

E P I L O G U E

Numquam se plus agere quam nihil cum ageret,
numquam minus solum esse quam cum solus esset.
Never is a man more active than when he does
nothing, never is he less alone than when he
is by himself. (Ascribed to Cato by Cicero^{1a}.)

I am most grateful to the thirty members of the Board of Editors and of the Honorary Editorial Advisory Board of BIORHEOLOGY for their contribution to the Festschrift in my honor. I am touched and deeply appreciate their acts of friendship. In particular, I thank my friend Alex Silberberg for inviting the contributors and, as Coordinator, for compiling their articles in this volume dedicated to me.

There is nothing which can honor me more than the fine contributions to this volume, entitled 'Perspectives in Biorheology'.

I thank the Publisher of Pergamon Press in issuing the Festschrift also as a book. Thus, the contributions (in addition to their publication in BIORHEOLOGY, 18, issues nos. 3-6, 1981) will become known to a wide scientific public.

I should like to take this opportunity to reiterate what I stated in the Convocation Address of our last Congress in 1978 at La Jolla (BIORHEOLOGY, 15, 375-386, 1978). At that time I commended the merits of Mr. Robert Maxwell, Founder and Publisher of Pergamon Press, in sponsoring our new science. In 1959, Mr. Maxwell first broached the idea to me about his intention to publish an international journal of biorheology. He told me that this was based on the many favorable reports which he received concerning the conference 'Flow Properties of Blood and Other Biological Systems', of which he published the Proceedings. This conference was convened jointly by the Faraday Society (Colloid and Biophysics Committee) and the British Society of Rheology. It was held at the University Laboratory of Physiology, Oxford on 23 and 24 September 1959. I

accepted Mr. Maxwell's invitation as Editor-in-Chief of the new journal and asked that my friend George W. Scott Blair could join me as co-Editor-in-Chief, to which Mr. Maxwell agreed. This led to our meeting in November 1959 with Mr. Maxwell in his London office and the initiation of the journal BIORHEOLOGY.

I was glad to acknowledge in the Joint Inaugural Address at the Sixth International Congress on Rheology and the First International Congress of Biorheology, which I presented in the Palais des Congrès, Lyon, France on 4. September 1972, that Pergamon Press aided the science of biorheology². This acknowledgement and Mr. Maxwell's role was further emphasized three years ago in the above mentioned Convocation Address at La Jolla. I should like to take this occasion to thank also Mr. Maxwell's associates, Mr. Gilbert F. Richards of Oxford, Managing Director, and Mr. Robert N. Miranda of Elmsford, New York, Senior Vice-President, for their aid in the advancement of biorheology.

My close association with George Scott Blair led to a number of important publications and the rise of BIORHEOLOGY. It is most unfortunate that the loss of George's eyesight hampered his work and led in 1978 to his retirement.

There continues to be considerable interest among my fellow biorheologists in my activities as an artist, under the name of (Mr.) L. Alcopley. This became manifest in my exhibition of paintings, watercolor-inks, drawings and prints as part of the Third International Congress of Biorheology, held in 1978 at the Mandeville Art Gallery of the University of California, San Diego in La Jolla. It is for this reason that I accepted Alex Silberberg's invitation to provide also information with regard to my activities as artist. A list of books pertaining to works of art of mine is therefore included. Since my articles on art and science may likewise be of interest, such a list is also given in the Appendix to this volume.

As my life as a scientist and as an artist is somehow mirrored in the Appendix to the Festschrift, I should like to quote my late friend, the philosopher Hannah Arendt, from her posthumous work 'The Life of the Mind'^{1b}: "The active way of life is 'laborious', the contemplative way is sheer quietness; the active one goes on in

public, the contemplative one in the 'desert';... What interested me in the Vita Activa was that the contrary notion of complete quietness in the Vita Contemplativa was so overwhelming that compared with this stillness all other differences between the various activities in the Vita Activa disappeared."

Hannah Arendt emphasized "...the notion that contemplation is the highest state of mind is as old as Western philosophy. The thinking activity - according to Plato, the soundless dialogue we carry on with ourselves - serves only to open the eyes of the mind, ...and even the Aristotelian nous is an organ for seeing and beholding the truth. In other words, thinking aims at and ends in contemplation and contemplation is not an activity but a passivity; it is the point where mental activity comes to rest."

I believe in man's striving for both active and passive ways of life. It seems to me that, when 'thinking became meditation, and meditation again ended in contemplation', we discover ourselves.

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Notes

¹ARENDR, HANNAH. The Life of the Mind, Vol. 1. Thinking, New York - London: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1978, (a) pp. 7, 8, 231; (b) p. 6.

²COPLEY, A.L. Biorheology as an organized science. Biorheology, 10, 84, 1973; Rheologica Acta, 12, 89-91, 1973.