

event, anticipatory anxiety, if not too severe, seems to mobilise extra physiological resources.

- (3) Staleness: is the dreaded let down of an athlete who can no longer muster zest and enthusiasm for his event.

In conclusion, as world-beating becomes increasingly hard work - though no less admirable a spectacle for the onlookers - let us thank goodness for the existence of so many club athletes who run, like Sir Adolphe Abrahams, simply for the fun of it.

### OBITUARY

Dr. James Harkness Margerison.

The sudden and unexpected death of Jimmy Margerison on August 5th, at the age of 45, was a shock and a personal loss to me. He was the most outstanding medical scientist in this Association, was keenly critical of poor work, and an advocate of the advancement of sports medicine as an academic study requiring research of the highest quality. His constructive suggestions have made some contribution to the increased quality of the British Journal of Sports Medicine, and his sound common sense and outspoken bluntness have been a great help to me. Much of his effort in the field of sports medicine has been through the Institute of Sports Medicine, to which body he will also be a dreadful loss. His contributions were in many highly specialised fields; neurophysiology and the application of electronics and computer techniques to the monitoring of neurophysiological parameters; biochemical aspects of nervous function; the physiology of swimming - a personal interest dating from the time his young daughter showed promise as a swimmer; and boxing, his own undergraduate sport. He was in attendance at the National Swimming Championships at Blackpool at the time of his death.

Dr. Margerison qualified rather late in his career, having first been in the armed forces. He obtained the MB,ChB. of St. Andrews University in 1952. He was later Mental Health Research Fellow at the Runwell Hospital, the Lecturer in the Institute of Psychiatry at the Maudesley Hospital. He was appointed Consultant in Clinical Neurophysiology at St. Bartholemew's Hospital. He has given give valuable years service to the B.A.S.M. and to the Institute of Sports Medicine, and several valuable years to the Amateur Swimming Association, and shall be missed by all of us.