

Society, may be secured from the Editor in Chief, R. D. Lillie, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md.

OBITUARIES

REUBEN DAVIS, M.D., who joined the American Diabetes Association on March 18, 1941, died in Philadelphia on December 24, 1951, at 47 years of age. Dr. Davis was born in Jackson, Tennessee, and obtained his medical degree from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, in 1929. At the time of his death he was Assistant Professor of Medicine at Temple University School of Medicine and Chief of the Metabolic Clinic in Temple University Hospital.

Dr. Davis was a member of the American Medical Association, The Endocrine Society, and the Philadelphia Metabolic Association, as well as the American Diabetes Association.

EDWARD PAUL LEEPER, M.D., of Dallas, Texas, member of the American Diabetes Association since February 1941, died on February 9 at the age of 48. Born in 1903 at Denison, Texas, Dr. Leeper was graduated from the University of Texas School of Medicine in 1928, and thereafter joined the faculty of Baylor University College of Medicine, as Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine. Later he became Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine at the Southwestern Medical School of the University of Texas.

Dr. Leeper was, in addition to being a member of the American Diabetes Association, a fellow of the American College of Physicians and the American Medical Association, and a member of the American Heart Association. He was affiliated with Parkland, Methodist and Medical Arts Hospitals, and served as Medical Director for the Praetorian Life Insurance Company.

A TRIBUTE TO OTTO MEYERHOF: 1884-1951

With the death of Otto Meyerhof on October 6, 1951, the world lost one of the most outstanding scientists of this century. The revolutionary character of his thinking, the originality of his approach, and the brilliance of his experimental work had a profound influence upon the progress of physiology and biochemistry—indeed, upon the progress of biology as a whole, and consequently upon the medical research of the past few decades. . . .

Meyerhof demonstrated that muscle glycogen is the precursor of the lactic acid formed in the absence of oxygen. He further showed that, in the presence of oxygen, some of the lactic acid formed during the anaerobic contraction was oxidized, but that not all the lactic acid underwent this fate. About one fifth to one fourth of it was oxidized to carbon dioxide and water, and the energy of this oxidation was used to reconvert the remaining four fifths or three fourths to glycogen. His discovery thus confirmed and extended Pasteur's hypothesis that fermentation (or glycolysis) is "la vie sans air" in that, to a certain extent, it substitutes for respiration. His observations actually proved Pasteur's assumption that less carbohydrate is consumed in the presence of oxygen than in its absence. The depression of glycolysis by respiration has since been referred to as the Pasteur-Meyerhof effect. Meyerhof's brilliant analysis of the glycogen-lactic acid cycle and its relation to respiration explained the course of the heat production and, for the first time, established the cyclic character of energy transformations in the living cell. For this accomplishment Meyerhof received the Nobel prize in physiology and medicine in 1923 (when he was only 39 years old), together with his colleague and friend A. V. Hill. . . .

The impact of Meyerhof's personality and of his work is perhaps best illustrated by the great number of scientists who received inspiration and training in his laboratory. . . . The combination of a great scientist and a great man made him a real leader and one of the most distinguished representatives of modern science.

—From a memorial essay by David Nachmansohn, Severo Ochoa, and Fritz A. Lipmann, *Science*, April 4, 1952.