Keith Lucas Encyclopedia Article

Keith Lucas

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Contents

Keith Lucas Encyclopedia Article.....1

Contents.....2

Keith Lucas.....3

Keith Lucas

1879-1916

British physiologist who established the fundamental "all or nothing" law for skeletal muscle. His university career was interrupted by the death of a close friend in the Boer War. After a long break, Lucas pursued physiological research using a homemade camera setup for recording muscle contraction. During World War I, he used his camera techniques to analyze airplane maneuvers, designed an improved bombsite, and constructed a new magnetic compass. He was tragically killed in a mid-air collision.