of this mansided career have been reviewed in this journal earlier (Vol. 12, No. 2, pp. 99–101; Vol. 20, No. 1, pp. 1–2) and will therefore not be repeated here.

Vuorela's time as the Director General of the Finnish Meteorological Institute (1971–79) meant modernization of the institute's activities in many ways. For example, new computer systems and automation were introduced at many levels, and a radar network was further developed. It also meant a great increase in the institute's involvement in international cooperation. The best example of this is the significant role Vuorela played in the creation of the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) in 1975. During the last ten years ECMWF has played a key role in the world both in operational meteorology and in the research on dynamic and numerical meteorology. Vuorela was the President of the ECMWF Council in 1976–79.

Not only meteorology but the Finnish scientific community as a whole has profited from Prof. Vuorela's energy and talents. He was the Secretary General of the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters in 1970–84, and was in 1980 elected to his present position as the Secretary General of the Delegation of the Finnish Academies of Science and Letters. He was Executive Secretary of GEO-PHYSICA in 1953–60 and The Editor of this journal since 1960.

The Geophysical Society of Finland as well as colleagues and students of Prof. Vuorela congratulate him and wish him many happy returns. (16.5.1988/EH).