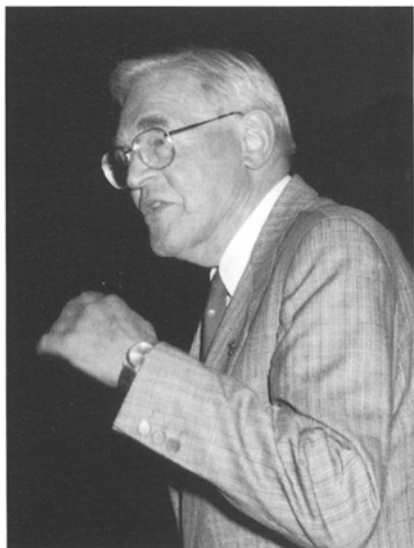


A. Vrij

J.Th.G. Overbeek on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his Professorship



J.Th.G. Overbeek

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In June 1996 we celebrated that Theo Overbeek was appointed as a professor of Physical Chemistry at the Utrecht University in 1946. The special meeting took place at the department of Chemistry of the Utrecht University. Earlier in the same year he celebrated his 85th Birthday.

In 1941 Jan Theodoor Overbeek obtained his PhD in Chemistry at the Utrecht University; promotor was Prof. H.R. Kruyt. The title of the thesis was "Theory of Electrophoresis; the Relaxation Effect". In the tradition of Kruyt he continued his research in the field of Colloid Science, in which he supervised over 70 PhD students on a broad range of subjects. His best known publication in the field is the book "Theory of the Stability of Lyophobic Colloids", with E.J.W. Verwey. Further, he made important contributions to the two-volume work "Colloid Science", edited by Kruyt. The total number of publications of which he is author or co-author is over two hundred.

After his retirement in 1981, he remained active in the field, and worked in particular on Microemulsions, which he characterized as a subject "Between Hydrophobic and Hydrophilic Colloids". In this period he was author or co-author of 23 papers till now. Overbeek obtained honorary doctorates of the Clarkson University at Potsdam, New York, U.S.A., and of the University of Bristol, England. In 1989 his scientific work was honoured with the Wolfgang-Ostwald-Preis of the Kolloid-Gesellschaft.

Theo Overbeek is in good health, and we wish him and his wife Annie many happy days to come.