

# **SURGERY OF THE BILIARY TRACT**

B. Niederle

## **2 Developments in Surgery**

Martinus Nijhoff

# **SURGERY OF THE BILIARY TRACT**

**OLD PROBLEMS  
NEW METHODS  
CURRENT PRACTICE**

**Bohuslav V. Niederle, M. D., Ph. D. (Surg.)**

**Professor of Surgery, Charles University, Prague,**

**President of Chairs of Surgery Emeritus**

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In collaboration with

Miroslav Keclík, M. D., Ph. C. (Int.)

Associate Professor of Medicine, Charles University, Prague

With contribution by

Oskar Blažek, M. D., Ph. C. (Radiol.),

Professor of Radiology

Vladimír Brzek, M. D. Ph. C. (Surg.),

Associate Professor of Surgery

František Holík, M. D., Ph. C. (Radiol.),

Head of Radiol. Dept.

Rudolf Holubec, M. D.,

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Professor of Paediatric Surgery

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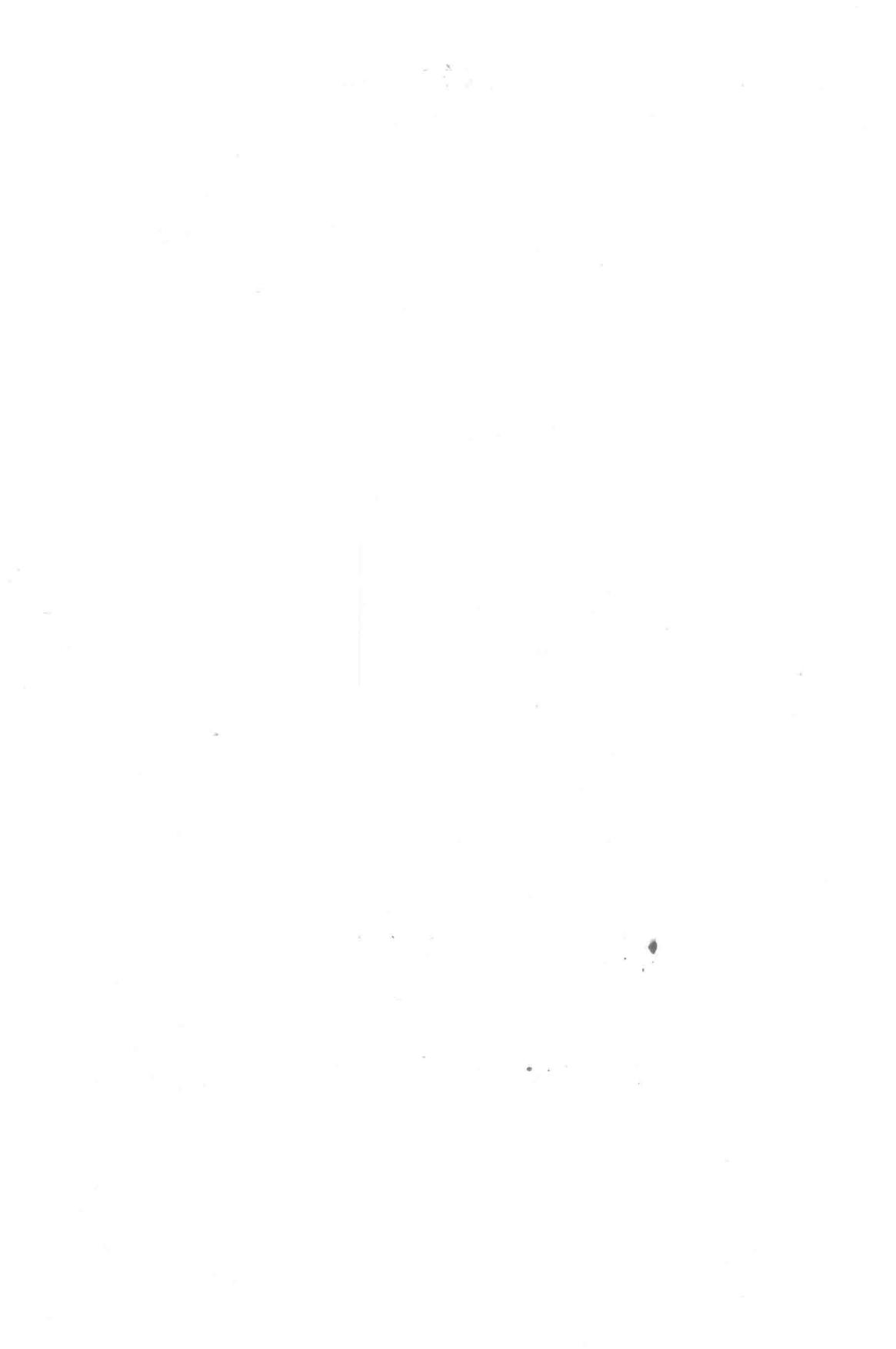
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*After the Second World War the number of biliary diseases has abruptly risen and lithiasis has become in many regions the most frequent surgical disease of the abdomen. At present, though there are perspectives of rational conservative treatment and though endoscopic techniques permit removing some of its complications even without laparotomy, the basic treatment method still remains, and probably shall remain for long the classical surgical intervention. On the contrary, the indications for such intervention are always widening, as its risks become always smaller and the requirements for prevention higher.*

*Many books have been written on the surgery of biliary ducts, but recent knowledge is growing so rapidly that it forces within short periods its new integration and critical assessment. Attention is mostly paid to interventions on the biliary ducts with their wide scope of problems and to the prevention and treatment of postoperative disturbances. New and more perfect diagnostic possibilities and some more suitable technical procedures as well require comparison and verification, introduce new aspects on old problems, and even change some established rules.*

*If a book shall treat all relevant questions and at the same time emphasize some new or unsolved problems, the text inevitably will become asymmetric, but such asymmetry may help to underline important and urgent matters. The authors, who for years have experienced all struggles and errors of biliary surgery, have tried to correct some opinions and to fight some recognized mistakes in order to prevent the operation from becoming a new complication of the disease only. They themselves, however, might have entered into new insecurities.*

Prague, 1979

B. NIEDERLE, M. KECLÍK



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