

September 1, 1991

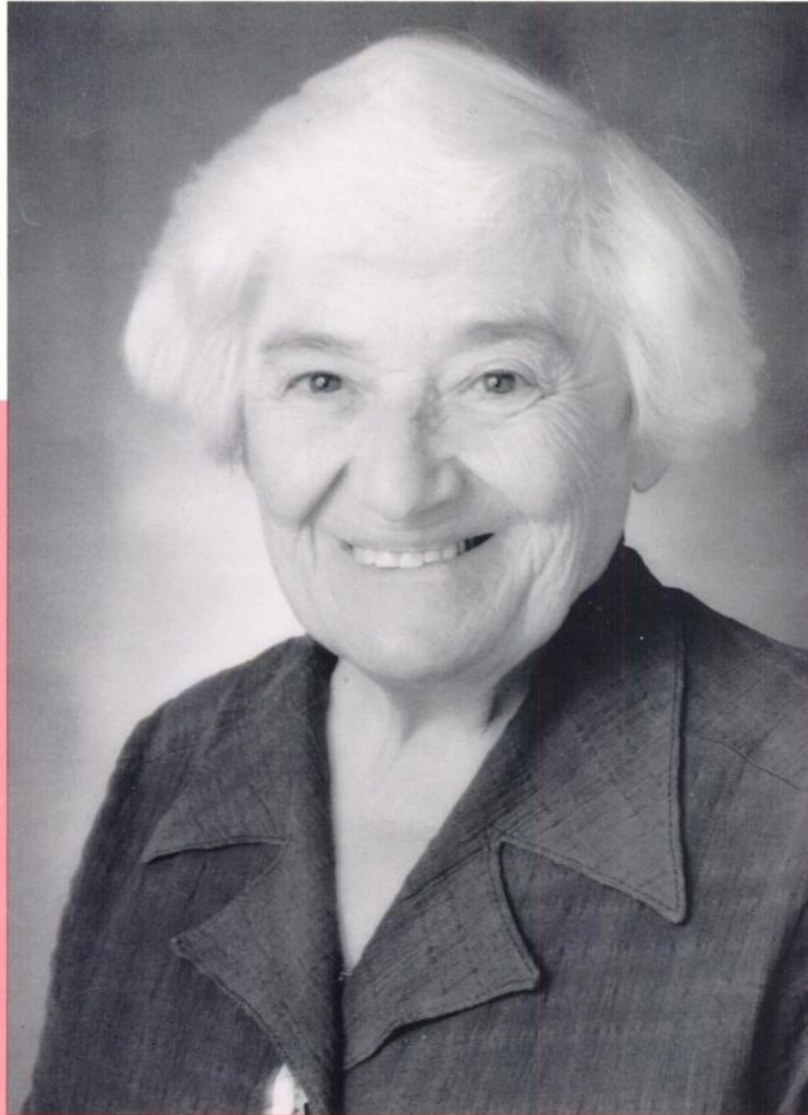


Cancer Research

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Years of Publication

GROWTH REGULATION

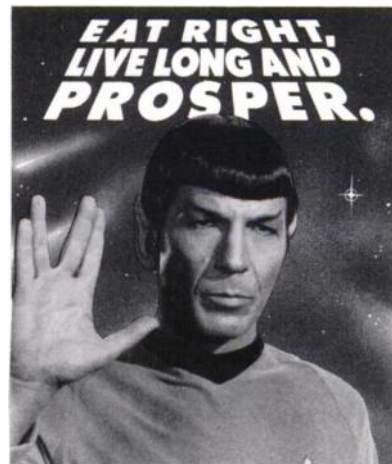
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Dr. A. Smith

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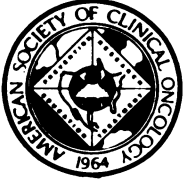


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MEMBRANE RECEPTORS AND SIGNAL TRANSDUCTION IN BIOLOGY AND MEDICINE

BOSTON, AT THE COPLEY PLAZA HOTEL NOVEMBER 14-15 1991

ORGANIZERS: MICHAEL BROWN AND JOSEPH GOLDSTEIN

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

1 MEMBRANE PROTEINS

Michael Brown (U of Texas)
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Michael Welsh (U of Iowa)
Richard Klausner (NIH)

2 SIGNALLING PATHWAYS

Ira Herskowitz (U of Calif.)
Gerry Rubin (U of Calif.)
Richard Axel (Columbia U)
Alfred Gilman (U of Texas)
Robert Lefkowitz (Duke U)

COMMENTATORS: MICHAEL BISHOP (U OF CALIF.) SYDNEY BRENNER
(LMB CAMBRIDGE, UK) AND CHARLES WEISSMANN (ZURICH).

