Nutritional Aspects of the Development of Bone and Connective Tissue

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RAOUL, Y.; LE BOULCH, N.; GOUNELLE, J.C.; MARNAY-GULAT, C. et OURISSON, G.
Preface

The lectures of the seventh Symposium ‘Nutritional aspects of the development of bone and connective tissue’ of the Group of European Nutritionists appear now in printed form in this book. Many of these papers originated from the Dunn Nutritional Laboratory, Cambridge. They give us an excellent view of the interesting work, which has been done in this field by Dr. E. KODICEK and his collaborators.

The important questions of mode of action, of storage forms, of the requirement, absorption and effect of vitamin D and its metabolites on the human being are dealt with in several interesting papers [LAWSON, FRASER, BELL, FOURMAN and MORGAN, SMITH and DENT, PARSON and HAMPTON, THOMPSON]. The recent results of research about the connection between nutrition and development of bone and muscle have been excellently summarized by WIDDOWSON, ADAMS, WHITEHEAD and COWARD. Stimulating are the contributions dealing with the effects of ascorbic acid, trace metals, lathyrogens and other factors on connective tissue and bone [BARNES, PARTRIDGE, CHVAPIL and HURYCH, ROBERT, BATES, LEVENE, HERRING].

The importance of vitamin A in the synthesis and metabolism of connective tissue, the antagonism between vitamin A and D, and the presence of calciferol in some plants are the topics of the important papers by DINGLE, PASTERNAK, BILLITTERI, RAOUl and co-workers.

The approach that many of these papers have taken in examining the basic details of the biochemical mechanisms of action, show the impressive development of nutrition research in the last decades.

In conclusion, I would like to thank Dr. KODICEK, Dr. LAWSON and Dr. BARNES cordially for the outstanding organization of this Symposium. A special debt of gratitude is due to the authors for their valuable papers and to all those, who have contributed to the publication of this book.

Rschlikon-Zrich, July 1969

Prof. Dr. J.C. SOMOGYI