

July, 1909, he was accepted as a missionary by the Church Missionary Society, and sailed for Uganda in February of the following year, taking with him on the voyage a complete Roentgen-ray installation for Mengo Hospital, where he served as a surgeon until 1926. His service at this hospital was interrupted in 1917 by a short spell at Toro Hospital, and he was also district medical officer for Toro. In 1926 Cook was appointed to the East Africa Medical Service in Uganda, and he resigned from the C.M.S. in 1929, when his Government appointment was made permanent. Interested in research work on sleeping sickness and in the training of African doctors, Cook wrote *Doctors in Africa*, which was published by the Uganda Medical Service. He married in 1915 Aldwyn May Gordon, who survives him.

ALFRED KOHN, M.D.

Professor Alfred Kohn, professor emeritus of histology in the former German University of Prague, died, at the age of 92, on January 15.

Alfred Kohn's medical studies, his academic career, and his whole life's work were all linked with the city of Prague. He was a medical student at a time when Ernst Mach was professor of physics and Ewald Hering professor of physiology at the university. His teacher in histology was Sigmund Mayer, whose successor Kohn became. He made outstanding contributions to knowledge of the morphology of the endocrine glands, and he was one of the pioneers of modern endocrinology.

Dr. LADISLAV HAAS writes: Alfred Kohn's first work, published in 1895, dealt brilliantly with the embryology and microscopic structure of the parathyroid glands. These, first described by Sandström as separate organs in 1880, he and subsequent workers regarded as "embryonic" structures related to the thyroid or "undeveloped portions" of thyroid tissue. Kohn showed that the parathyroid glands were independent of the thyroid, and had a specific microscopic structure ("epithelial corpuscles") characteristic of the ductless glands. His discovery created the basis for the understanding of the physiology and the clinical significance of the parathyroid glands. He devoted further important studies to the chromaffin tissues and their relationship to the adrenal gland and the sympathetic nervous system. He made remarkable contributions to the problem of nerve regeneration and to the morphology and physiology of the hypophysis, the adrenal cortex, and the testicles. He stimulated a number of his pupils to undertake research work, and several (Gudernatsch, Patzelt, Altschule, and others) achieved distinguished careers.

An excellent teacher, he was one of the leading personalities of the Prague medical school of his time. He was a man of great integrity of character and of true Goethean humanism. In 1942, during the Nazi occupation of Czechoslovakia, at the age of 75, he was transported to the concentration camp of Terezín, where he was imprisoned till the end of the war. The Czechoslovak Government awarded him the high distinction of the Order of Work. He was honorary president of the German Anatomic Society, and an honorary member of the Czech and German endocrinological societies and of the Viennese Medical Society. He preserved his amazing memory, his acute mind and judgment, his interest in scientific progress, his deep philosophy, and his mild humour till the end. He inspired many and fascinated all who had the privilege to know him.

SIDNEY RIDDIOUGH, M.B., F.R.C.S.

Mr. M. D. THAKORE writes: I was grieved to read of the death of my friend, Sidney Riddiough, in the obituary pages of the *Journal* (January 24, p. 240). I had the pleasure of knowing him as a colleague in the ophthalmic department of Leeds General Infirmary in 1919-20. Since then we had been in regular correspondence, with occasional meetings either when he called on me at Doncaster or London or I visited him at Cambridge. He was always a good friend

and a warm and genial host. In spite of all his various professional and social activities (which he never spoke about) he found time to entertain me when I last stayed at Cambridge at the B.M.A. Annual Meeting under the Presidentship of Sir Lionel Whitby. I am sure he will be missed by many more, as by me.

PHILIP HAMILL, M.D., D.Sc., F.R.C.P.

The obituary of Dr. Philip Hamill was printed in the *Journal* of March 14 (p. 722).

Dr. J. B. GURNEY SMITH writes: Another very distinguished son of Bart's has been taken from us. Many old students will recall Hamill's pharmacological teaching. His lectures were most lucid and with anecdotes and full of sound advice. How often in the recounting of the maladministration of any given drug would he say, "I've seen it done." Many will remember those Wednesday afternoon demonstrations away up on the top floor of what used to be the Harley laboratories in Giltspur Street, which were known by the expressive term "cat kicks." Hamill was certainly a tall and very impressive figure, bearing quite a striking facial resemblance to his fellow physician the late Sir Walter Langdon-Brown. It is strange that he never wrote a book on his subject, embodying his teaching. One recalls in this connexion how, in recommending that famous classic by the late J. A. Gunn, he would say, "Gentlemen, note the first three words of the title, 'An Introduction to,' in order to stimulate deeper reading of the subject.

F. CHARLOTTE NAISH, M.D.

The obituary of Dr. Charlotte Naish was printed in the *Journal* of April 11 (p. 977).

C. E. writes: I would like to add my tribute to the memory of F. Charlotte Naish. I knew her first when she was newly qualified and I a medical student with a "bed-sitter" in her Islington home. I had all-too-brief a glance into her life in York, where she set a fine standard as a first-class G.P., at the same time bringing up a family of five and still finding energy and enthusiasm to spare for committees and other work of national importance. Her pioneer work in connexion with her firmly held belief in the importance of nursing sick children at home rather than in hospital is only one instance of many that I recall. I last saw her in Cumberland, where she was struggling so heroically and so successfully in an experiment which all of us followed with interest and not a little trepidation on her account, though deep down I suspect we all felt that anything undertaken by Charlotte was bound to succeed. No one who came in contact with her could fail to feel stimulated and encouraged, and to have gained something from that apparently endless fund of strength and vitality with which she always seemed to be endowed, and which she so unselfishly spent in the service of humanity. I find remarks made by Charlotte have a habit of being remembered, often just at the appropriate moment when one is puzzling over a problem. Others will write more adequately of her many qualifications and attainments; I want to record the pride and gratitude I feel for having known her, and to join so many others in extending to her husband and family a heartfelt sympathy in the loss of a great and very valiant lady.

Sir ROBERT MUIR, M.D., ScD., LL.D., D.C.L. F.R.C.P., F.R.C.P.Ed., F.R.F.P.S., F.R.S.

The obituary of Sir Robert Muir was printed in the *Journal* of April 11 (p. 976).

Dr. J. F. HEGGIE writes: The legend that was Muir had been long established, in story apocryphal and affectionate, when our year sat under him as we had under other professors of outstanding individuality of character who marked their epoch. On becoming Muir's assistant and lecturer for the