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Hydrogen induced Ostwald ripening. Top: Palladium nanocluster have been assembled to form a film. Each sphere represents a nanocluster. Hydrogen in the gas phase adsorbs on the nanocluster. Middle: Hydrogen atoms move to interstitial position and facilitate the move hydrogen. Bottom: Some of the clusters become larger at the expense of the smallest. See p.462.

Courtesy: Marcel Di Vece, Utrecht University, The Netherlands.

Wilhelm Ostwald (1853–1932)

( Illustration: Subhankar Biswas )