



HANS A. S. VON EULER-CHELPIN

Hans von Euler, who shared equally with Arthur Harden the 1929 Nobel prize "for researches into the fermentation of sugars and the enzyme action in the process" was born at Augsburg, Bavaria, on February 15, 1873. From 1890-92 he studied painting at Munich, then went to the University of Berlin to devote himself to natural science: physics under Max Planck, chemistry under Emil Fischer and Hans Landolt. After completing his doctorate (1895) he went to Göttingen for physical chemistry under Nernst, then returned to Berlin for a stay in van't Hoff's laboratory, an experience of great and determinative influence on his scientific life.

Von Euler was appointed assistant and lecturer on physical chemistry at Stockholm in 1897, in 1903 he was made assistant professor of organic chemistry. After a period (1904-05) of study at the Pasteur Institute in Paris and under Thiele at Strassburg, he returned to Stockholm as professor of general and organic chemistry. Since 1906 he has been head of the chemical laboratory, since 1928 also director of the biochemical

institute and since 1938 of the laboratory for organic research.

He and his collaborators have put out a vast volume of research, which is only partially mirrored in his books: "Grundlagen und Ergebnisse der Pflanzenchemie," 3 vols. (1908); "Chemie der Hefe und der alkoholischen Gärung" (1914); "Chemie der Enzyme," 3rd ed., 4 vols. (1925-34); "Homogene Katalyse" (with Ölander, 1931); "Biokatalysatoren" (1931).

Recognition of his achievements has come from many countries: Honorary member of the Royal Institution and of the chemical societies of Rome, Paris, Warsaw, Bucharest; membership in the Academies of Stockholm, Copenhagen, Helsingfors, Munich, Halle, Göttingen, Vienna, Leningrad; honorary degrees from Kiel, Bern, Zurich, and Athens. He is president of the Swedish National Committee for Chemistry, member of the Nobel Committee for Chemistry, and vice-president of the Union Internationale de Chimie.

(Contributed by Ralph E. Oesper, University of Cincinnati)

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