

February Historical Events In Chemistry

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February 1, 1905

Born on this date, Emilio Segré, with C. Perrier, discovered technetium (Tc, 43). In 1940, together with D. R. Corson and K. R. MacKenzie, he co-discovered astatine (At, 85). He demonstrated the antiproton in 1955. He shared the Nobel Prize in Physics (1959) with Owen Chamberlain for their discovery of the antiproton.

February 7, 1905

Ulf von Euler, who was born on this date, shared the Nobel Prize in Medicine or Physiology in 1970 with J. Axelrod and B. Katz for discoveries concerning humoral transmitters in the nerve terminals and the mechanism for their storage, release and inactivation.

February 9, 1871

Edward C. C. Baly, who was born on this date, showed that sugar and other organic compounds are formed from water, carbon dioxide, and ammonia under the influence of light.

February 9, 1950

Californium was discovered by ion exchange chromatography on this date at the University of California, Berkeley.

February 11, 1914

Alwin Mittasch and Christian Schneider filed application resulting in US Patent 1,201,850, describing catalytic production of methanol from carbon monoxide & hydrogen.

February 14, 1878

Father Julius Nieuland, who was known as the “Father of Acetylene Chemistry,” was born on this date. He is a discoverer of neoprene and was the first Ph.D. in Chemistry from Catholic University in 1905.

February 15, 1873

Hans K. A. S. von Euler-Chelpin, a researcher on enzymes and fermentation, was born on this date. He shared the Nobel Prize in 1929 with Arthur Harden for their investigations on the fermentation of sugar and fermentative enzymes. He was born and this day

February 19, 1955

One atom of mendelevium (Md, 101) was produced by the bombardment of one billion atoms of ^{253}Es on this date.

February 20, 1937

Robert Huber, a researcher on the three-dimensional structure of proteins involved in

photosynthesis, was born on this date. In 1988 he shared the Nobel Prize in Chemistry with Johann Deisenhofer and Hartmut Michel for the determination of the three-dimensional structure of a photosynthetic reaction centre.

February 25, 1898

Seventy-five years ago William Thomas Astbury used X-ray diffraction patterns to study the structures of nucleic acids and wool in both the stretched and unstretched forms. He was born on this date.

February 27, 1901

Fifty years ago Linus C. Pauling was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. He was born on this date. He was a researcher on structure of molecules, valency, and resonance. He received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1954 for his research into the nature of the chemical bond and its application to the elucidation of the structure of complex substances.

Additional historical events can be found at Dr. May's website,
<http://faculty.cua.edu/may/Chemistrycalendar.htm>.