necrology

Edward F. Mitros
1922–1975

Edward F. Mitros, Meteorological Technician at the Johnson Space Center Section of the National Weather Service Spaceflight Meteorology Group (SMG) in Houston, Tex., died on 10 May 1975. He was one of the initial group of employees in the Miami Section of the Project Mercury Weather Support Group, the predecessor of the SMG. He joined the National Weather Service for that assignment in 1960, after 20 years of meteorology service in the U.S. Marine Corps. He had been at the SMG office in Houston since 1964.

Mr. Mitros joined the American Meteorological Society in 1956. He is survived by three children and his wife, Darlene, of 2017 Sunset Court N., League City, Tex. 77573.

Sverre Petterssen (see p. 892)

Charles L. Taylor
1921–1975

Associate Professor Charles L. Taylor of the Department of Meteorology, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, Calif., died suddenly of a heart attack on 17 May 1975. He was born in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., in 1921. He attended the Pennsylvania State University at University Park where he majored in meteorology and minored in mathematics and physical geography, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Science in 1942. In 1943 he was appointed as Instructor in Meteorology at the same university, and continued in this capacity until June 1944, when he received a commission in the U.S. Naval Reserve. After serving overseas for 18 months, he returned to his instructorship. In 1947 he was awarded the Master of Science in meteorology. He received an appointment in 1947 as Instructor of Physics at Wilkes College in Wilkes-Barre, remaining until 1951 when he returned to the Pennsylvania State University for further study in meteorology and completed classroom work and all qualifying exams for the Ph.D. In 1954 Prof. Taylor joined the faculty of the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, Calif., where he served until his death, teaching various courses in physical meteorology and assisting in administrative functions.

In addition to his professional interests, he was a skilled photographer and cabinet maker. His photographic files included cloud studies and arctic photos.

Prof. Taylor joined the American Meteorological Society in 1942. He is survived by his widow and a son and daughter. His last address was 1360 Jacks Road, Monterey, Calif.

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Elements of meteorology, second edition (Albert Miller and Jack C. Thompson, 1975, 362 pp., il., $13.95 clothbound, from Charles E. Merrill Publishing Co., see above) is a text meant for those who are curious about their physical environment but have little formal training in physics and mathematics. The first two-thirds of the book is a discussion of atmospheric processes and phenomena that employs two basic concepts: the atmosphere is a heat engine and circulation systems exist in a wide range of interdependent scales. The remainder of the book is devoted to the practical applications of meteorology: prediction, environmental adaption, and weather modification.

Energy, ecology, and the environment (Richard Wilson and William J. Jones, 1974, 320 pp., $4.95 or £2.40 from Academic Press, 111 Fifth Ave., New York 10003 or 24–28 Oval Rd., London NW1 7DX, England) contains chapters on energy, man's energy resources, energy demand and cost, thermal pollution, nuclear fission and fusion, comparisons of hazards of life, environmental problems at the source, air pollution, accidents and sabotage, transportation and fuel wastes, energy converters, waste disposal, and regulation of the energy industry.

Les glaciers des Alpes occidentales: étude géographique (Robert Vivian, 1975, in French with summaries and lists of diagrams in English, 420 pp., il., 200 F, from Robert Vivian, Institut de Géographie Alpine, Rue Maurice-Gignoux, 38031 Grenoble Cedex, France) contains sections on a regional study of glaciation in the western Alps; fluctuations of the glaciers; glacial hydrology and hydrography; and influence of the glaciers on the morphology of the Alpine regions.

Light scattering in planetary atmospheres (International Series in Natural Philosophy, Volume 76, V. V. Sobol'ev, and W. M. Irvine, due July 1975, 256 pp., $25.00 or £10.50, from Fairview Park, Elmsford, N.Y. 10523, or Pergamon Press, Headington Hill Hall, Oxford OX3 OBW, England) is concerned mainly with the theory of radiative transfer for anisotropic scattering in planetary atmospheres. The first eight chatpers deal with the general problem of multiple scattering of light in an atmosphere consisting of plane-parallel layers illuminated by parallel radiation. In the next two chapters, the theory is applied to the determination of the physical characteristics of planetary atmospheres. The last chapter discusses the theory of radiative transfer in spherical atmospheres—a theory used in the interpretation of spacecraft observations.

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