

# Allergy '74

*Proceedings of the Ninth European Congress  
of Allergology and Clinical Immunology*

*edited by*

**Marianne A. Ganderton**

**and**

**A. W. Frankland**

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London 9-13 September 1974*

Edited by  
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A W FRANKLAND

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## Editors' Foreword

Over 600 delegates from more than 20 countries attended the 9th European Congress of Allergology and Clinical Immunology, in London in September 1974. These Proceedings include all the papers which were given by the invited speakers, and also some of the communications that concerned their clinical applications.

It is so often the informal discussions throughout the Congress that make such a scientific meeting friendly, stimulating and interesting. A Congress seems to be over too soon, but these Proceedings which are sent to all the delegates, will be a more permanent record of the Congress. We also hope they represent an up-to-date review of many of the important fields of research for all those interested in the progress of allergy.

We would like to thank Mrs Betty Dickens of the Pitman Medical Publishing Company, whose patience, diplomacy and unstinting help have made it possible to publish these Proceedings so soon after the end of the Congress.

# *The British Society for Allergy & Clinical Immunology*

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# Opening Addresses

K M CITRON

*President of the Congress*

On behalf of the British Society for Allergy and Clinical Immunology I welcome all delegates and their associates to the Congress.

We are delighted to see so many of our European colleagues in London. The last European Congress to be held in London was fifteen years ago. Since then there have been great advances in knowledge of the immunological aspects of clinical medicine. During this time the place of Clinical Immunology in Clinical practice has been firmly established.

My colleagues and I hope that the programme we have prepared for you adequately reflects the wide application of our subject to medicine today. We sincerely hope that you will enjoy the Congress.

It is now my privilege to introduce to you the Honorary President of the Congress, Sir Cyril Clarke.

SIR CYRIL CLARKE

*President of the Royal College of Physicians of London*

It gives me the greatest pleasure to welcome you to London and to the 9th European Congress of Allergology and Clinical Immunology. I am delighted to hear that as many as 700 delegates will be here at one time or another during the week from many countries.

About 40 years ago, when I was a medical student, allergy was respectable but allergists only marginally so—they were generally considered to be uncritical and narrow in outlook, just skin test doctors. Now happily the scene has been transformed, allergists are medical scientists and immunology has spread its wings to cover all branches of medicine. And perhaps (even) the time may not be far off when we can all be clinical immunologists and away with the uneuphonious allergology.

And yet with all the successes and advances we must remain

humble. I do not believe that there has been any reduction in the number of allergic patients in our various countries, rather the reverse; and the whole topic of prophylaxis, which must be related either to the genetic make-up of the individual, or perhaps, dare I say it here, sometimes to his behavioural relationships, is a closed book, with a few notable exceptions, such as angio-oedema.

Now I am old enough, and old-fashioned enough, to think that the general physician with an interest can still play a part in helping patients with allergic disorders (he tends to be the only specialist who sees the patient in the round) and over the years I have received powerful support for this view because I knew very well one particular individual of this type—Dr Rupert Samuel Bruce Pearson, Secretary-General of this Congress, whose recent death we all so much mourn. Bruce was a great friend of mine; we were near contemporaries at Guy's and I have always felt that he epitomised the best that is in medicine. He was a general physician who developed an interest in allergic disorders and also in gastro-enterology, but he did not do any formal training schedules and the posts he held received no official approval. He just worked at things he liked, and what a success he made of them—the best evidence of this is that it was to Bruce that we sent our own loved ones when they were ill; and what greater tribute can be paid to any doctor? This is a very sad occasion, and a great blow just three weeks before the meeting, and I am sure you would wish me to send a message of sympathy from the Congress to Mrs Bruce Pearson.

But there is some light in the darkness—you have seen the programme, and how splendidly it reads, but this is because behind it, was Bruce. He worked at it for over two years and what you are going to hear, debate and discuss in the next few days were *his* ideas, and they are certain to live on. And so let us go forward and pray that this Congress will be a fitting memorial to him—Dr Rupert Samuel Bruce Pearson.

