

# obituary

**John E. Vance**, a chemist who worked on processing of ores and the preparation of pure uranium compounds for the Manhattan Project, has died in New York at the age of 69.

Dr Vance was emeritus professor of chemistry at New York University and former head of the department. He joined the faculty in 1948 and retired in 1971. He had previously been associate professor at Yale, where he directed work on quantitative analysis, and crystal growth. In the 1940s, he was appointed by the State Department as senior staff member to Frederick Osborn, representative to the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission. Dr Vance's special concern was drawing up proposals for international control of atomic energy. At various times, he had served the army research office, particularly during the Manhattan Project which developed the atomic bomb in 1942.

**Cyril Leslie Oakley, CBE, FRS**, the distinguished bacteriologist, died on March 27 at the age of 77.

Professor Oakley graduated from University College, London, in Zoology in 1930 and held the position of experimental pathologist at the Wellcome Research Laboratories from 1934, becoming head of the Immunology and Experimental Pathology Department in 1947. From 1953, he was Brotherton Professor of Bacteriology at the University of Leeds, becoming Professor Emeritus in 1972. His own interests were in the fields of antibody production and bacterial toxins, and looked after those of others as President of the Association of Scientific Workers from 1956–59. Professor Oakley will, however, be primarily remembered as the editor of a number of scientific journals, including *Pathology and Bacteriology* (1956–68), *Medical Microbiology* (1968–71) and *Pathology* (1969–72).

**Louis W. McKeehan**, professor of physics at Yale from 1927–55, has died in Jamestown, Rhode Island at the age of 87.

After graduating from the University of Minnesota in 1908, Professor McKeehan taught there as an associate professor until the outbreak of war. At Yale, he directed the Sloane Laboratory of Physics and after becoming emeritus professor, he was research associate at the Laboratory of Marine Physics in New Haven and Jamestown. He had a lifelong association with the navy and had been assistant naval attaché in London during World War II and chairman of the scientific advisory board of Operation Crossroads, for the strategic bombing of Japan. His research included discharge in gases, ferromagnetism, submarine mines, slow-motion spheres in gases, scattering of cathode and  $\beta$  rays, and radioactivity.

## announcements

### Awards

**George J. Todaro** has been awarded the **Parke, Davis Award** by the American Society for Experimental Pathology for investigation of viral and genetic factors in the cause of cancer, in particular the viral oncogene hypothesis.

**H. E. Ganther** has been awarded the **Mead Johnson Award** by the American Institute of Nutrition for his work on the essential nutrient selenium.

### Appointment

**J. G. Williams** has been appointed professor of polymer engineering at Imperial College, London.

### International meetings

May 28–30. **Frequency control**, Atlantic City (Dr J. R. Vig, US Army Electronics Command, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey 07703).

June 2–5, **Information transfer in eukaryotic cells**, Montreal (Ms D. Mathieu-Thériault, c/o Dr R. Sinclair, Biology Department, McGill University, Box 6070, Montreal H3C 3G1, Canada).

June 7–18, **Solar terrestrial physics**, Colorado (American Geophysical Union, 1909 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006).

### Miscellaneous

**Cancer awards.** The Cancer Research Institute Inc., is establishing Annual Awards in Cancer Immunology. The Institute will honour work judged to have been most critical in founding Cancer Immunology as we know it today, whether in reference to basic experimental research or to observations of more immediate clinical significance. Nominations to Mrs Helen C. Nauts, Executive Director, Cancer Research Institute Inc., 1225 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10028 (closing date July 15, 1975).

**Cherwell-Simon Lecture.** The lecture for 1974–75 will be delivered by E. W. Montroll, Director of the Institute for Fundamental Studies and Albert Einstein Professor of Physics in the University of Rochester, New York, on May 23, at 4.30 pm in the lecture theatre of the university museum. The subject will be 'Some quantitative aspects of social phenomena'.

### Reports and publications

#### Great Britain

Parliamentary and Scientific Committee. Annual Report for 1974. Pp.16. (London: Parliamentary and Scientific Committee, 1975.) (112)

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Novel Protein Intelligence Unit. Bulletin No. 3: Leaf Protein—Current Developments in the United Kingdom. Pp.28. (London: Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, 1975.) (112)

Department of Industry. Report on Research and Development 1974. Pp.122. (London: HMSO, 1975.) £1.10 net. (122)

The Association of Commonwealth Universities. Annual Report of the Council together with Accounts of the Association for the year 1 August 1973 to 31 July 1974. Pp.52. (London: The Association of Commonwealth Universities, 1975.) (122)

National Institute for Medical Research. Report 1973/1974. Pp.iii+123. (London: Medical Research Council, 1974.)

Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London. A: Mathematical and Physical Sciences. Vol. 277, No. 1274: Analysis of the Flexural Vibrations of Variable Density Spheroids Immersed in an Ideal Fluid, with Application to Ship Structural Dynamics. By R. E. Taylor. Pp.623–648. (London: The Royal Society, 1975.) £1. (132)

#### Other countries

Académie Royale de Belgique. Mémoires de la Classe des Sciences. T.XLI, Fasc.6: Contribution à l'Etude de l'Atmosphère Terrestre Supérieure à Partir de l'Analyse Orbitale des Satellites. Par J. Vercheval. Pp.183. (Bruxelles: Académie Royale de Belgique, 1974.) (252)

Cadmium and the Environment: Toxicity, Economy, Control. Pp.88. (Paris: Environment Directorate, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, 1975.) (262)

La Théorie des Pulsations Internes de la Terre: Compléments. Par Georges Dubourieu. Pp.47. The Theory of Internal Pulsations of the Earth: Further Evidence. By Georges Dubourieu. Translated from the French by Louis Janssens. Pp.49. (Meudon: Collège de France, Laboratoire de Géologie, 1974.) (000)

Alberta Research Council. Annual Report 1974. Pp.67. (Edmonton: Alberta Research Council, 1975.) (282)