

In Memoriam's

On February 10, 1963, one of our most able and industrious members, Curtis Adler, passed away. He was known as a "Name Detective" who had made a thorough study of 50,000 names of various races and nationalities. One of the foremost name interpreters in the world, he usually could analyze personal names into simple adjectives merely by looking at the spelling. At one time a Brooklyn court interpreter, he spoke Italian, Spanish, Yiddish, German and French fluently, and



had a knowledge of Hebrew, Japanese, Portuguese and Russian. Among his publications is an article in *Names* (1954: 2.38-39), "Name Changes in Israel." His last name, Adler, means "eagle" — and he admitted that he certainly was an eagle in following his hobby. He once generalized that men like to be told that their names signify strength and virility, but that women wish to hear that their names represent flowers and femininity. It is with regret that *ANS* members hear of his passing.

(Mrs. Adler — 6053 Bellingham Avenue, North Hollywood, California — would very much like to know if any member of our Society living in the Los Angeles or Southern California area would be interested in helping her collect and organize Mr. Adler's voluminous material on the subject of names.)

It is also with regret that we learn of the death of another *ANS* member, Professor Thomas L. Crowell, on November 20, 1962. He was formerly an Assistant Professor of English at Columbia University — where he specialized in teaching English for Foreign Students — and, more recently, an Assistant Professor of English at Hunter College.