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V.

Vereinsnachrichten u. a.

Naturwissenschaftlich-medizinischer Verein in Innsbruck

Vereinsausschuß 1968/69

Vorstand: Univ.-Prof. Dr. Hans MARBERGER (Vorstand der Lehrkanzeln für Urologie an der Chirurgischen Klinik der Universität Innsbruck).

Vorstand-Stellvertreter: Univ.-Prof. Dr. Heinrich SCHÄTZ (Mitvorstand des Instituts für Mathematik der Universität Innsbruck).

Kassenwart: Univ.-Prof. Dr. Hans PITSCHMANN (Vorstand des Instituts für Systematische Botanik und Geobotanik der Universität Innsbruck).

Kassenprüfer: Univ.-Prof. Dr. Franz HOLZER (Vorstand des Gerichtlich-Medizinischen Instituts der Universität Innsbruck), Univ.-Prof. Dr. Josef KOLB (Vorstand der II. Lehrkanzel für Experimentalphysik der Universität Innsbruck).

1. Schriftführer: Univ.-Doz. Dr. Roland PECHLANER (Institut für Zoologie der Universität Innsbruck).
2. Schriftführer: Dr. Helmut MADERSBACHER (Lehrkanzel für Urologie an der Chirurgischen Klinik der Universität Innsbruck).

Vorträge 1968/69

19. 11. 1968: Dr. Julian FRICK (Innsbruck): „Die Bestimmung des männlichen Keimdrüsenhormons im Blutplasma“.
26. 11. 1968: Univ.-Prof. Dr. E. HAYEK (Innsbruck): „Die Mineralsubstanz der Knochen“.
3. 12. 1968: Univ.-Prof. Dr. H. MARBERGER (Innsbruck): „Hydrodynamik in der Urologie“.
10. 12. 1968: Univ.-Prof. Dr. H. HOINKES (Innsbruck): „Wir leben in einer Eiszeit“.
17. 12. 1968: Dr. Peter N. KESSLER M. P. H. (München): „Probleme der medizinischen Entwicklungshilfe“.
16. 1. 1969: Univ.-Prof. Dr. Walter GERLACH (München): „Otto Hahn — Mensch und Werk“. (Gemeinsam mit dem Österreichischen Ingenieur- und Architekten-Verein und der Mathematisch-Physikalischen Gesellschaft in Innsbruck).

21. 1. 1969: Dr. Walter MOSER (Innsbruck): „Experimental-Botanische Arbeiten in 3000 m Höhe”.
28. 1. 1969: Dr. Rita EGGER (Innsbruck): „Musiktherapie in Theorie und Praxis. Bericht über ihren Aufbau an der Innsbrucker Nervenlinik”.
11. 2. 1969: Univ.-Prof. Dr. Reinhard NAGEL (Berlin): „Probleme der Organtransplantation beim Menschen”.
18. 2. 1969: Magnifizenz Univ.-Prof. Dr. med. et phil. Th. VON DER WENSE (Innsbruck:) „Zum 70. Geburtstag von Univ.-Prof. Dr. F. SCHEMINZKY, Vorstand des Institutes für Physiologie und Balneologie der Universität Innsbruck”.
Univ.-Prof. Dr. H. SCHRÖCKSNADL (Innsbruck): „Über ein neues Schwangerschaftsfrühzeichen”.
Univ.-Doz. Dr. C. JOB (Innsbruck): „Thermalquellen in den französischen Pyrenäen”.
17. 4. 1969: Prof. Dr. Alexej Pawlowitsch OKLADNIKOW (Nowosibirsk): „Die alten Kulturen des sowjetischen Fernen Ostens”.
29. 4. 1969: Univ.-Prof. Dr. K. KREEB (Hohenheim): „Probleme des Wasserhaushaltes für die Pflanzen der Trockengebiete”. (Gemeinsam mit dem Verein Tiroler Landesmuseum Ferdinandeum).
12. 5. 1969: Univ.-Prof. Dr. E. SCHAUENSTEIN (Graz): „Tumorstimmende Wirkung von Hydroxypentenal in vitro et in viro”. (Gemeinsam mit dem Verein Österreichischer Chemiker.)
20. 5. 1969: Univ.-Prof. Dr. P. WEISSER (z. Z. Wien): „Die Vegetation von Chile”.
21. 5. 1969: Dr. G. A. WAGNER (Heidelberg): „Altersbestimmung in Mineralien und Gläsern mittels Spuren der spontanen Kernspaltung des U 238”. (Gemeinsam mit der Mathematisch-Physikalischen Gesellschaft in Innsbruck).
27. 5. 1969: Univ.-Doz. Dr. K. HAGENBUCHNER (Innsbruck): „Über die Homosexualität”.
3. 6. 1969: Univ.-Doz. Dr. P. GÖRNER (Berlin): „Fernstastsinnesorgane im Tierreich”.
17. 6. 1969: Univ.-Prof. Dr. P. SCHWERTFEGGER (Melbourne): „Der Wärmehaushalt in Australien und in der Antarktis”. (Jahreshauptversammlung).
1. 7. 1969: Univ.-Doz. Dr. H. WINKLER (Innsbruck): „Zum Mechanismus der Hormonsekretion aus Nebennierenmark und Phäochromocytom. Biochemische und morphologische Studien”.

