

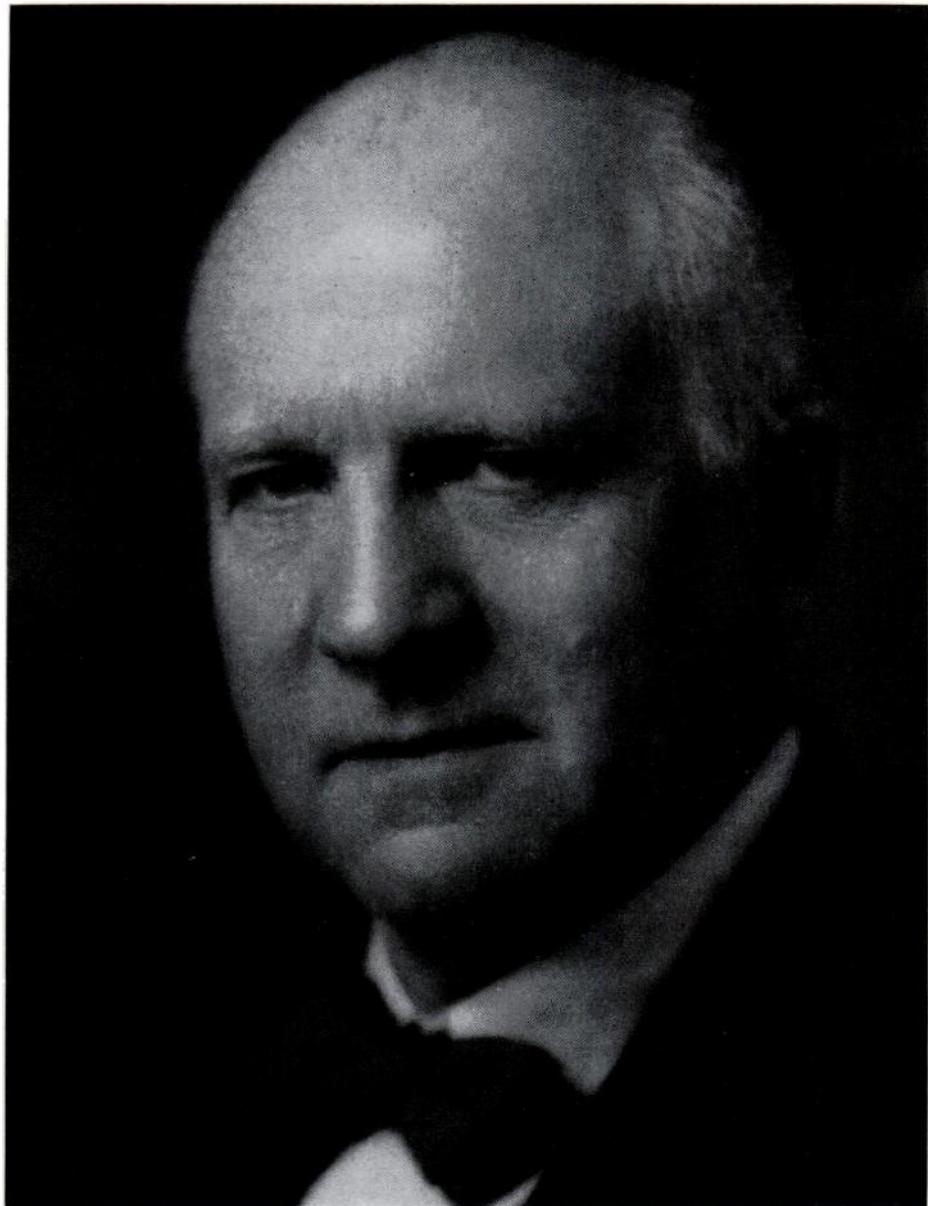
## Donald D. Van Slyke: On His 80th Year

DONALD D. VAN SLYKE celebrated this past March twenty-ninth his eightieth birthday and his fifty-seventh year of constant scientific accomplishment. The body of knowledge that he so actively built over this period of years can be said to have put *science* into the *art* of medicine.

Dr. Van Slyke is a clinical chemist, and one whose contributions have stood the test of time. He has actively shown the place of the chemist in the modern medical approach. In 1925 he was rated by the American Chemical Society as one of the 39 most eminent American chemists. In 1962 he received the Scientific Achievement Award from the American Medical Association. His contributions to the understanding of biochemical processes and their assay date to 1906 and are constant reminders of how pure science has advanced the knowledge of life's mechanisms.

Van Slyke was born in Pike, N. Y., Mar. 29, 1883. He received his A.B. from the University of Michigan in 1905 and his doctorate in 1907. He has been awarded honorary degrees of Doctor of Science by the University of Michigan; Yale, Northwestern, and London Universities; and the University of Chicago. In 1938 he received an honorary Doctor of Medicine from the University of Oslo and more recently received the same degree from the University of Amsterdam.

He is an emeritus member of the Rockefeller Institute, having been associated with that group since 1907. Since 1948 he has continued his work at the Brookhaven National Laboratories at Upton, New York. His scientific achievements encompass six major areas of investigation: (1) proteins, amino acids, enzymes; (2) quantitative clinical methods; (3) acidosis, acid-base balance; (4) gas and electrolyte equilibria; (5) renal function and nephritis; and (6) isotopy. His students and associates have gone on to bring his type of scientific thinking, curiosity, and accomplishment into other related fields. All confess the influence of their association with him, and in many instances they still come for advice and guidance.



Courtesy Rockefeller Institute, New York City

**Donald D. Van Slyke, Ph.D.**

The debt that the clinical chemist owes to Dr. Van Slyke is immeasurable, not only for the excellence and practicability of most useful methodology, but also for the underlying philosophy that these are tools which should be used not just in the detection and treatment of disease but in wider applications to fundamental studies of life processes.

In his eightieth year Dr. Donald D. Van Slyke has once again received honors. The Brookhaven National Laboratory held a special 2-day meeting and the American Microchemical Society held a symposium in his honor. We felt that the dedication of an issue of our Journal as a *Festschrift* would be our salute to the Association's eminent member on this occasion, in appreciation of his generosity through the years in giving us the benefit of his knowledge, experience, and encouragement. We all wish him many more happy and fruitful years.

—THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL CHEMISTS

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