3 THE GTP_{ASE} FAMILY

Henry Bourne (U of Calif.)
Bert Vogelstein (Johns Hopkins)
Joseph Goldstein (U of Texas)
Frank McCormick (Cetus Corp.)
Robert Horvitz (MIT)

4 BIOLOGY OF CYTOKINES

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- * THE GTP_{ASE} FAMILY OF SIGNALLING PROTEINS IN NORMAL AND TUMOR CELLS

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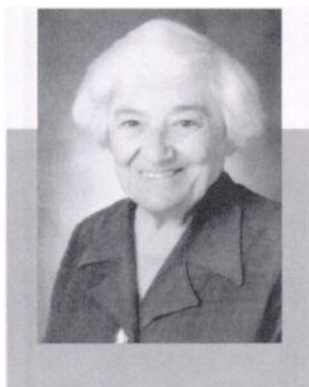
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COVER LEGEND



As increasing attention is being drawn to a possible role of natural food toxicants in human carcinogenesis [Ames, *Science* (Washington DC) **236**: 271, 1987], it is fitting to pay tribute to an early propounder of this view. Regina Schoental played a key role in the recognition of carcinogenic action of the polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and synthesized several such metabolites at the Department of Chemistry, University of Glasgow, in collaboration with J. W. Cook, F.R.S., in the 1940s. In a long career spanning a half century, she has, in over 275 papers, contributed a wealth of data on a host of natural carcinogens and, in more recent years, provided many speculative ideas which open to cancer researchers original conceptions to ponder on the extent of natural carcinogens and toxicants in human health.

Regina Schoental came from a prosperous and respected Jewish banking family in Poland. She was in England when World War II wiped out most of her

family. At the time, she worked with Isaac Berenblum, a father of chemical carcinogenesis, and several of their papers on the metabolism of 3,4-benzo(*a*)pyrene were published in this journal (*Cancer Res.*, **6**: 699–706, 1946; **7**: 390–392, 1947). She published a warning on tobacco as early as 1951 (*Lancet*, **261**: 642, 1951).

She is perhaps best known for her work on the toxic pyrrolizidine (*Senecio*) alkaloids and on the fusarial mycotoxins, for which she claims great significance in human pathology (*Adv. Cancer Res.*, **45**: 217–290, 1985). Much of her work has been devoted to zearalenone, the trichothecenes, and other carcinogenic metabolites of *Fusarium* and other microfungi. She has made a convincing case that catastrophic incidences of human devastation could be due to widespread exposure to climatic conditions, such as may follow very strong volcanic eruptions and earthquakes. In a series of similar speculative but thought-provoking papers, she has attributed to estrogenic mycotoxins the development of cancers of some sex-related organs (*ACS Monogr.*, **182**: 1137–1169, 1984) and of behavioral disorders (*Br. J. Psychiatr.*, **146**: 115–119, 1985). More recently, she attributed to *N*-nitroso compounds, formed endogenously from semen constituents by the action of the oral and anorectal microflora, the activation of human immunodeficiency virus and the development of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome-related cancers (*Intern. Environ. Studies*, **31**: 269–278, 1988). She suggests that certain biblical injunctions may have had their origin in widespread toxic food contamination (*J. R. Soc. Med.*, **81**: 58, 1988; *Microbiologie-Aliments-Nutrition*, **6**: 109–118, 1988).

Since her retirement from the MRC Toxicology Unit, Carshalton, Surrey, England, Dr. Schoental has been attached to the Department of Veterinary Pathology, Royal Veterinary College, University of London. We are indebted to her for information and the photograph.

Sidney Weinhouse