

Meeting Report

The Society, which aims to promote good fellowship and professional relationships within the field of histamine research, met for the ninth time in May, 1980 in Hungary. The meeting, which was sponsored by the Hungarian Biochemical Society, was attended by more than one hundred members and guests, all of whom were particularly impressed by the local organization under the guidance of Dr Huszti. Participants travelled to Hungary not only from the most parts of Europe (including East Germany and the USSR) but also from Canada, Cuba and Japan.

All the scientific sessions were held at the Hotel Sylvanus in Visegrad, twenty miles to the north of Budapest. After words of greeting and welcome, Dr H.O.Schild presented the inaugural lecture on the multiple facets of histamine research, highlighting major advances over the last fifty years. Communications by members and guests followed, with emphasis on the first day on synthesis, metabolism and release. On the second day, the meeting split into two rooms, discussions on the role of histamine in the central nervous system being held simultaneously with papers on the importance of histamine in allergy and other clinical disorders. In the afternoon, an excursion was made to the old cathedral on the banks of the Danube, where an organ recital was much appreciated, and later to Hell's Island where a gulash party took place. This party ended with the singing of the international anthem of histaminologists, ably lead by the Secretary-General and assisted by the local band.

On the third day, the topics discussed were gastric secretion, antagonists and the control of blood vessels. At the final lunch, votes of thanks to the organisers were heartily endorsed. Some seventy communications and posters had been discussed and all members look forward to the next meeting in Hannover in 1981.

G.B.West, Secretary-General



The International Council of the European Histamine Research Society at its ninth meeting in Visegrad, Hungary, May 7-9, 1980. Left to right ; Dr F.Ruff (France), Dr Cz. Malinski (Poland), Dr H.Haas (Switzerland), Dr H.O.Schild (England, Honorary Member), Dr P.Mannaioni (Italy), Dr Z. Huszti (Hungary), Dr G.B.West (England, Chairman), Dr J.L.Parrot (France, Honorary Member), Dr F Erjavec (Yugoslavia) and Dr W.Lorenz (West Germany). Those unable to be present were Dr B. Diamant (Denmark), Dr H. Karppanen (Finland) and Dr B. Uvnäs (Sweden).