Mitgliederverzeichnis (Stand vom 1. VII. 1969)

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Englische Titel und Synopses wissenschaftlicher Publikationen in Ber. nat.-med. Ver. Innsbruck, Band 57 (1969, Festschrift Scheminzky).

KOCH, I. M.: A contribution to the history of medicine. Ber. nat.-med. Ver. Innsbruck, **57**: 11—18, 3 fig., original scientific paper.

Synopsis: Remarkable and unique objects of importance for the history of medicine are described. In the museum of the Institute of Pathological Anatomy of the University of Innsbruck a collection of liver preparations is displayed which show a pathological change due to infantile liver cirrhosis appearing endemically in Tyrol.

In the same museum there is one half of an echinococcus cyst from 1917, the other half of which was used by H. FISCHER, head of the Institute of Medical Chemistry of the University of Innsbruck, to collect the Haematoidin for his Nobel price investigations.

There is a particularly valuable film in the archives of the Mental Hospital of the University of Innsbruck, made 1923 by E. GAMPER of a strongly deformed girl, a "human midbrain being", enabling him to discover new scientific territory.

JOB, C. and G. MUTSCHLECHNER: Hydrochemical investigations in limestone mountains. Ber. nat.-med. Ver. Innsbruck, **57**: 19—38, 3 tab., 3 fig., original scientific paper.

Synopsis: The chemical composition of surface-waters and mine-waters in the Wetterstein limestone and in the dolomite of the Karwendel-mountains was investigated in the area of the saltmine near Hall and compared with the geological situation.

Two groups of springs can be distinguished with respect to the altitude of emergence, which are separated by an almost springless zone lying between 950 and 1200 m above sea level. At these altitudes two water stemming strata run through the area of investigation.

The surface waters contain mainly earth-alkaline carbonates with different Ca/Mg-relations. Ca/Mg-relations around 1 characterize waters in the area of the dolomite. Ca/Mg-relations between 2 and 4 are found in waters emerging from the Wetterstein-limestone and from the gravels of the Inn-valley. The waters emerging from the non-uniform limestone strata between the Wetterstein- and Hauptdolomit-area show Ca/Mg-relations between 4 and 12. The Mg-content probably comes from strewn-in dolomite. The carbonate content of the higher situated springs is generally lower than that of the lower group of springs. Exceptions can be explained by the lush vegetation in the emergence area. Springs emerging from dolomite tend to higher carbonate contents on account of the lush vegetation in this rock. Sulfates were found in all springs of the Halltal as well as in some springs west of Thaur and in one spring in the eastern part of the investigated area emerging from saliferous clay. The chemical compositions of the waters of the Solbad Hall saltmine correspond to the penetrated rock material: while the highest inflow carries only limestone, the waters of the lower roadways contain gypsum and sodiumchloride.

FISCHER, M.: Opiinae from high-mountain areas of Tyrol (Hymenoptera, Braconidae). Ber. nat.-med. Ver. Innsbruck, 57: (1969) 39—58, 3 fig., original scientific paper.

Synopsis: The *Opiinae* (Hymenoptera, Braconidae) collected during the summer 1968 in the high mountains of Tyrol (Gurgler Tal, Ötztal, Venter Tal) are dealt with. 17 species belonging to the genera *Opius* WES-MAEL and *Biosteres* FOERSTER are listed with their bibliographical references, general distribution, known hosts, exact localities in Tyrol etc. and critical remarks. *Opius altimontanus* is described as new, *Biosteres brevisulcus* THOMSON is redescribed. 7 species are new to the fauna of Austria.

KOMMA, E. G.: Investigations about the catalytic effects of the thermal springs of Badgastein. Ber. nat.-med. Ver. Innsbruck, 57 (1969): 59—64, original scientific paper.

Synopsis: After a short revision of relevant publications of other authors the thermal springs of Badgastein are characterized shortly by the results of a chemical analysis. Then all employed methods to discover catalytic effects (catalytic reaction with H_2O_2 , phenolphthalein, phenolphthalein + H_2O_2 and benzidine + H_2O_2) gave negative results. Finally it is shown that there is no Fe^{2+} in the thermal water of Badgastein, but only Fe^{3+} probably in $[FeF_4]^{3-}$ anions.

WACHTER, H. u. G. SALLABERGER: Electrophoresis of lipoproteins in diabetes mellitus with respect to age, sex, and duration of illness. Ber. nat.-med. Ver. Innsbruck, 57 (1969): 65—69, 3 tab., original scientific paper.

Synopsis: The lipoproteins of 46 diabetics have been investigated after paper electrophoresis with respect to age, sex, and duration of illness. Similarly to healthy persons differences due to sex and age have been found: the fractions A and C are larger for female diabetics than for male ones, whereas fraction B is decreased in the females. Fraction A decreases with increasing age with simultaneous increase in the fractions B and C respectively.

The duration of illness influences the composition of the lipoproteins as well; fraction A increases with duration of illness towards normal values.