#### S KRAEPELIEN

*President of the European Academy of Allergology and Clinical Immunology*

Firstly, I must thank you, Sir Cyril, for your very kind welcoming address to all of us present here at the European Academy of Allergology and Clinical Immunology.

This Academy has always regarded it as a matter of extreme importance to gather together all the doctors in Europe who are interested in the problems of allergology to convene at scientific meetings of this kind. Thus, ever since it was founded, the Academy has held Congresses every third year, the last one being in Marseille in 1971. Today's Congress here in London is the ninth in succession. The next Congress will take place in Prague in 1977.

During the years between these Congresses, the Academy arranged small conferences, the so-called Annual Meetings, the last ones being held in Oslo in Norway in 1972 and at Pamplona in Spain in 1973. These Annual Meetings will in the next few years take place in Rome and Aachen. It is the second time the European Academy has paid an official visit to England, the last time being in 1959.

I wish to express the warm appreciation and sincere gratitude felt by the Academy towards the British Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology for again undertaking to act as host at a Congress, considering all the work and financial sacrifice entailed. I am convinced this Congress will be a great success, both scientifically and from the point of view of organisation. The large number of participants must surely be regarded as evidence of the interest and great expectations such a meeting arouses.

To you, Doctor Citron, and to the Secretaries of the Congress, as well as to all your co-workers, I would express, on the part of the Academy, their deeply felt gratitude for the commendable work devoted by you to preparing, organising and accomplishing this Congress. I am sorry that Dr Bruce Pearson was unable to complete his plans for the Congress.

Medicine is assumed to develop increasingly towards diagnosis and therapy regulated by the laboratory. Allergology has come to the fore on account of, *inter alia*, the great progress made in clinical physiology, pharmacology, and, above all, in immunology, particularly in the last decade. Though these important conquests have been accepted with the greatest satisfaction, the opinion voiced that allergology may become a laboratory specialty must be definitely refuted.

The allergics—most of whom are chronic cases of allergy—need doctors who possess a knowledge of laboratory techniques as well as *clinical* knowledge and experience. However, the advances made in the theoretical field of allergology have come at a tremendous pace, and many may, possibly, find it difficult to accept all the new findings that are being presented daily. In order to under-

line the close relationship between allergology and immunology, the majority of our national societies have in the last few years inserted Immunology in the name of their society, as has also this Academy.

Doctors have always had to bear a fair share of criticism from the general public and, lately, a politically often vociferous group has made itself heard, recruited from among ourselves and from outside. These argue that doctors concentrate too much interest and energy on treating the sick, instead of counteracting such social conditions as promote disease, thus in the long run actually preventing disease. Whatever our political standpoint may be, I believe the majority of those of us who specialise in allergology, whether in internal medicine, paediatrics, dermatology, or other branches, have a strong socio-medical awareness, this being inherent in allergology. There is, of course, no reason for complacency, nor for rejection of all criticism. There is still much to be done in this field of medicine. I should like to pose a question: how are the allergics today affected, in a wider sense, by the environmental factors under debate? Our knowledge on this subject is fairly limited and this presents a stimulating challenge to future research. We cannot ignore the fact that social conditions, undoubtedly, represent some of the factors underlying disease. Even if we were able to solve these problems, we should still have to overcome the even greater obstacles of how to prevent disease. Many persons are, moreover, hereditarily predisposed to diseases which cannot be discovered, or tackled, beforehand with the means now at our disposal. A very large group of allergic diseases belong to them. Social politics is unfortunately not a universal remedy!

With these words I declare this Congress—Allergy 1974—open.



**PART I**

# **HEREDITARY AND GENETIC ASPECTS OF ALLERGY**

**Chairmen: Dr S Kraepelien**

**Professor J S Soothill**

**Dr E Henocq**

**Associate Professor K Aas**