

## FIFTH CONGRESS OF THE MEDICAL MYCOLOGY SOCIETY IN LEIPZIG

The fifth congress of the Medical Mycology Society was held in Leipzig (German Democratic Republic) between May 7—10, 1970 with international participation and under the chairmanship of Professor Dr. W. Braun. The meeting was attended by many scientists of the German Democratic Republic and of other Socialist countries (Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Rumania, USSR, Yugoslavia). Also delegates from the German Federal Republic took an active part and participants from Great Britain, France, Belgium, Switzerland and Austria submitted their papers. Reports were given mostly in German language and referred to three important topics of the present medical mycology: 1) dependence of mycoses occurrence upon terrain factors; 2) immunological problems of mycoses; 3) mycotoxicoses.

The range of problems attracting the greatest interest of parasitologists was included in Topic 1. Chmel (Czechoslovakia) pointed out the

occurrence of keratinophilic fungi dependent upon soil properties, climatic factors and vegetation. De Vroey (Belgium) reported that some fungi preferred avian keratins and expressed a hypothesis that keratins contained in soil are an important ecological factor which is also responsible for the different occurrence of keratinophilic fungi in different soils. Dvořák, Otčenášek, Rosický, Hamáček (Czechoslovakia) pointed out the importance of burrows of wild small mammals for the propagation of the causative agent of adiaspiromycosis and other mycoses of man. Dvořák, Měrka, Erichleb, Kyntera (Czechoslovakia) gave an account of the methods used in the mycoparasitological studies of burrows in situ.

The congress was well organized and very successful. (Mrs) Professor Dr Braun from Halle was elected a new Chairman of the Society. The sixth congress is scheduled for May 1972.

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