

PROGRESS IN ALLERGY

Volume II

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Preface

Some months before the outbreak of World War II, the first volume of "Progress in the Science of Allergy – Fortschritte der Allergielehre" now out of print, appeared. The reception which volume I. then received encouraged me to continue this work as soon as conditions would permit an international co-operation. The quick development in the field of allergy and still more its theoretical and practical importance made this continuation all the more necessary. Owing to the fact that during the years of hostilities the European Continent was practically isolated I deemed it advisable to endeavour to collect and review the most important results and perspectives.

In this volume as in the former, the principle of adhering to independent contributions covering some special domains in reserach or clinic, has been kept to. Furthermore I have tried to give equal consideration to theoretical and practical problems. During the continuous development in this field of medicine, which perhaps more than any other subject is based on experimental work, the contact between theory and practise must not only be kept but for ever extended. Louis Pasteur's statement that "Sans la théorie la pratique n'est que la routine donnée par l'habitude. La théorie seule peut faire surgir et développer l'esprit d'invention", has never been more true than it is to-day. First and foremost all therapeutical endeavours must be built upon the widest possible experimental basis. It is only right therefore that a larger part of these volumes should be devoted to pathology, pharmacology and immunology in the widest sense.

If, as I hope, these volumes are to reflect the development in the whole field of allergy, it is not only necessary, but desirable that various opinions are expressed therein unhindered. The Editor deeply appreciates the fact that all the contributors willingly agreed to this policy and put their invaluable knowledge at disposal. It is to be hoped that this volume, which will soon be followed by others, will in some fields be a stimulating help to the research worker and a valuable guide to the clinician.

The Editor desires to express his deep thanks and appreciation to all contributors for their never failing help. I am deeply grateful to Dr. Fred W. Wittich (Chairman of the "International Association of Allergists",

Minneapolis Minn.) and Professor Gunnar Dahlberg (Head of the State Institute for Racial Biology and Human Genetics at the University of Uppsala, Sweden) for their stimulating advice and friendship, and to Dr. Heinz Karger (S. Karger Medical Publishers Inc., Basel and New York) for his generous support and kindness.

Helsingborg (Sweden), October 15, 1948.

Paul Kallós