

distinguished, or destined to become so; Drummond was, however, the senior partner in most of these publications. I think he exerted much more influence through his inspiration of junior colleagues, and by his example of first-class work than by any actual event of discovery, in which, despite immense efforts, he was, on the whole, not over fortunate. That he played a very large part in the general development of the biochemistry of nutrition nobody can doubt; but it was more by example, by the application of first-class chemistry, by his innate appreciation that mere chemistry is not enough, and by the co-ordination of wide chemical with biological knowledge rather than by resounding discoveries that he did so.

When the War came in 1939, he was clearly indicated as the most suitable person for the responsible post of scientific adviser to the Ministry of Food, which he held until 1946, in the later years of the period being also adviser on nutrition to the Allied Post-War Requirements Bureau and S.H.A.E.F., and adviser on nutrition to the Control Commissions for Germany and Austria (British Element). He was knighted in 1944, and shortly afterwards was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. Great Britain owes to Jack Drummond and to the Minister, Lord Woolton, who gave him a pretty free hand, an incalculable debt for the fine work they did in connexion with the British rationing system, which was finely conceived, brilliantly executed, and a pattern to all nations.

Drummond was interested in food from every aspect; he was a very good judge of food and knowledgeable as to its preparation, and he brought, as often as he could, to good food, good fellowship. Very many have spent many a happy hour with him, enjoying good fare, good conversation, and good fun at one of his clubs, at some private dining club, which he always enlivened, or in his own home, where he was the perfect host. We shall all think, often and often, of those very well-spent evenings, and shall not forget.

Lady Drummond (*née* Wilbraham) was his second wife; she was interested in history, and collaborated with him in the production, in 1939, of an entertaining book, "The Englishman's Food" (Jonathan Cape), which abounds in sound scholarship and humour.

'Jack' was full of energy and enterprise, and with a lively sense of humour, which extended to telling stories against himself. He had travelled widely, and with wide-open eyes. Hatred was foreign to his nature, though he freely expressed amused contempt for any kind of pomposity or priggishness; to some, therefore, he might have been unacceptable. Beneath the twinkling eye there was, nevertheless, a steely inflexibility of purpose, and he could be devastating towards incompetence and astringent to fools. Lecturing came easily to Drummond; he was bright, informative and had a gift for popular exposition; accordingly he gave many popular lectures to large audiences, both in Great Britain and in the United States, and these lectures were greatly enjoyed.

His connexions with the industrial aspects of biochemistry, and especially with the food industry, were close, and mutually beneficial. Few realized more clearly than he that our standard of living, together with the sweets of academic life, represent the cream skimmed from industrial endeavour, and he probably supplied more young men for industrial undertakings than any other three biochemists put

together; these young men did him great credit, and they not infrequently gained distinction in both pure and applied science.

Very many young people owe to Sir Jack Drummond their start in life; he liked young people, and put on no professorial airs for their benefit. If any memorial to him is to be created, he would have liked nothing better than something which would enable capable young people to receive an encouraging start, such as he gave to so many. It would also keep alive the name, for those whose loss it was not to have known him, of a great and lovable personality.

C. LOVATT EVANS

THE late Sir Jack Drummond was a man of outstanding ability. He was a scientist with an international reputation as one of the leaders in developing what has been called the newer knowledge of nutrition. By applying the scientific method of approach to the administrative problems in the Ministry of Food he made a great contribution to the success during the Second World War of food policy, the outstanding feature of which was the special provision for the nutritional needs of mothers and children. The resulting big improvement in the health and physique in the rising generation in a time of acute food shortage was a remarkable achievement. As one of those who got this policy adopted, and for his work in helping to get it carried through, he rendered great service to Great Britain.

BOYD-ORR

#### Mr. J. R. Park

BRITISH applied science has suffered a severe loss in the untimely death of Mr. J. R. Park, a managing director of the British Oxygen Co., Ltd. Mr. Park was born in London in 1902 and was educated first at Battersea Grammar School and then at Queen Mary College, where he graduated in chemistry. After a short period on the staff of Westminster Technical College he worked as an analytical chemist in industry for a number of years in Britain, followed by a year in a French firm.

In 1929 Mr. Park joined Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., Billingham Division, where he remained until 1945. For a time he worked there as a plant manager, but soon he switched over to the research side. The production of hydrogen, the hydrogenation of coal, the ammonia synthesis and methanol synthesis were some of the fields which occupied him in the years up to the Second World War, when he had advanced to the position of ammonia research manager. He was also connected with the design of oil hydrogenation plant, and in the first year of the War was responsible for the design of various other plants.

I made his acquaintance in 1941, when Park was put in charge of the I.C.I. Billingham research team working on the British Atomic Energy Project. His quick grasp of problems, his strong scientific background and his understanding of large-scale industrial processes formed a combination that contributed greatly to the success of the enterprise.

In 1945 Park was asked to organize a research department in the British Oxygen Co. He did this with outstanding success, creating within a few years a large and flourishing research organization practically from scratch. His worth was quickly appreciated;