

obituary

Constantinos Doxiadis, known for his planning projects in a number of developing countries, has died in Athens at the age of 62.

Born in Bulgaria, he studied architecture at Athens Polytechnic and obtained a doctorate in engineering at Charlottenburg Technical University, Beira. He was director of the Athens Technological Institute and founder of the World Society of Ekistics, a term, coined by him to describe the interdisciplinary science of human settlements. He promoted a unique and valuable series of conferences on town planning studies, held annually in Athens and the Greek islands during the past dozen or so summers. To these Delos symposia—probably Doxiadis' primary contribution to his field—he attracted many leading exponents of different disciplines, who would not otherwise have had the opportunity to exchange ideas. Doxiadis was, at the time of his death, preparing a number of documents for the United Nations conference on human settlement, to be held at Vancouver in 1976.

Elizabeth L. Hazen, the coinventor of Nystatin, the first antibiotic successful in combating human fungal diseases, died in Seattle at the age of 89.

The greater part of Dr Hazen's career was spent with the state Health Department's division of laboratories and research. She and her coworker there, Dr Rachel F. Brown, screened

hundreds of soil samples in the search for new antibiotics, finally tracing a microorganism that produced the antibiotic which became known as Nystatin. She received her doctorate in bacteriology from Columbia University, after graduating from the State College for Women in Columbia, Mississippi, and also served as an investigator in the department of dermatology at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Sir Geoffrey Ingram Taylor, a mathematician who made valuable contributions to engineering and geophysics, has died at the age of 89.

Sir Geoffrey had mainly been concerned with abstract hydrodynamical themes and later progressed to research in the practical problems of geophysics and meteorology. He was formerly Yarrow Research Professor of the Royal Society, of which he became a fellow in 1919. In 1913, he was meteorologist to the Scotia Expedition to the North Atlantic, and in France during World War I, he served as meteorologist to the RFC. He resumed this appointment during World War II and studied the motions of the air, and the cause and effect of eddies—many of these problems were applicable to aircraft. He was also involved in the design of better parachutes. He worked with the group which caused the first nuclear explosion at Los Alamos, New Mexico in 1944 and in

that year he was knighted. Later in 1944, he won the Copley Medal, the senior award of the Royal Society, for contributions to aerodynamics and the structure of metals.

Joseph Proudman, CBE, FRS, the distinguished mathematician and oceanographer, has died at the age of 86.

Professor Proudman first studied the dynamics of tides at Trinity, Cambridge, and this was to become his main scientific interest. He returned to Liverpool, where he had taken his first degree, as a lecturer in 1913, and was appointed the first professor of applied mathematics in 1919. In 1933 he transferred to the chair of oceanography, which he held until his retirement in 1954. In 1916 Horace Lamb asked Proudman to assist him in preparing a report for the British Association on the state of research on ocean tides. This led him to found the Tidal Institute (now Bidston Laboratory of the Institute of Oceanographic Studies), concerned with all aspects of tides. The Institute acquired an international reputation for its tidal prediction services as well as for fundamental research. He was pro-vice-chancellor of Liverpool from 1940–46. He was a fellow of the Royal Society, which awarded him the Hughes Medal in 1957. He acted as secretary of the International Association of Physical Oceanography and as president from 1951–54.

announcements

Award

The Canadian Public Health Association has awarded the 1975 **ORTHO Award** to **J. E. F. Hastings** for his research in health services, planning and education.

Appointments

The National Environmental Research Council has appointed **A. W. Woodland** as director of the Institute of Geological Sciences.

Michael Sela has been elected president of the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovet, Israel.

International meetings

September 1–2, **Molecular beam kinetics**, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh (Dr A. R. Burgess, Department of Chemical Engineering, University College London, Torrington Place, London WC1E 7JE, UK).

September 1–3, **Thermodynamical properties of gravitational fields**, Newtown, mid-Wales (B. F. Schultz, Department of Applied Mathematics and Astronomy, University College, PO Box 78, Cardiff CF1 1XL, UK).

September 1–3, **Industrial crystallisation**, Usti Nad Labem, Czechoslovakia

(Dr Sci Ing Nyvlt, Research Institute of Inorganic Chemistry, Revolucni 86, CS400, 60 Usti Nad Labem, Czechoslovakia).

September 1–4, **Electronic properties of solids under high pressure**, Louvain, Belgium (Luan Gervan, Laboratories of Solid State Physics, Department of Physics, Celestunenlaan 200D, B30/0, Leuven, Belgium).

September 1–5, **Charles Lyell centenary symposium**, London (J. C. Thackeray, Institute of Geological Sciences, Exhibition Road, London SW7 2DE, UK).