

DANMARKS TEKNISKE HØJSKOLE

BIOLOGISK AFDELING

ØSTERVOLDGADE 10" TRAPPE L

KØBENHAVN K., den October 7. 8. 194
TELEFON PALÆ 4382, 4383

HENRIK DAM

(Carl Peter) Henrik Dam, born February 21st 1895 in Copenhagen. Parents: Emil Dam, Apothecary, and Emilie Dam, Teacher, b. Peterson. Married, July 15, 1924, Inger Dam, b. Olsen. Graduated in Chemistry from the Polytechnic Institute, Copenhagen (cand. polyt.) 1920; Sc. Dr. (Dr.phil.) (Biochemistry), University of Copenhagen 1934, Thesis: "Nogle Undersøgelser over Sterinernes biologiske Betydning". Instructor (honorarlønnet Assistent) in chemistry at the School of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine (Kgl. Veterinær- og Landbohøjskole) 1920, instructor in Biochemistry at the Physiological Laboratory, Univ. of Copenhagen 1923; Assistant Professor (fast ansat Assistent) at the Institute of Biochemistry, Univ. of Copenhagen, 1928; Associate Professor (Amanuensis) same place 1929-41; Professor of Biochemistry, Polytechnic Institute, Copenhagen, 1941 (appointment in absentia). Studied microchemistry with F. Pregl, Graz, Austria, 1925, and metabolism of sterols in Rudolph Schoenheimer's Laboratory in Freiburg, Germany, 1932-33 (Rockefeller Fellow); worked with P. Karrer, Zürich, 1935 and later. Lectured in the United States and Canada 1940-41 under the auspices of The American Scandinavian Foundation. This tour was planned before Denmark was occupied by German troops in April 1940. Carried out research work in Woods Hole Marine Biological Laboratories, Summer and Fall of 1941, at the University of Rochester, N.Y. 1942-45 as a Senior Research Associate and at the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research 1945 as an Associate Member. Has published some 100 papers jointly or alone, on biochemical problems, mainly concerning the biochemistry of sterols, vitamins K and E and fats. Discovered vitamin K in Copenhagen while studying the sterol metabolism of chicks (Biochemical Journal 29, 1273, 1935) and studied this vitamin further with respect to its occurrence and biological function in animals and plants

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as well as its application in human medicine, its fundamental chemical and physical properties and its purification and isolation, the latter part of this research being carried out together with P. Karrer (Helvetica Chimica Acta 22, 310, 1939). A summary of these studies up to 1942 appeared in Advances in Enzymology 2, 285, 1942. From the study of vitamin K arose the observation of some new symptoms in experimental animals (increased capillary permeability and coloration of adipose tissue) which turned out to be due to the ingestion of certain fats in the absence of vitamin E.



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