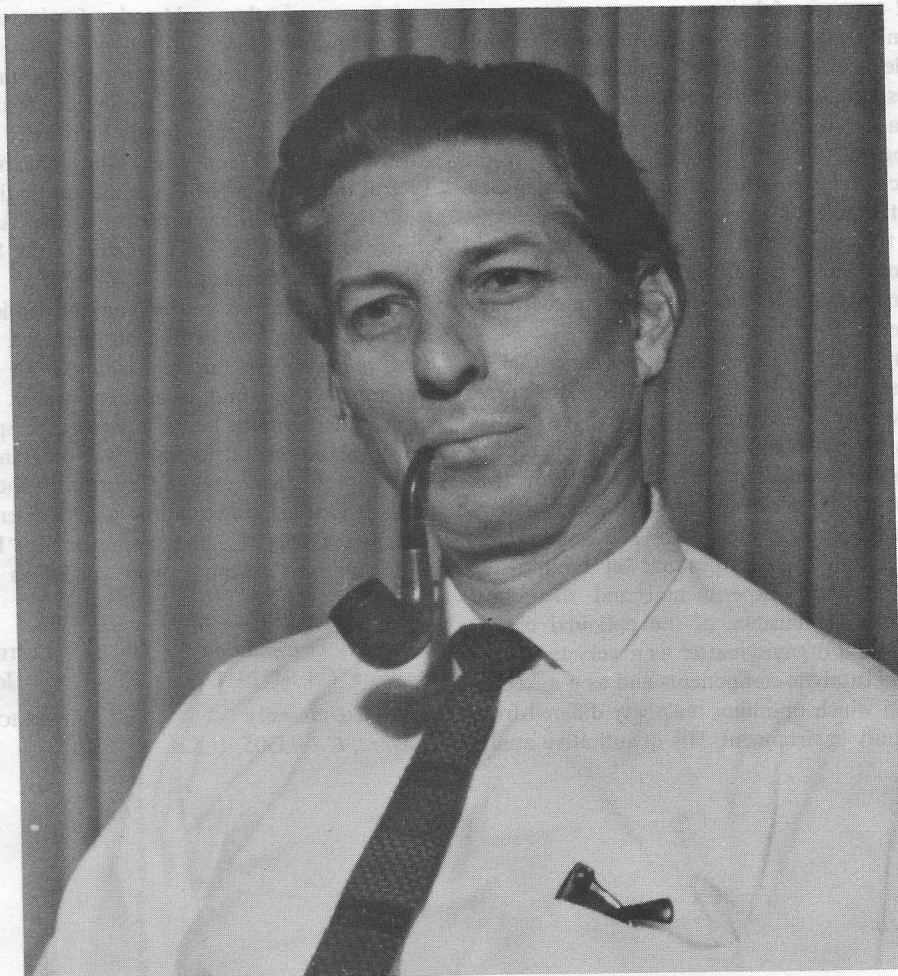


OBITUARY



A. DOUGLAS McLAREN
(1917-1979)

A. DOUGLAS McLAREN, Founding Editor of *Photochemistry and Photobiology*, emeritus professor and pioneer researcher in photobiology and soil biology at the University of California, Berkeley, died 21 January, 1979, at his home in Inverness, California. He was widely known as a scholar, teacher and scientific investigator whose strong curiosity and considerable intellectual talents led him along many paths of endeavor and gained for him widespread recognition for his achievements.

Born 27 September, 1917, in Ipava, Illinois, McLaren earned a B.A. at Park College in 1939, continued his studies at St. Louis University, and in 1943 was awarded a Ph.D. in organic chemistry at the University of Missouri, where he studied with Professor C. E. Marshall.

During World War II he conducted polymer research at E. I. DuPont de Nemours and Company

in Buffalo. He began his teaching career at Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute, where he established an early reputation for pioneering research in the physical chemistry of polymers during the period from 1946-1951.

McLaren joined the UC faculty in Berkeley in 1951 when the Department of Soil and Plant Nutrition was seeking a soil scientist with a strong background in chemistry. He was recommended to UC by Selman Waksman, the renowned microbiologist and Nobel Laureate. His appointment was as a professor of soil biology, reflecting a continuing shift of his interests to biological problems.

McLaren is credited with a major role in catalyzing the upsurge of interest in the 1960's in the developing field of photobiology. By starting the Journal *Photochemistry and Photobiology* in 1962, he helped to give focus to the research in a young and rapidly growing

