

GENEALOGY DATABASE ENTRY

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Nef, John Ulric

1862 - 1915

DEGREE: PhD

DATE: 1886

PLACE: Munich

TEACHER/RESEARCH ADVISOR: Baeyer

formulated early concept of a transition state, which he called an "active molecular condition"; determined chemical nature of fulminates (-ONC) and studied chemistry of isocyanides; contended that the carbon atom in CO, fulminates, and isocyanides can be considered divalent; showed that reactivity of beta-ketoester and beta-diketonate conjugate bases is centered at oxygen and not at carbon; prepared mono- and dihaloacetylenes; studied mechanism of sugar fermentation and action of alkalis on sugars.

1. *Biog. Mem. Nat. Acad. Sci.* **1960**, 34, 204-227.
2. *J. Am. Chem. Soc. Proc.* **1917**, 39, 44-72.
3. Asimov, I. *Asimov's Biographical Encyclopedia of Science and Technology (2nd Ed.)*; Doubleday: 1982; p592.
4. *Great Chemists*; Farber, E., Ed.; Interscience: 1961; p1129-1143.
5. *American Chemists and Chemical Engineers*; Miles, W. D., Ed.; American Chemical Society: 1976; p361-362.