

CHEMISTRY ADVENT 2018

16

1930

1932


1934

1936

1938



PERCY JULIAN

 1899-1975



WALLACE CAROTHERS

 1896-1937



LINUS PAULING

 1901-1994



In 1935 synthesised the drug physostigmine. Previously obtained from natural sources, the synthesis made it available to treat glaucoma



Discovered a method to make steroids on a large scale from soybeans; this allowed commercial production of a number of sex hormones



Developed a method to synthesise hydrocortisone, now widely prescribed



In 1935, developed nylon, a family of polymers with myriad uses including for clothes, ropes, and military applications



His work laid the foundation for the development of neoprene, a family of synthetic rubbers



Despite his successes, Carothers suffered from depression, and took his own life by ingesting cyanide in 1937



Carried out research on the nature of chemical bonding, publishing a book on the topic in 1939. He introduced the concept of electronegativity and the valence theory of chemical bonding



Determined the alpha-helix structure of proteins



Only person to win two unshared Nobel Prizes: Chemistry (1954) and Peace (1962, for nuclear testing activism)

