

of young men from all parts of our dwindling Empire. Such students came to him not only for advice about their studies, but brought to him their domestic problems of landladies, diet, and love. Few men have done so much for good Imperial (Commonwealth) and international relations. He and his wife frequently gave long hospitality in their home to foreigners. His reward lasts in the hearts and affections of a legion of old students in many parts of the world—perhaps the receipt of six model Taj Mahals one Christmas is a slender token of such.

Robert Davenport's sympathy for afflicted mankind showed at its best at St. Dunstan's during the second world war. His firm, sensible, and cheerful guidance of young soldiers through the early trials of the worst of human afflictions was exemplary. Possibly his honest and outspoken distaste and dislike for the political manoeuvres that shadowed the background of St. Dunstan's lost him the public recognition he so richly deserved but to which he would have attached, quite characteristically, little importance. His colleagues and patients will always remember him with warmth and genuine affection as a very lovable man and a doctor who brought to his way of life and the practice of his chosen branch of medicine and surgery all that is best of human qualities.

Our sympathy is extended to his widow and family.

Mr. A. G. CROSS writes: Robert Davenport will be mourned by countless numbers of his students in all parts of the world. He was dean of the Moorfields Medical School and of the Institute of Ophthalmology for 21 years, and he was a personal friend to every student who worked at Moorfields during that time. He was also a very real friend to the many St. Dunstaners for whom he was responsible at Church Stretton during the years of the second world war. He was a clinician of great insight, a lucid teacher, and a man who showed much kindness to many people. His outstanding characteristic perhaps was his ability to remember the people he had met. He could recall immediately, by name and in detail, all the students he had known at Moorfields, all the members of St. Dunstan's he had treated, as well as a host of other patients.

CAMILLE GUÉRIN, M.D.

Professor Camille Guérin, who was associated with Professor Albert Calmette in the production of an avirulent strain of tubercle bacillus (bacillus Calmette-Guérin) from which they prepared their B.C.G. vaccine against tuberculosis, died in Paris on June 9. He was 89 years of age. Guérin was born at Poitiers in 1872. He first studied veterinary medicine, and in 1897 he joined the Pasteur Institute in Lille, where Calmette was in charge. It was here, at the turn of the century, that they began their painstaking labours to try to cultivate a strain of bacillus from which a vaccine might safely be prepared. Calmette died in 1933, and only Guérin survived to see the final justification of their work.

The statement by Calmette and Guérin in 1920 that they had succeeded in suppressing the virulence of an originally virulent bovine strain of tubercle bacillus was viewed with scepticism by many bacteriologists. It was suspected that reversion might occur unexpectedly and dangerously. Emotions ran high: for example, the claim by a famous American bacteriologist that dissociation had in fact taken place in his laboratory was answered by the accusation that the virulence was due to a contaminant from his own sputum (he had tuberculosis). Again, the notorious Lübeck disaster in 1930, when a large group of German infants contracted tuberculosis after vaccination, was decided finally to be due to the substitution in error of a human virulent strain kept in the same laboratory as the stock B.C.G. In fact, whether the early B.C.G. cultures did or did not contain some virulent elements, there has been no sub-

stantiated evidence of dissociation during the past 30 years at least—during which some 200 million persons have been vaccinated with apparent safety.

After Calmette and Guérin had found that their B.C.G. vaccine could induce a degree of immunity against challenge by virulent mammalian-type *M. tuberculosis* in experimental animals, Weill-Hallé started tests in infants in Paris in 1921. Reports of protection against tuberculosis in further trials in France (some of them undoubtedly exaggerated in their claims and interpretations) were received with doubts in many countries. In Britain, in 1928, Calmette's statistical evidence was strongly criticized by Greenwood in this *Journal*. Thus the global advance of B.C.G. took place very unevenly and painfully, with statistically controlled trials sadly lacking for many years and possible bias entering into many of the published results. However, the accumulation of observations, defective as they often were in design and presentation, were impressively consistent—particularly among contacts in Scandinavia, where the greatest current interest outside France was to be found. Then came the demonstration of the effectiveness of B.C.G. from the properly controlled trials of Aronson and colleagues in North American Indians from 1936 to 1956, and from the unequivocal results of the Medical Research Council trial, from 1950 onwards, in healthy British schoolchildren, the reports of which were published in the *British Medical Journal*. The bacillus Calmette-Guérin has now many daughter-strains in different parts of the world, and their popularity as vaccination material is a lasting tribute to their two indefatigable scientific originators. It is sad that Calmette did not live to see this triumph and fortunate that Guérin did.

After his retirement 18 years ago Guérin lived at the Pasteur Institute in Paris, of which he was honorary director, and continued to take an active interest in its affairs. In 1955 he received the *Grand Prix de la Recherche Scientifique* from the French Academy of Sciences. In 1960 the International Union against Tuberculosis elected honorary members for the first time, and Camille Guérin was one of those upon whom the honour was conferred.

A. P. MEIKLEJOHN, M.A., D.M., B.Sc., M.R.C.P.

Dr. A. P. Meiklejohn's death in a fishing accident on June 14, at the age of 51, has come as a shock to his many friends in this country and abroad. He was senior lecturer in nutrition at the University of Edinburgh. A scientist of distinction, he made important contributions to the literature on his subject, and was joint author, with Sir Stanley Davidson and R. Passmore, of *Human Nutrition and Dietetics*, published in 1959.

Arnold Peter Meiklejohn, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Meiklejohn, of Harpenden, was born in 1909 and was educated at Gresham's School, where he knew W. H. Auden, Stephen Spender, and John Pudney. From there he went with a science scholarship to Oriel College, Oxford, and graduated B.Sc. in 1931, with first-class honours in physiology. At St. Mary's Hospital, London, he gathered further academic distinctions, including a Radcliffe Scholarship and a Peabody Travelling Fellowship which took him to America for three years, where he worked with several leading physicians, including Castle and Minot. He took the B.M., B.Ch. in 1935, and proceeded D.M. in 1949. During the war he was nutrition adviser to Unrra, and in 1946 he was appointed senior lecturer in nutrition at the University of Edinburgh, which post he held at the time of his death. In 1949 he was elected to Membership of the Royal College of Physicians of London on the record of his published work. His publications were numerous and impressive, in both the British and American literature, and mainly concerned disorders of metabolism. Perhaps the most important was his paper in 1941 in the *Johns Hopkins Bulletin*: "Is Thiamine the Anti-neuritis Vitamin?" In this he courageously challenged the entrenched views of the