Professor Ernst Loebell

M.N.

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Cairo

On August 27th, 1996, we lost a friend, a colleague, and an eminent member of the International Association of Logopedics and Phoniatics (IALP) and the world of phoniatics. Professor Ernst Loebell died that day, after a year's battle with disease; his funeral was on September 2nd.

Ernst Loebell was born in Marburg/Lahn, Germany, on July 24th, 1928. He graduated from the Faculty of Medicine in 1954, and obtained his 'habilitation' in phoniatics in 1966.

He became Professor of ENT, Phoniatics, and Audiology at the University Clinic of Bern, Switzerland, in May 1970. He chaired the Department of Phoniatics and Pediatric Audiology in the Hannover Medical University in 1979. Professor Loebell authored over 150 scientific publications in the field of phoniatics and pediatric audiology. He has been a member of, and has chaired, several national and international societies. He became the first chairperson of the German Professional Association of Phoniaticians and Pediatric Audiologists in 1992. Professor Loebell won the honorary membership of several national and international professional/scientific societies. He was awarded the Gutzmann medal in 1980.

Professor Loebell served on the board of the IALP from 1971 to 1992. He was elected president of the association for the period 1977-1980. He served as chairperson of the IALP Standing Committee of Rules and Regulations until his death. One of the com-

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mittee's last important achievements is the latest amendment of the constitution of the IALP and its related documents, ratified at the general assembly of the Association during the IALP World Congress in Cairo, Egypt, 1995. Professor Loebell served as co-editor (with Dr. R. Luchsinger) of the scientific periodical of the IALP, *Folia Phoniatica* (renamed *Folia Phoniatica et Logopaedica* in 1994) from 1967 to 1975. He served as the editor-in-chief of the periodical from 1976 to 1995. He had the unique opportunity to host the world congress of the IALP twice in his lifetime, a duty that is hardly possible to be undertaken by any other colleague. He hosted the congress at Interlaken, Switzerland, in

1974 and in Hannover, Germany, in 1992. Professor Ernst Loebell was nominated, unanimously, by the board of the IALP at its regular meeting in Salsomaggiore Terme, Italy, on August 17th, 1996, as an honorary member of the association.

As his friend, I shall remember him as a refined, disciplined gentleman, a good teacher, and a noble character.

We share with his family the gravity of the loss and present to them our sincere condolences.

M. Nasser Kotby

President, International Association of Logopedics and Phoniatrics

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