

SIXTH EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON CLINICAL HEMORHEOLOGY
Frankfurt am Main, Germany, 15-17 June 1989

IN APPRECIATION

After-Dinner Speech at the Kloster Eberbach Banquet

A. L. Copley

Friends and Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen, dear Albrecht Ehrly,

First of all I should like to thank Albrecht Ehrly and the German Society for Clinical Microcirculation and Hemorheology for the fine honor bestowed on me.

I am very much surprised to learn from Albrecht that I am 'also a recognized pianist'. I assure you all that, in spite of several talents, I can not be credited with being a pianist, as fortunately I never tried my hands in playing the piano. The pianist Al Copley must be another person, who merely has his name in common with me.

To my great regret, I do not know of a singer named Albrecht M. Ehrly, particularly since in the beginning of his speech Albrecht assured us that he 'will not sing'. It may well be that Albrecht has a great talent as a singer, about which we have thus far not known anything. In case he is a talented singer, we hope he will sing for us. Dear Albrecht, you may well be a fine singer in contrast to my not being a pianist.

We all appreciate the great efforts our dear friend and colleague Albrecht made for this Conference. We are grateful to him and his associates to make the Conference such a fine success scientifically and - as we have just experienced with gastronomic smiling - socially as well.

We should be aware that all this is mirrored and even heightened by the thoughtfulness and great efforts of one very special person in our midst, the charming and beautiful Gaby, the wife of Albrecht.

This brings memories back to me. It was in 1966 during the First International Conference on Hemorheology, held by the International Society of Hemorheology, founded in Reykjavik, Iceland. Some among you, who were there, may also remember the following. My wife, the late Icelandic painter Nina Tryggvadottir, suggested to have the Conference in Reykjavik at the University of Iceland. Actually, Nina initiated the First International Conference on Hemorheology at the University of Iceland by introducing me, for this purpose, to her friend Professor Armann Snaevarr, the Rektor of the University.

Here I should like to add that Professor Snaevarr, who is a world authority on Nordic and Scandinavian law, became Chief Justice of Iceland's Supreme Court. I should like to take this opportunity - I believe also on behalf of each biorheologist - to thank Professor Snaevarr for his aid in having our Conference at the University of Iceland.

Some ladies of this social gathering tonight were in 1966 the companions of participants of our Conference in Reykjavik. They will recall the Program, which the Ladies Program Committee organized. Its Chairperson Mrs. Valborg Snaevarr and Nina thought of inviting the ladies for lunch in Icelandic homes. Valborg arranged such lunch breaks on several days during busy tours of sightseeing, combined with visits to various public institutions in the city of Reykjavik. The other four members of this Committee supported enthusiastically this program and acted also as hosts. They were the spouses of professors of the medical school of the University of Iceland, who constituted the Local Arrangement Committee of our Conference. Small groups of the companions

of the Conference participants thus enjoyed the hospitality extended to them in this unique way.

It may likewise be of interest to you all to learn that our Conference was the first international scientific conference, not limited to Scandinavian countries, which took place in Iceland. Ever since our Conference in 1966, there were numerous international conferences in many if not most sciences held mainly in Reykjavik, Iceland's capital.

In Iceland, I am known as the husband of a famous artist. I always enjoyed this identification even now, twenty-one years after Nina's untimely death due to cancer.

During the 1966 Conference, we had a reception in our Reykjavik home for the participants and their companions. Nina was happily surprised, when Gaby handed flowers to her.

Tonight, twenty-one years later, I am bringing flowers to Gaby from all of us here with our many thanks and our best wishes!