

we hear that

Bogdan C. Maglich, formerly professor of physics at Rutgers University, has become chairman of the newly-formed Fusion Energy Institute. He will lead the R&D program on controlled fusion in self-colliding beams.

Douglas Duke has become chairman of the physics department at the University of Miami.

Michael Ram has been appointed chairman of the department of physics and astronomy at the State University of New York at Buffalo.

Chia-Wei Woo has become chairman of Northwestern University's physics department; **George K. Wong**, formerly of the University of California, Berkeley, has been appointed assistant professor.

The new chairman of Brown University's physics department is **Philip J. Stiles**.

obituaries

Fred Allison

Fred Allison, a renowned researcher and teacher in physics, died on 2 August at the age of 92. He devoted his early research efforts in the late 1920's at Alabama's Auburn University to the measurement of the time lag in the Faraday effect. Using magneto-optical methods that were an outgrowth of that research he announced evidence for the existence of deuterium in 1931 and of elements 85 and 87 in 1932. These an-

their evidence for the heavy isotope of hydrogen. However, several laboratories could not confirm the subjective evidence obtained by the magneto-optic apparatus, and papers giving data gathered thereby were not generally accepted for publication after 1936. As an undergraduate I was not intimately familiar with the evidence gained, but I was always impressed with the care, sincerity and the thoroughness displayed in Allison's research. Urey gained a Nobel laureate for his deuterium discovery and elements 85 and 87 ultimately became "astatine" and "francium." Interest in magneto-optics has not entirely abated, and as late as 1966 a substantial report on the Allison method of chemical analysis was issued from one of the federal laboratories.

Allison was born on 4 July 1882 at Glade Spring, Virginia, and obtained an AB degree from nearby Emory and Henry College. While serving on the Emory and Henry science staff during 1911-1920, he spent several summers in graduate work at the University of Chicago, Johns Hopkins University and the University of Virginia. At Chicago he made an early measurement on the viscosity of air that Millikan used in his determination of the electronic charge. At Emory and Henry Allison was instrumental in obtaining funds for the construction and equipping of the observatory, with the bulk coming from his managing a speaking tour featuring William Jennings Bryan. He completed his doctorate (in optics) at the University of Virginia in 1922 and that year came to Auburn as the head of the physics department. While retaining the headship of the department he became dean of the graduate school in 1949, and retired from both positions in 1953. Allison had always retained a love of teaching, particularly that of instructing in undergraduate courses. This affection for teaching beginning students led him to accept a position at Emory and Henry upon his retirement from Auburn. Afterwards he joined



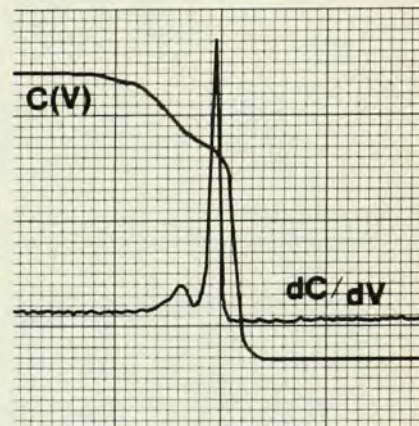
ALLISON

nouncements came at a crucial time in the rapidly expanding field of nuclear physics and promoted an international interest and growth in magneto-optic based research.

In the fall of 1933 I enrolled at Auburn and immediately sensed the fervent activity resulting from those announcements. Elements 85 and 87 were already known as "alabamine" and "virginium" and were so designated in the *Chemical Rubber Handbook* for over fifteen years. Moreover, in 1932 Urey and his co-workers had published

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obituaries

Huntingdon College as head of the physics department and taught there until 1969. Thereafter, Allison pursued his magneto-optic research at Auburn until one month before his death.

Allison's research in magneto-optics was interrupted by his World War II work on proximity fuses and later by his absence from Auburn while serving at Emory and Henry and at Huntingdon College. His last few years were singularly devoted to attempting an objective gathering of data with the magneto-optic apparatus.

In an era in which there were few physics graduate programs in the Southeast, Allison kept physics alive by his devotion to the field, his interest in the intellectual welfare of his students and his unique ability to communicate the excitement of learning and discovery to those about him. His programs at Emory and Henry and at Huntingdon produced many physics majors, most of whom continued to advanced work.

Allison was a rare teacher and administrator in that he was as influential on his staff as on his students. While his ability in choosing staff members was uncanny, insufficient fiscal support often resulted in their early leaving. However, while at Auburn they all became fully engrossed in research even though teaching responsibilities were extremely heavy. His own enthusiasm for learning and for scientific discovery was so contagious that his associates seemed oblivious to the continuously long hours spent in study and in the laboratory. Laboratories at Auburn and at Emory and Henry bear his name and the Allison Award is given annually at Auburn to the outstanding undergraduate physics student. He is remembered by generations of students and teachers especially for his sense of humor, his unfailing curiosity, his wise counsel, his continual kindness and above all his gentleness.

HOWARD E. CARR
Auburn University
Auburn, Alabama

Julius L. Jackson

With the sudden death of Julius L. Jackson on 5 July while visiting the Weizmann Institute in Rehovot, Israel, the physics community lost a productive and stimulating colleague.

Jackson was born on 9 November 1924 in New York City and received degrees at Brooklyn College, Princeton and New York University, where he earned his PhD in 1950. He was a visiting professor at the State University of

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