

obituary

Percy L. Julian, the research chemist and leader in the fight for civil rights, died on April 19 in Illinois at the age of 76.

Dr Julian, the grandson of a slave, was best known for his work in steroid chemistry, including the commercial synthesis of intermediates for use in the large-scale production of cortisone drugs. His work on soyabean led to the isolation of a soya protein that became the basis of Aero-foam, the extinguisher which saw action in World War II. His research also resulted in the quantity production of soya sterols, for use as steroid intermediates. He gained wide notice for his synthesis of physostigmine, a drug used to treat glaucoma.

Julian was engaged in extensive work for the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People. Among many awards were the Spingarn Award from NAACP in 1947, election to the National Academy of Sciences in 1973, and the Proctor Prize from Sigma Xi, the science research society, in 1974. At the time of his death, he was director of the Julian Research Institute in Illinois.

Stuart Mudd, a microbiologist who retired in 1959 as professor emeritus of microbiology at the School of Medicine in the University of Pennsylvania, died on May 6 at the age of 81.

Mudd had been a faculty member at Pennsylvania since 1929, after having graduated from Princeton in 1916, and gaining an MA at Washington University (St Louis) in 1918 and an MD from Harvard Medical School in 1920. At Pennsylvania, he founded and served as chairman of the department of microbiology in the School of Medicine. He served as president of the International Association of Microbiological Societies from 1958–62 and was a founder member and vice-president of the World Academy of Arts and Science. During World War II, he served on a technique for freeze-drying blood plasma, which proved to be of considerable value in caring for the wounded.

announcements

Appointment

C. G. Phillips, FRS, has been appointed to the chair of anatomy in the University of Oxford.

International meetings

July 6–13, **Sedimentology**, Nice (Professor J.-P.H. Martin, Sedim Nice 75, 48 avenue Jean Lorrain, 06300 Nice, France).

July 28–30, **Conduction and breakdown of dielectric liquids**, Delft (Dr J. M. Goldschvartz, Chairman, Organising Committee, Department of Applied Physics, Delft University of Technology, Lorentzweg No. 1, Delft, The Netherlands).

Miscellaneous

Student competition. *Preventive Medicine*, the official Journal of the American Health Foundation, has announced a student competition for the best paper (which will be published) on preventive medicine. All students (except postdoctoral) currently enrolled in schools of medicine, dentistry, public health, pharmacy, podiatry or osteopathy are eligible. Prizes of \$300 and \$100 (runner-up). Deadline December 1. Further information: *Preventive Medicine*, Editorial Office, American Health Foundation, 1370 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10019.

Person to Person

Phillips. On April 28 at Maternité Grande-Duchesse Charlotte, Luxembourg, to Cynthia and Edward—a daughter (Alison Catherine), a sister for James.

London accommodation. University of London mathematician seeks responsible family for furnished house while he is on leave, 3 bedrooms, convenient for schools and public transport, Raynes Park, SW20, from July 1, 1975 to September 30, 1976 (Dr N. S. Swaminarayan, Department of Mathematics, Chelsea College, Manresa Road, London SW3 6LX, UK).

London accommodation. Two bedroom terraced house available for academic year 1975–76, 25 minutes from City centre, fully furnished, central heating, small garden (Dr J. F. Smyth, 51 Constance Road, Sutton, Surrey, UK; 01-643 8901, day; 01-642 3673, eve.)

There will be no charge for this service. Send items (not more than 60 words) to Robert Vickers at the London office. The section will include exchanges of accommodation, personal announcements and scientific queries. We reserve the right to decline material submitted. No commercial transactions.

Reports and publications

Great Britain

Communication Media in Medicine. (Eight Reports in the Series "Communication in Medicine".) Edited by T. Andrew Quilliam. Pp.22. 50p. The Communication Interface. (Reports of Fourteen Meetings in the Series "Communication in Medicine".) Edited by T. Andrew Quilliam. Pp.43. 50p. Instinct and Intellect in Human Communication. (Reports of Eleven Further Meetings in the Series "Communication in Medicine".) Edited by T. Andrew Quilliam. Pp.41. 50p. (London: Secretary, Audio-Visual Unit, University College London, 1975.) [114]

Proceedings of the Royal Society of London. A: Mathematical and Physical Sciences. Vol. 342, No. 1631: A Discussion on the Effects of the Two World Wars on the Organization and Development of Science in the United Kingdom. Organized by R. V. Jones, FRS. Pp.439-591. (London: The Royal Society, 1975.) UK £2.75; Overseas £2.85. [154]

Waste Management Research. (Occasional Papers Series.) Pp.65. (London: Headquarters Library, Department of the Environment, 1975.) [154]

Other countries

Fisk og Hav 74. Udgivet af Danmarks Fiskeri- og Havundersogelser 1974. Pp.62. (Charlottens Slot: Fiskeri- og Havundersogelser, 1975.) [94]

Companhia de Diamantes de Angola (DIAMANG). Servicos Culturais. Dundo—Lunda—Angola. Museu do Dundo. Publicacoes Culturais No. 88: Subsídios para o Estudo da Biologica na Lunda—Estudos Diversos (XXXVIII). Pp.195. (Lisboa: Companhia de Diamantes de Angola, 1974.) [94]

Australia: Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization. Land Research Series No. 34: Lands of the Balonne-Maranoa Area, Queensland. Comprising papers by R. W. Galloway, R. H. Gunn, L. Pedley, K. D. Cocks and J. D. Kalma. Pp. 242 + 2 maps. (Melbourne: CSIRO, 1974.) [94]

Report of the Government Chemical Laboratories, Western Australia, for the year 1973. Pp. 37. (Perth, WA: Government Chemical Laboratories, 1975.) [104]

Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development. The Research System: Comparative Survey of the Organization and Financing of Fundamental Research. Vol. 3: Canada, United States, General Conclusions. By G. Caty, G. Drilhon, G. Ferne, N. Kaplan and S. Wald, under the direction of J. J. Salomon. Pp. 226. (Paris: OECD; London: HMSO, 1974.) 38 francs; £3.80; \$9.50 [104]

World Health Organization. Annual Report of the International Agency for Research on Cancer, 1974. Pp. 132. (Lyon: International Agency for Research on Cancer, 1974.) Sw. fr. 10. [144]