Recent Advances in Renal Physiology

International Symposium on Renal Handling of Sodium, Brestenberg (Switzerland), August 2-5, 1971, held in conjunction with the 25th International Congress of Physiological Sciences, Munich, 1971

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Ladies and Gentlemen

The reabsorption of sodium is one of the most important operations of the renal tubules. The major part of the energy turnover of the kidney is engaged in this process. It presents the principal driving force for the reabsorption of water and is believed to be the basis of the processes of urinary dilution and concentration. Active sodium transport is involved — directly or indirectly — in the tubular handling of a variety of strong and weak acids and bases and even of non-electrolytes. The topics of the papers of this symposium are all related more or less intimately to the different aspects of the renal handling of sodium. The purpose of the symposium is to present a synopsis of up to date views, to discuss the relevant findings, and thus to gain a better foundation of our opinions. We should like to extend a hearty welcome to the participants and hope that the seclusion and hospitality of Brestenberg will encourage them to exchange their ideas, to acquire new impressions, and above all to establish a lively personal contact with one another which will strengthen our collaboration in the field of renal physiology.

We are indebted to the Pharmaceuticals Division of Ciba-Geigy Ltd, Basel, for the generous support of this symposium.

HEINRICH WIRZ
FRANCO SPINELLI