

Re: Epistemology 201: The Science of Science

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Lester Zick wrote:

- >
- > *Time, tide, and engineers wait for no man. Computers were made of*
- > *vacuum tubes before transistors. Apparently they can be made of Tinker*
- > *Toys. All engineers needed were the ideas of Turing and von Neumann.*
- > *They didn't stand around waiting for QM to decide what it had which it*
- > *still hasn't.*

That is not the issue. The invention of transistors required the quantum theory of solids.

High speed computers which operator in the megaflop range required semi-conductor switches. It cannot be done with tinker toys or vacuum tubes.

Bob Kolker