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Preface

Much thought and effort is nowadays devoted to the better understanding of metabolic processes taking place in the joints, or - to be even more exact - in the articular synovium. This research work will no doubt result in major progress in comprehending the nature of rheumatic disease and its treatment.

Cilag AG, Schaffhausen (Switzerland), and McNeil Pharmaceutical, Spring House, Pa. (USA), sponsored an International Symposium held in Bruges (Belgium) October 15-17, 1981. 50 experts from more than 15 countries presented and discussed their latest results.

Such an event would not have been possible without the financial support granted by Cilag, or without the assistance obtained from their staff in the technical organization of this Symposium. A special mention is due to Miss M.C. Lestienne of Cilag n.v., Herentals, Belgium, who took the whole burden of the practical organization of the symposium and of its follow-up upon herself. Thanks to all these efforts the meeting was a success and the proceedings were able to be published within so short a time.

May I thank all those involved for their cooperation.

The Editor

Paul Franchimont