QUIN, JOHN ISAAC : (February 15, 1900, Klerksdorp, South Africa – March 20, 1950, on train between Nelspruit and Pretoria, South Africa). *Veterinarian; Physiologist.* Son of John George and Emmerentia (neé Botha) Quin. Married Petronella Schutstal-van Woudenberg, 4 December 1928.

EDUCATION : Transvaal University College [then under the aegis of University of South Africa], 1924 (member of 1st class of students to graduate from newly created veterinary faculty at Onderstepoort) : BVSc (with honours); University of South Africa, 1928 : DVSc(*cum laude)*.

CAREER : 1925 – 1936, research veterinary officer in Section of Bacteriology at Veterinary Research Institute, Onderstepoort; 1937 – 1948, senior veterinary research officer in Section of Physiology at the Veterinary Research Institute, Onderstepoort; 1934 – 1950, Professor of Physiology at Onderstepoort Faculty of Veterinary Science; December 1949 – 20 March 1950 (he died in office), Director of Veterinary Services and Dean of Veterinary Faculty at Onderstepoort.

CONTRIBUTIONS : Did pioneering research work on immunity against anthrax; studied physiological aspects of digestive disturbances of cattle under South African conditions; researched photosensitivity due to plant poisoning in sheep and goats and porphyria in cattle; studied formation and role of sex hormones in cattle. Will probably best be remembered for determining with Rimington that the photodynamic agent in hepatogenous photosensitizations (such as geeldikkop and *Lantana* poisoning) was phylloerythrin, a degradation product of chlorophyll. Noted for his concise and lucid style, his articles have served as examples for countless young researchers of how publications should be written.

HOMAGES AND DISTINCTIONS : Awarded the Senior Captain Scott Medal of South African Biological Society in 1944; member of South African Association for the Advancement of Science. Well regarded internationally : the distinguished New Zealand researcher, NT Clare, in 1951 dedicated his classic review 'Photosensitization in Diseases in Domestic Animals' to the memory of Quin, 'pre-eminent' in the field, a gracious acknowledgement of a colleague, today rarely seen in science.

WRITINGS : Author or co-author of numerous publications, for example: Recent investigations into geeldikkop affecting sheep and goats in the Cape Province. *Journal of the South African Veterinary Medical Association* (1928) 1, 43-45; Studies on the photosensitization of animals in South Africa. 1. The action of various fluorescent dyestuffs*. Onderstepoort Journal of Veterinary Science and Animal Industry* (1933) 1, 459-468; Studies in the photosensitization of animals in South Africa. VII. The nature of the photosensitising agent in geeldikkop. *Onderstepoort Journal of Veterinary Science and Animal Industry* (1934) 3, 137-157; Studies in the photosensitization of animals in South Africa. VIII. The biological formation of phylloerythrin in the digestive tracts of various domestic animals. *Onderstepoort Journal of Veterinary Science and Animal Industry* (1935) 4, 461-471.

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