Officer to Bristol University, Mr. Gareth George, Physiotherapist to Bath Rugby Club and Mr. Philip Bliss, a Consultant Orthopaedic colleague in Bath.

Following lunch, the business meeting was preceded by an introduction by the organiser, Dr. Malcolm Bottomley, Medical Officer to Bath University, in which he reminded delegates of the long history of BASM from its beginnings in 1953 to its present multidisciplinary membership of some 1,500. He suggested that the South West branch should remember the early activities of BASM in not only promoting its educational activity for members but providing a consultative function to regional governing bodies, coaches, and sportsmen and women in the area. He also expressed the view that if the branch was to succeed, it must be by encouraging the involvement of each individual,

with the Committee directing and channelling that energy, rather than having to be the sole driving force.

The meeting went on to appoint Dr. Malcolm Bottomley as Chairman and Miss Sarah Bulstrode, Dr. Tony Butler, Mr. John Carvell, Mr. Mike Down and Mr. Graham May as Committee Members representative of general practice, orthopaedic surgery, physiotherapy, podiatry and sports science.

Finally, the meeting discussed a future programme of activities.

The successful day was made possible by the generous sponsorship of Messrs. Syntex Pharmaceuticals, through their representative — Mr. Barrie Turner.

Dr. Malcolm Bottomley

OBITUARY

Dr. James Raymond Owen, OBE

For any organisation to lose its President it is a sad blow: when that President is personally known to, respected and admired by most of its members, it becomes a tragedy. Such a President was Dr. Raymond Owen — only 4 years in that office but a founder member and trusty, hard working supporter of BASM for all the 32 years of its existence.

I first met Raymond Owen as a medical student at St. Mary's Hospital, London in the middle thirties. At that time I was a Resident Surgical Officer — so I have known him for some 50 years!

As a student he showed the same characteristics as later marked him out as a rather special person. He was essentially an all-rounder — assiduous and successful in his work and an active participant in many games, naturally friendly and easy of approach, generally popular, enthusiastic, generous and completely unself-conscious. After filling his resident posts — including a very successful obstetric appointment, he returned to his home town — Rugby — where he established a highly successful general practice with an emphasis on obstetrics. This practice extended far beyond the confines of the city — and he was greatly respected and loved by his multitude of patients. His "escape" from this arduous work was an ever-increasing interest in and knowledge of sports medicine. An early member of BASM he was a frequent attendee at its meetings and conferences, was a faithful member for many years of its Executive Committee — of which he became a Vice-President in 1978, and finally President of the Association in 1982.

His extensive knowledge of sports medicine, together with his sterling character and delightful warm personality, led to his appointment as Medical Officer to a series of Olympic, Commonwealth Games and other international teams over a large number of years. This was a continuing success story and reached its apex when he was appointed Chairman of the International Association of Olympic Medical Officers. This mark of trust and approval by his international colleagues was equalled only by the gratitude of a host of international athletes — whose warm friendship he greatly valued. Raymond perhaps was not a dramatic figure — but he was a man who lived life to the full and was able to share his evident enjoyment of it with all those fortunate enough to find themselves in contact with him.

To them his departure is a very personal sadness — and BASM has lost a true and trusty friend. All of us must count ourselves richer for having known him.

Porritt

Dr. Raymond Owen first qualified in 1934 as a Licentiate of the Society of Apothecaries, and in 1937 gained the MA, MB, MChir. from the University of Cambridge, after clinical studies at St. Mary's Hospital, London. He obtained the Diploma of Obstetrics of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1945. His work with the Olympic movement and in sports medicine have been described by Lord Porritt above, and in 1981 he was awarded the Bronze Medal of the Olympic Order. Raymond's last official duties were to attend our Association's Congress 85 at the Strathallan Thistle Hotel, Birmingham last November, and to participate fully in the scientific, business and social programmes of that congress. He confided to a few officers of the Association that he intended resigning his office as President because of ill health, but he died suddenly at his home a few days before Christmas. I also will miss an old friend, who has been a reliable supporter to me for almost thirty years. We extend our deepest sympathy to his widow Dorothy and their family.

H. E. Robson