Dr John Agerholm-Christensen died in Oxford on October 3, 1964, at the age of fifty-eight years after a long illness.

He was born in Denmark in 1906 and qualified at the University of Copenhagen in 1931. In 1942 he obtained a doctor's degree in the same university and in that year also he was made Chief Assistant to Professor Bentzon in the Orthopaedic Hospital at Aarhus. With the German occupation of Denmark the life of Dr Agerholm suffered a decisive change. Of profound democratic convictions, he soon joined the Danish resistance organisation and became one of its leaders. Detained in 1943 by the Gestapo, he was imprisoned in Copenhagen as a preliminary to being sent to a concentration camp in Germany. He then had an opportunity to show the resources of his nature. While incarcerated in Copenhagen he was able to plan his escape with members of the Danish resistance. With the help of a pin he opened a vein in the forearm and sucked blood until he felt sick. He then loudly complained of abdominal pain and while his guard was opening the cell door he caused himself to vomit almost all the blood he had swallowed. A Gestapo doctor who was brought in diagnosed a severe gastric haemorrhage and Agerholm was taken to his old hospital. While walking along a corridor on the second floor he urgently requested to enter a nearby toilet, and before the two accompanying soldiers had time to react he jumped to the yard below from a height of over twenty-five feet. A crowd of people—mostly members of the Underground—surrounded him and the soldiers refrained from using their rifles on what appeared to be hospital patients. Some two weeks later Agerholm was taken by night in a fishing boat to Sweden where he was given cordial hospitality by his colleagues. At Stockholm he worked at the Karolinska Institute under Professor Sten Friberg. In August
1944 he came to Great Britain to help in the liberation of his country by the extensive knowledge he had of the Nazi control of Denmark.

While in England he joined the surgical staff of the Wingfield-Morris Orthopaedic Hospital, now the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, Oxford. After the end of the war he married in England and returned to Denmark in May 1945 to renew his duties at the Orthopaedic Hospital at Aarhus, but he visited England on several occasions to attend orthopaedic courses. In 1946 he was made Chief Assistant to Professor Sven Kier in Copenhagen, a post he relinquished to come to live permanently in England when he was made a consultant at the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre in 1950. But he never lost his love for his native Denmark to which he paid periodical visits.

His main contributions to medical literature appeared in Danish, among them some accounts of what he had seen in Britain during and immediately after the war. Skeletal tuberculosis was one of the subjects in which he was mainly interested. He had been acting editor of *Acta Orthopaedica Scandinavica* from 1947 until the time he settled in Oxford.

The passing of Dr Agerholm removes a man of firm integrity and strict convictions which occasionally were sources of disagreement with people whose views he disputed, but his candid sincerity and the high ideals of his youth, for which he had so forcibly fought, avoided any lasting resentment.

He married twice, both times in England, and leaves three children by his first marriage. We join his family and his many friends, both here and in Scandinavia, in their sorrow.

J. T.