



## WERNER SCHRADE

1910 – 1962

The death of Professor Dr. SCHRADE on 29th September, 1962 came as a shock to his friends and colleagues in Germany and further afield, although he was known to have been in poor health for some time; but for this Journal it was a grievous blow indeed. Professor SCHRADE was one of the small group who in Milan, May 1960, came together to form the nucleus of the Editorial Board of the future *Journal of Atherosclerosis Research*, and from that time until immediately before his death he worked unceasingly to further the Journal's interests.

In the first issue of the Journal an article by his group was published which constituted an important part of his deep and thorough-going study of the relationship of serum lipids to the manifestations of atherosclerosis in man. The relationship between diet, blood lipids, blood coagulation and clinical symptoms of atherosclerosis had been one of SCHRADE's main interests since the publication in 1934 of his doctorate thesis *On the possibility of a dietary influence on blood coagulation* – at that time a revolutionary idea. The thesis was awarded first prize at the University of Bonn. The investigations in Frankfurt-am-Main carried out since 1954 laid repeated stress on the importance of blood lipids *other* than cholesterol and its esters in coronary heart disease, and revealed in particular the striking changes in triglyceride levels which are associated with atherosclerotic incidents, diabetes, ageing, and differences in body build. Careful observations led to the discernment of changes, under the influence of these factors, in the fatty-acid composition of the separate serum lipid fractions, and the published data were of the utmost value for comparison with those obtained for other populations and other tissues. The comparison was especially valid as SCHRADE insisted that the methods used in his laboratory should be standardized with those of other centres.

Unstinting and prompt in his advice and guidance to authors whose work he undertook to referee, selfless in providing (in spite of his multitudinous commitments as head of a hospital department) the German summary of every article in the Journal, SCHRADE was engaged at the time of my last contact with him in carrying out yet another task for us: the preparation of a Review Article, which was unfortunately only in fragmentary form at the time of his death. Truly here was a man devoted to science and to the propagation of knowledge in the face of many difficulties, and it is as such that we shall remember him.

F. P. WOODFORD