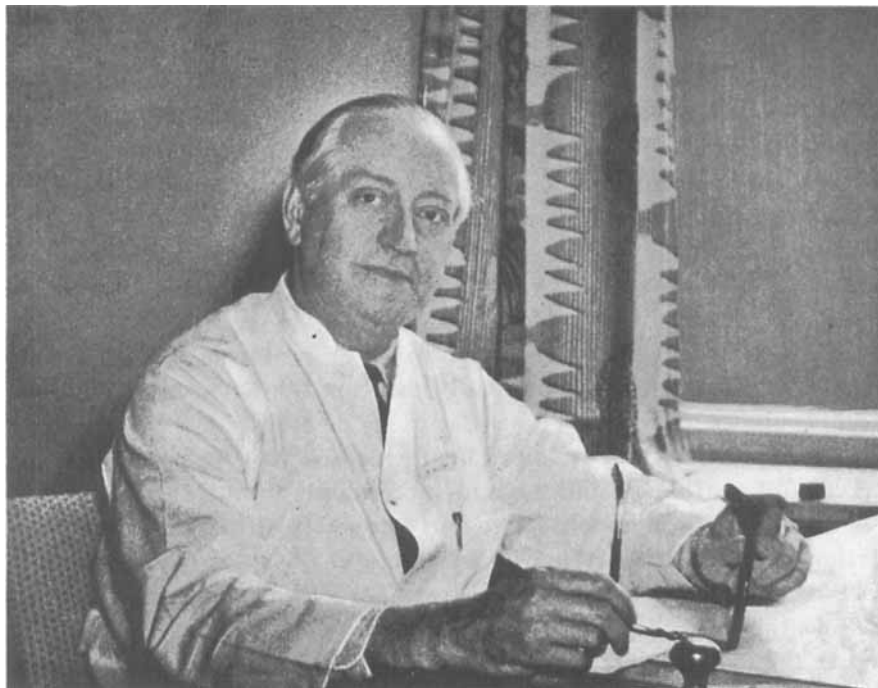




SVEN KIÆR

In memoriam

Sven Kiær died on July 20, 1955. The day before he worked as usual at the Orthopaedic Hospital in Copenhagen. A coronary attack brought his life to an end without warning. By the death of Sven Kiær Scandinavian orthopaedic surgery has lost a great personality and numerous friends here and abroad are left with memories of a good man, a skilled physician and a grand host for visitors to Copenhagen.

Sven Kiær was born September 11, 1894 in Copenhagen, the son of Gottlieb Kiær, M.D.

Kiær graduated in medicine in 1919 and afterwards he obtained an extensive general surgical training in various hospitals in Copenhagen. As *assistant étranger* he served in *la Salpêtrière* in Paris 1928–29, an experience which influenced his future attitude to clinical problems.

Kiær was early engaged in the problem concerning traumatic lesions, insurance and compensation principles. His knowledge in this field was

called upon on several occasions and many of his publications deal with this subject.

In 1935 Kiær was appointed associate chief in 1947 senior surgeon of dept. II of the Orthopaedic Hospital in Copenhagen. When he devoted his life to orthopaedics, his scope was the raising and expansion of the orthopaedic field. His training, his openminded approach to the problems and his efficient power brought him to the pioneers position. Vascular disorders, plastic surgery and the introduction of alloplastic materials in joint surgery were among the fields, he early devoted his attention.

In spite of the pressure and burden of problems and work Kiær always remained kind and friendly, making the days work a pleasure to his juniors.

Besides his technical skill Kiær possessed an almost magic power to rebuild confidence and hope in the patients mind.

Sven Kiær was appointed to the Danish Health Department as an orthopaedic consultant. He was a member of the editorial board of Acta Orthopaedica and corresponding member of the British Orthopaedic Association and the American Orthopedic Association.

In the very limited time left for recreation Kiær enjoyed to cruise the Scandinavian waters in his yacht. A year ago he went ashore and bought a beautiful farm in North Zeeland. With enthusiasm he applied his biological knowledge to this new object for his energy.

Last summer Sven Kiær presided the meeting of the Scandinavian Orthopaedic Association. With dignity and spirit he directed the scientific sessions and the social events.

Scandinavian friends contributed to a portrait of Kiær on his 60 years anniversary. This portrait is now being placed in the Orthopaedic Hospital.

It is later than you guess. We, who are left, carry on the work in our profession in grateful memory of Sven Kiær.

KNUD JANSEN