

Giulio Fano, 1856–1932.

GIULIO FANO was born in Mantua in 1856 and died on 27th September 1932. He studied in Padua, Bologna, and Turin. He was a pupil of Bizzozero. He graduated in 1879, and after graduation worked in Ludwig's laboratory in Leipzig for a year, then under Angelo Mosso in Turin, later with Luciani in Florence, and in 1884 transferred to Genoa, where he became Professor of Physiology. In 1894 he succeeded Luciani in Florence, and in 1916 was appointed Professor of General Physiology in Rome, a post which he occupied until his death. He was a member of the Accademia dei Lincei, was LL.D. of St Andrews, an honorary member of many societies, Italian and foreign. His contributions to science were numerous. The first, on the behaviour of peptone and tryptone in blood and lymph, was founded on work done in Ludwig's laboratory. This was succeeded by publications on muscular work, on respiration, on the mechanism of voluntary movements, on the heart, etc., extending over many years. He described the oscillations of tone exhibited by the auricles of *Emys europaea*, a fact of great interest in connection with the function of cardiac and plain muscle tissue and the tone of muscle in general. His work on the chemistry of respiration extended over many years. He also carried out important researches on osmotic pressure, surface tension, and viscosity of the blood and similar fluids. For his work on spinal reflexes he was awarded by the Accademia dei Lincei the royal prize for biology. Mention must also be made of his researches on the thyroid and on the labyrinth. Apart from his scientific work he made, especially of late years, important contributions of a more general character. Among these may be enumerated *Fisiologia e Civiltà, Un Fisiologo intorno al mondo, Inhibition et Volonté, Cervello e Cuore* (also published in French and in English), and a memorial tribute to Louis Pasteur. Accompanied by his accomplished wife, he was a frequent attendant at the triennial International Congresses of Physiology and was well known to British physiologists. It was a great regret to us that he was unable to be present at the International Congress held in Edinburgh in 1923. A list of his published works will be found in the *Archivio di Fisiologia*, vol. xxiv, p. viii, a journal which he himself founded in 1904 and edited until his death.

He was elected a Foreign Honorary Fellow of the Society in 1930.

E. A. S.-S.