Latent
Female Genital Tuberculosis

Edited by

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Introduction

The features and the localisation of tuberculosis have changed with the introduction of antibiotic and tuberculostatic treatment. The latent tuberculosis of the female genitals, very often a retarded sequence of an extragenital tuberculous infection, has steadily gained in significance. We are indebted to HALBRECHT (Tel Aviv) and DELLEPIANE (Turin), who, in realization of these important facts, have taken the initiative in proposing an International Symposium on the Latent Tuberculosis of the Female Genitals, and who also arranged the scientific program. We, on the other hand, were in charge of the organisation of the Meeting in Basel in July 1963, of the editing of the manuscripts, the translation of the lectures and the discussions on tape recordings which were given in four languages and, finally, of the publication of the congress proceedings.

The question whether the congress volume should still be published after a delay of more than two years can be answered in the affirmative. A review of the relevant literature since 1963 has shown that the papers contained in this volume have not lost any of their topical interest. The collaboration of the most important research workers from 15 countries has led to a recognition and coordination of our present-day knowledge of the aetiology, diagnostic and therapy of the female genital tuberculosis, particularly in its latent form. The present volume is the result of this co-operation. In order to save space, the bibliographies which, partly, are very extensive have been omitted; they can be obtained from the authors on request.

The importance of personal contacts and of an opportunity for discussions on recent findings and pending problems in research work has again become evident at this meeting. A small congress--a symposium--in which the most important specialists of a particular field take part, provides the frame where, within a very short time, complex
and vast problems can be discussed in a satisfactory manner and with profitable results.

We thank all the participants who contributed towards the success of this Colloquium. Special thanks are due to Messrs. Lepetit & Co.

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of Milan, who, through their most generous gift, made this gathering possible. Finally, we would like to express our appreciation to the publishers, S. Karger AG, for their untiring and efficient collaboration in preparing the publication of these proceedings.

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