OBITUARIES

Samuel K. Allison

Samuel K. Allison, professor of physics and director of the Enrico Fermi Institute for Nuclear Studies at the University of Chicago, died in England on September 15 following surgery for a heart condition. Dr. Allison had been acting as US delegate to the Plasma Physics and Controlled Nuclear Fusion Conference at the Culham Laboratory.

Samuel K. Allison

Born in Chicago in 1900, Dr. Allison was educated at the University of Chicago, receiving his PhD there in 1923. After holding fellowships at Harvard University and the Carnegie Institute of Technology, he joined the physics faculty of the University of California at Berkeley, where he rose to the rank of associate professor. In 1930, he returned to Chicago where he became full professor in 1942 and Frank P. Hixon Distinguished Service Professor of Physics in 1959.

Most of Dr. Allison's early research was on x rays. He published numerous papers on the topic between 1924 and 1936, and coauthored (with Arthur Compton) a book entitled *X-Rays in Theory and Experiment*. In the late thirties, his interests turned to nuclear physics and he was a member of the group led by Enrico Fermi which achieved the first self-sustaining nuclear chain reaction in the experiment carried out under the old west stands of Stagg Field on December 2, 1942. He was a member of the original staff of the University's wartime Metallurgical Laboratory, and he was its director in 1944 when he left Chicago to join the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory in New Mexico. He served as chairman of the Los Alamos Technical and Scheduling Committee, and played an important part in the preparations for the first bomb test near Alamagordo. He conducted the final countdown himself in the control bunker on the morning of July 16, 1945. He was awarded the Medal of Merit in 1946 for his work on the project. After the war, Dr. Allison returned to Chicago to become the first director of the University's Institute for Nuclear Studies, where he continued to be active in research.

Dr. Allison headed the physics section of the National Academy of Sciences from 1960 to 1963, served as chairman of the NAS Committee on Nuclear Science from 1962 until his death, and shortly before his death had been named chairman of a panel of senior scientists to review the United States program in controlled thermonuclear research for the Atomic Energy Commission. He was a fellow of the American Physical Society.

Gerhard H. Dieke

Gerhard H. Dieke, professor and chairman of the Department of Physics at Johns Hopkins University, died in Aberdeen, Scotland, on August 25 at the age of 64. He had been lecturing in Scotland and working with students on the spectroscopy of rare-earth ions in crystals.

Professor Dieke, a leading authority in spectroscopy, was born in Rhoda, Germany. He attended the University of Leiden and the University of California, where he received his PhD in 1926. He spent the next several years at the California Institute of Technology, the Institute of Physical and Chemical Research in Tokyo, and as a privat-docent at the University of Groningen. In 1930, he became an associate in physics at Johns Hopkins University. He was promoted to associate professor the following year and to professor in 1939. He became head of the Physics Department in 1950.

Professor Dieke was also involved in research in atomic physics, electrical discharges in gases, and spectra of solids. During World War II, he worked on the Manhattan Project and served as a member of the Atomic Energy Commission. He was a member of the American Physical Society, the Optical Society of America, the American Association of Physics Teachers, and the Royal Academy of Science of Amsterdam.

John H. Tinlot

John H. Tinlot, professor of physics at the University of Rochester and director of the high-energy experimental physics program in Rochester's Department of Physics and Astronomy, died on September 27, 1965, in Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester. He was 43 years old at the time of his death.

Professor Tinlot was born in New York City. After spending his first year of undergraduate studies at the University of Rochester, he completed his BS in physics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1943. He then served as a staff member of the Radiation Laboratory until the end of World War II. He obtained his PhD in physics in 1948, working at MIT under Bruno Rossi on the properties of cosmic ray penetrating showers, and he spent a year as a research associate in collaboration with Bernard Gregory and Professor Rossi studying the nuclear interactions of cosmic-ray particles.

He went to Columbia University in 1949 as an instructor, and while there he collaborated with Professors Bernardini and Lederman on studies of