## obituaries

ions were to be recognized by the Samuel W. Stratton Award, the highest scientific honor conferred by the National Bureau of Standards (see page 83 of this issue).

Milligan was born in 1928 in Brighton, Alabama. In 1949 he received his BS degree in chemistry from Morehouse College, Atlanta, Georgia, and in 1951 he received an MS degree in both organic chemistry and mathematics from Atlanta University. In 1958 he completed his PhD in physical chemistry at the University of California, Berkeley.

At Berkeley Milligan used the matrix isolation technique to permit spectroscopic characterization of small free radicals and reaction intermediates, which play essential roles in most chemical processes but which ordinari-



MILLIGAN

ly react so rapidly as to preclude their direct observation.

Following completion of his degree requirements at Berkeley. Milligan continued his matrix isolation studies at Mellon Institute (now Carnegie-Mellon University) in Pittsburgh. This work led to the infrared spectroscopic observation of NCl, the first diatomic triplet molecule to be stabi-

lized in a rare-gas matrix.

In April 1963 Milligan joined the Physical Chemistry Division of the National Bureau of Standards, where the continued opportunity to pursue research in the spectroscopy of matrixisolated free radicals bore much fruit, including his detailed vibrational assignment of the hydrocarbon flame bands and the identification of C2, the first negatively charged molecule to yield a gas-phase molecular spectrum. Subsequently, some twenty small molecular ions, including such species as  $NO_2^-$ ,  $O_3^-$ ,  $O_4^-$ , and  $CO_3^-$ , impor-

tant intermediates in the chemistry of the earth's ionosphere, have been stabilized in rare-gas matrices and studied in Milligan's laboratory.

Milligan was an adjunct research professor of chemistry at Howard University, and he served as a member of the Executive Committee of the National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers. He is survived by his family and by many friends and golfing companions, who will remember him for his lively sense of humor, for his keen perceptiveness and for his deep concern, which transcended the barriers of race and rank.

A scholarship fund has been established in his memory at Morehouse College. Contributions can be made in the form of checks made payable to Morehouse College, c/o The D. Milligan Scholarship Fund and mailed to The Dolphus Milligan Scholarship Fund, Morehouse College, Atlanta, Georgia 30314.

> MILTON D. SCHEER Physical Chemistry Division National Bureau of Standards

## Walter J. Miller

The Rev Walter J. Miller, astronomer in residence at Fordham University and a former assistant papal astronomer at the Vatican Astronomical Observatory, died on 30 November. He was 69 years old.

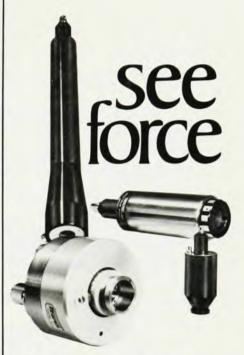
Miller specialized in the study of faint variables and was widely known for his observations of Cygnus. While at the Vatican observatory Miller discovered about 500 new variables in the Milky Way and published the first twenty of a series of studies known as the Vatican Variables.

In 1955, after serving at the Vatican observatory for ten years, he became the director of the astronomy laboratory at Fordham. Miller received his PhD from Harvard University in 1943. He was ordained by the Society of Jesus in 1939.

## **Donald Jensen Fox**

Donald Jensen Fox, a physicist at the National Accelerator Laboratory, died on 30 September 1973, as a result of a road accident.

A member of the group of collaborators in the deep inelastic muon scattering experiment in the NAL Muon Area, Fox had worked at the Laboratory since 1971, when he completed his doctorate in high-energy physics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He was a member of the Michigan State University staff in residence at NAL.



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