a fortitude tempered by natural good humour that will never be forgotten by his friends and colleagues. His early death leaves a substantial gap in the ranks of younger orthopaedic surgeons with a special interest in children or in medical engineering. During his life he made important contributions to the branches of orthopaedics and heraldry in which he was particularly interested. These, and the Medical Engineering Research Unit at Carshalton, will remain as a permanent memorial to a very good doctor.

Our sympathy rests with his wife and three young children.  

G. F. W.

HANS DEBRUNNER  
1889–1974

Hans Debrunner, formerly professor of orthopaedics in the University of Basle, died on April 21, 1974, at his home in Zollikon, near Zürich, after a short illness. Quite apart from his dedication to his patients, his careful work as a scientist and zeal as an academic teacher, Debrunner was outstanding in many other ways. He was, above all, a very kind and lovable person to all who sought his help, and he had many friends far beyond the boundaries of Switzerland.

The son of a gynaecologist and obstetrician in the market town of Frauenfeld in Switzerland, Debrunner experienced a very happy childhood. The rich countryside bordering the wide Lake of Constance and the Rhine, and his father’s work there, as he often said, the main influences on those formative years. After passing his final medical examinations at the University of Zürich he went to Berlin in 1915 with the intention of specialising in paediatrics. Here he met Hermann Gocht, the professor of orthopaedics, who was then struggling to create a properly recognised clinic. The two men understood each other so well that Gocht became the teacher he was to venerate all his life and orthopaedics became his profession. In spite of the effects of the first world war, and in many ways also due to the experience gained from them, orthopaedics developed in those years by leaps and bounds.

After nine years of work with Gocht, Debrunner returned to Zürich in 1924 and set up in private practice with immediate success. Moreover, he established an orthopaedic polyclinic in the surgical department of the University Hospital under Professor Clairmont. In 1941 he helped to found the Swiss Orthopaedic Society, of which he was later the president from 1952 to 1955. In 1948 he was appointed to the newly created chair of orthopaedics in the University of Basle. In spite of this heavy charge he continued to work for his patients and colleagues in Zürich and still found time to pursue his scientific studies. He published more than 160 carefully constructed papers on various orthopaedic subjects, made many contributions to the German Handbuch der Orthopädie, and wrote several monographs, the best known of which is probably Der angeborene Klumpfuss (congenital club foot). From 1963 to 1968 he represented Switzerland as a Corresponding Editor of this Journal. After retiring from Basle, Debrunner continued to work as a consultant, highly esteemed by all those who sought his help, till his last sudden illness.

Although deeply dedicated to his profession, Debrunner was much too evenly balanced to be possessed by it. The happiness of his childhood years continued and was ever present and quite infectious to those who enjoyed his warm hospitality. He had a great love of the arts—painting, sculpture, music and literature, both classical and modern—and he himself was a master in the art of speaking and writing, this in several languages. To all these human ties must be added one yet greater attachment. During the last years, in the course of long walks he felt himself part of the countryside where he had lived and worked so long and so happily.

Hans Debrunner has left a devoted wife, two daughters and a son Alfred who is following in his footsteps as an orthopaedic surgeon.

C. P.

PULIYAR KRISHNASWAMI DURAIWAMI  
1912–1974

His many friends in this country will have heard with great regret of the untimely death of Professor Duraiswami on March 11, 1974, at the early age of sixty-one. After serving as a surgical specialist in World War II, he came to this country in 1947 and rapidly obtained the Degrees of Master of Orthopaedic Surgery of Liverpool University and the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. Following this he was
a Research Fellow in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at Liverpool, and for his original work on the aetiology of congenital deformities he was awarded the Degree of Ph.D. in 1951, the first time it had been awarded in Liverpool for original research in orthopaedics. This work also won him the Robert Jones Gold Medal, the British Orthopaedic Association Prize for 1951 and a Hunterian Professorship of the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

He then spent two years as Instructor in Orthopaedic Surgery in the Johns Hopkins University before returning to his native country as Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery and Head of the Department of Surgery at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi. Here he helped to create a school of teaching and research which is now a national centre, and numbers of his students now occupy important teaching posts in the medical colleges of his country.

During the last few years he was Director-General of Health Services to the Central Government of India. Having diverted his abilities and energies to problems of community health, he was instrumental in establishing the concept of mobile hospitals to provide medical care in rural India. In his own country he received many honours, particularly the award of the Padma Bhushan for an outstanding contribution to the welfare of India.

His brilliant work won international recognition in many forms, and in particular his research on the induction of congenital defects by injecting insulin into chick embryos has been one of the main sources from which a number of modern ideas on deformities have sprung.

Duraiswami will long be remembered for his outstanding intellect and tireless energy and it is sad that he should have died so soon after his retirement. His many friends in every continent will certainly miss him.

R. R.