Arthur Rocyn Jones, consulting surgeon to the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, died peacefully at his home on Stanmore Hill on February 13 at the age of eighty-eight, and the vigil of his devoted wife was over. The last three years, a period of increasing frailty, had brought several alarms about his health and once a spell of some weeks in hospital, but a strong Welsh constitution always came to the rescue, keeping him on his feet with a clear memory of the exciting events of his early career in orthopaedics, almost to the very end. He was equally sustained by the deep but unobtrusive Christian belief which had governed the conduct of his life.

Over the years, Rocyn, as he was known affectionately, forged a strong personal link with the early days of orthopaedic surgery in Great Britain. In 1918, sponsored by Elmslie the thinker and Bankart the man of speedy action, he had been elected a founder member of the British Orthopaedic Association, of which in due course he became the historian. To mark his eighty-fifth birthday the number of this Journal for May 1968 was dedicated to him. The warm appreciation it contained, from the flowing pen of Jackson Burrows, gave so many accurate and felicitous details of his life and influence that to cover this ground all over again would be repetitious indeed. For a later happy occasion the reader is referred to the number for February 1972, where a delightful photograph shows Rocyn in the living room of Brynitrion
receiving with evident pleasure a bound copy of his birthday volume. With his passing, Sir Harry Platt is now the only one left of the band of distinguished men who safely launched our Association.

A special link with the grass-roots period of British orthopaedics may perhaps be mentioned. For many years Rocyn was a close friend of Muirhead Little, who gave him some priceless relics of his father W. J. Little, notably a case-full of tenotomes and necropsy instruments, and an annotated copy of the thesis in Latin on the treatment of club foot presented to the University of Berlin in 1837 for his doctorate. These are now in the safe keeping of the Institute of Orthopaedics, which he helped to establish in 1946.

Arthur Rocyn Jones leaves his wife, Margaret, and a daughter, Glayne. We share their sense of gratitude for his long life of constant and fruitful endeavour. K. I. N.

JAMES REID BRIGGS

1921-1971

James Briggs died in Belgium on December 19, 1971, as a result of a road traffic accident. His tragic death came as a great shock to friends, colleagues and patients alike.

He was born in Northampton and received his medical education at the University of London and King's College Hospital, graduating M.B., B.S. in 1943. He held house appointments at King's before entering the Royal Navy. At the end of his naval service he returned to civilian life to follow his chosen surgical career. He completed his F.R.C.S. examinations in 1952, and about this time, stimulated by a registrar appointment at the Royal Postgraduate Medical School, he directed his energies towards orthopaedic surgery. He subsequently held the post of senior registrar at Guy's Hospital until appointed consultant orthopaedic surgeon to the Mid-Sussex group of hospitals in 1957. This appointment was quickly followed by further sessions at the Battersea General Hospital. In 1969 he was also appointed to the Brighton and Lewes group of hospitals.

Jimmy Briggs had a zest for life which quickly endeared him to his colleagues. His quick incisive mind rapidly sifted the non-essential or irrelevant aspects of a problem and enabled him to make firm decisions with the ease of a natural organiser. He was particularly interested in the surgical treatment of rheumatoid arthritis and was developing an approach to the problem of the affected hand in this condition before his untimely death. He was for some years the secretary of the South-East Metropolitan Regional Orthopaedic Club, and under his untiring aegis the activities of this club extended well beyond its regional confines.

After his service with the Royal Navy he remained on the reserve list for some years with the rank of Surgeon Commander and was awarded the Volunteer Reserve Decoration. He had a great affection for the Senior Service and its traditions and a love of the sea which made him a most competent all-weather helmsman.

Our sympathies are extended to his wife, Tineke, and to his daughter and son, who is a medical student. A. B.
When George Jennings died suddenly on July 19, 1971, New Zealand lost one of her best known senior orthopaedic surgeons. Although his later years were marred by deteriorating health, he continued in practice until his death.

Born in Invercargill, he graduated in medicine at Otago University in 1937. His houseman years were spent at Wellington and Christchurch Hospitals, and he engaged in general practice for a short time. After the outbreak of war he went overseas with the Second New Zealand Expeditionary Force in January 1941, serving as a medical officer in the Middle East until taken prisoner in November 1941. His return to Wellington in 1944 marked the beginning of his career in orthopaedics. Two years as a registrar at Wellington Hospital were followed by postgraduate study in the United Kingdom. He gained Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, and later of the Royal Australasian College.

With his appointment in 1950 as a senior whole time orthopaedic surgeon George Jennings began a long period of noteworthy service to Wellington Hospital. He had a wide experience of all aspects of orthopaedics and a particular ability in the management of trauma. In 1962 he entered private practice and became a visiting surgeon on the consulting staff of the hospital. As a foundation member of the New Zealand Orthopaedic Association, he was one of a small select band of whom few now remain, and at the time of his death he was Vice-President. He was a Fellow of the British Orthopaedic Association. Outside orthopaedics his great interest was music, and he was a talented pianist.

We shall remember George Jennings as an able surgeon and a warm-hearted friend. Our deep sympathy goes to his wife, Fay, and his three daughters. J. H. S.