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FOREWORD

STANLEY MASON - BIORHEOLOGIST AND FRIEND

This Special Issue is dedicated to the memory of Stanley Mason. Alex Silberberg and I asked Harry Goldsmith to invite contributions for the Stanley Mason Memorial Issue and to act as its Compiling Editor. We are glad that there was an enthusiastic response, resulting in twenty contributions by forty-nine authors. The contributions to this issue, which Harry Goldsmith so admirably gathered and edited, honor our colleague and friend Stanley Mason. We thank our fellow biorheologists in the name of The International Society of Biorheology, of which BIORHEOLOGY is The Official Journal, for their contributions in this tribute to Stanley Mason. He was a Charter Member of our Society, at that time named The International Society of Hemorheology, which in 1969 was expanded to embrace all fields of biorheology, during the Second International Conference of Hemorheology held at the University of Heidelberg, and given its present name. We thank Harry Goldsmith for his labors and devotion to make this issue a reality.

In the Obituary of Stanley Mason by Harry Goldsmith, his pupil, close associate and friend, published last year (BIORHEOLOGY, 24, 357-362, 1987) and the appendix of his selection of publications (on pages 363-366), he gave a fine tribute in appreciation of the person and his work. The information contained in the Obituary is superbly extended by Harry Goldsmith in this issue's introductory communication 'Stanley Mason: His Contribution to the Science of Biorheology'.

I have many fond memories of my friend Stan, whom I met in many countries at international conferences and congresses, as well as in 1966 in my home in Reykjavik and, over many years, in my home in New York City during his occasional visits. Stan had

an outgoing, warm personality and I sensed him to be a fine, gentle person.

It was particularly touching when, during his stay with his lovely wife Betty in Reykjavik in 1966, he told me the following. Betty had incurable lung cancer and Stan had taken her to Iceland, as the first leg of a journey around the globe. He wanted Betty to enjoy, as much as her condition permitted, the sights in many countries they intended to visit. I was touched again, when I met Stan in Vancouver during the Sixth International Congress of Biorheology, 27 July to 1 August, 1986. It was not known to me that three years earlier on a voyage in Quebec Province he suffered severe frostbite, which led to the amputation of several of his fingers and one foot. Nevertheless, he took in 1986 the train from his home in Montreal to Vancouver, as he wanted to attend our Congress and enjoy seeing from the train his country, for which he had deep affection. Participants of the Congress may recall that at the Salmon Barbeque, held on the grounds of the Museum of Anthropology of the University of British Columbia, I announced Stan's presence to the congress participants and their families. This was followed by great applause.

The last time I saw Stan was at the end of the Congress, when I met him by chance at lunchtime in a cafeteria on the University campus. Stan appeared then to me as a very lonely man and, when I heard several months later of his tragic death, I was deeply saddened by the loss of a dear friend.

In Stanley Mason, the sciences of biorheology and of rheology have lost a great innovator and - the world of science in general - one of its finest leaders.

Alfred L. Copley

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