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PERSPECTIVES IN BIORHEOLOGY II

FESTSCHRIFT IN HONOR OF SYOTEN OKA

Eiichi Fukada and Takehiko Azuma  
Compiling Editors

FOREWORD

This special issue is dedicated to Syoten Oka. We are very glad to honor our colleague and friend with this Festschrift, a double issue on the occasion of his 80. birthday.

There are forty scientific contributions that are compiled by Eiichi Fukada and Takehiko Azuma. These communications add greatly to the present status of knowledge of our young science of biorheology.

In September 1960, I gave a Special Lecture, entitled: 'Hemorheology-An Introduction', with G.W. Scott Blair as co-author, before the Eighth International Congress of Blood Transfusion held in Tokyo. After the lecture I was introduced to Syoten Oka by Bun'ichi Tamamushi whom I had met earlier in Europe. During my stay in Tokyo when I met Syoten Oka on several occasions, I informed him that Pergamon Press will publish an international journal, named BIORHEOLOGY, with me and G.W. Scott Blair as Editors-in-Chief. It so developed that we invited Syoten Oka to be one of our Editors and he has acted in this capacity since its first issue was published in 1962.

It is most gratifying that Syoten Oka contributed many theoretical studies to hemorheology. He and Bun'ichi Tamamushi were instrumental in bringing about the great interest in hemorheology which exists in Japan. In 1960, I introduced Syoten Oka to the botanist and cellular physiologist Noburo Kamiya of Osaka University who for many years already had made important contributions to biorheology, working on the viscosity of protoplasm. Syoten Oka's

involvement in the advancement of our science of biorheology encouraged many investigators in Japan to make numerous contributions to our young science. Ultimately, Japan became the first country in which a national society of biorheology was founded in 1977.

By his many contributions to theoretical hemorheology, Syoten Oka played a leading role in the advancement of biorheology as a science. He contributed also to the organization of the International Society of Hemorheology in 1966 during its First International Conference, held at the University of Iceland in Reykjavik and also, three years later, when at the University of Heidelberg its Second International Conference took place and The Society became The International Society of Biorheology.

It is with great admiration that Alex Silberberg and I honor Syoten Oka with this Festschrift. We thank our friends and colleagues Eiichi Fukada and Takehiko Azuma, as well as Makato Kaibara who aided them in securing the communications for this Festschrift. Each author of the Festschrift joins us in this fine tribute to Syoten Oka.

During the Second International Congress of Biorheology, held at The Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel in 1975, Syoten Oka received the Poiseuille Gold Medal. He thus became the fourth recipient of the highest award in biorheology, bestowed by the International Society of Biorheology at its international congresses. The Society's journal BIORHEOLOGY dedicated to Syoten Oka the first issue of the Proceedings of its Second Congress. Thus, with this Festschrift Syoten Oka is honored for the second time by our Journal. Syoten Oka resigned recently from his position as an Editor of BIORHEOLOGY.

The Publishers join the Editors-in-Chief in thanking Professor Oka for the twenty-five years of service to our Journal, as do the members of the Editorial Board and the Honorary Editorial Advisory Board. Our Festschrift dedicated to his 80. birthday also mirrors the high esteem Syoten Oka is held by the members of the International Society, by our Readers and by the scientific community

everywhere. All of us are with our very best wishes to Syoten Oka and his future.

Alfred L. Copley

New York, New York  
1 December, 1987