MÄRK, T. D.: A high-sensitivity apparatus for measuring natural atmospheric radioactivity. Ber. nat.-med. Ver. Innsbruck, 57 (1969): 71—93, 3 fig., 3 tab., original scientific paper.

Synopsis: The present paper reports briefly on the theory, design, calibration and checking of an apparatus based on a double-filter system. A collecting device consisting of an input filter, a decay chamber and an output filter is used to measure the concentrations of $Rn\ 222$, $Rn\ 220$ (thoron) and decay products in open air, room air and breathing air. This arrangement is based on a necessary high separation efficiency of the input filter. This efficiency was carefully investigated for the membran filter of cellulose nitrate (type MF 100 of the firm of Sartorius Göttingen, Germany) used here. It was shown that, even under the most unfavorable conditions, not more than $5 \cdot 10^{-6}$ of the decay products could pass through the input filter. After the collection period the α activity of both filters is measured for many hours in proportional or scintillation counters (back-

ground of the latter: 0.007 cpm per cm^2 of effective counting area). By means of the theory developed the concentration of radon 222, radon 220 (thoron), Pb 214 (RaB) and Pb 212 (ThB) can be determined separately from the decay curves. With a chamber volume of 25 liters, an effective filter diameter of 60 mm and a rate of air flow of about 40 liters per minute, radon concentrations of 0.145 pCi and thoron concentrations of 0.085 pCi per liter of air can still be measured after a collecting time of 15 hrs (relative error 25%). A further increase in detection sensitivity might be achieved by using larger chambers and larger filters. The open-air measurements carried out in Innsbruck yielded mean values of 0.213 pCi for radon and 0.97 pCi for thoron (here measured for the first time), referred to one liter of air.

POHL, E. and J. POHL-RÜLING: The environmental radiation dose for the population of Badgastein, Austria. Ber. nat.-med. Ver. Innsbruck, 57 (1969): 95—110, 6 tab., original scientific paper.

Synopsis: In the center of the Austrian spa Badgastein 19 thermal springs originate which supply about 5000 m^3 of water with a total of 183 mCi radon per day. The water is gathered in reservoirs from which it is conveyed by a pipeline system to more than 100 hotels. On its way from the heads of the springs to the bathrooms the water loses a great part of its radon content which is delivered to the air of living, sleeping, and working rooms as well as to open air. From numerous measurements we obtained a mean radon content of 2.6 pCi/l for open air and 11 pCi/l for living, sleeping and working rooms in the center. In the other parts of the spa we found 0.8 and 5.0 pCi/l, respectively. The air in the bathrooms and the connected rooms showed mean values of 90 and 46 pCi/l for the entire village. (These values serve for the calculation of the radiation dose of the attending personal).

In previous investigations (e. g. POHL E. and J. POHL-RÜLING: Strahlentherapie, 1968) we studied the dose distribution in the organism after inhalation of radon and its decay products. This enabled us to calculate the *additional dose* due to radon incorporation in the essential organs for three typical groups of the Badgastein population. These dose rates range from 26 to 143 mrad/a for the lungs, 6 to 32 mrad/a for the kidneys, and 1.5 to 6 mrad/a for the red bone marrow and the gonades. All these values are below the maximum permissible dose rate for an individual member of the public. (To obtain the dose rates in mrem/a the given values must be multiplied by 10.)

SCHRÖCKSNADEL H. and H. WACHTER: On the electrophoretic mobility of serum-lipoproteins and their diagnostic value. Ber. nat.-med. Ver. Innsbruck, 57 (1969): 111—122, 1 tab., 3 fig., original scientific paper.

Synopsis: In the case of the animal (*Gallus domesticus*) and of the human being the mobility of serum-lipoproteins under various conditions was compared with that of protein fractions by means of paper electrophoresis (lipoprotein-mobility test). Thereby it was revealed that in the case of female fowl there are striking changes in the velocity especially of the serum-lipoprotein fraction A in the course of sexual maturity (the setting-in of egg production) and also during moulting. These mobility effects are regulated by hormones. By the administration of estrogenic substances the mobility picture of the non-laying hen during moulting and the corresponding picture of the cock can be changed very quickly into that of an egg-producing hen.

In healthy female and male test persons between 20 and 35 years there was no sexual distinction in the mobility of the serum-lipoprotein fraction A. A distinct increase in the velocity of the fraction A could, however, be identified in gravidity. It appears already in the early stage of pregnancy and disappears again post partum. It has not yet been possible to find a satisfactory explanation of this phenomenon. By means of paper-electrophoretic mobility test it is relatively simple to record changes in the velocity of serum-lipoproteins.

JOB, C.: The effect of low mineralized thermal waters on the germination of plant seeds and the growth of young plants. Ber. nat.-med. Ver. Innsbruck, 57 (1969): 123—141, 3 tab., 6 fig., original scientific paper.

Synopsis: Low mineralized thermal waters usually effect an initial inhibition of the germination of plant seeds, which later on turns into a promotion of the sprout- and root-development of the young plants. The present investigation deals with this plant physiological double effect of the thermal waters on white mustard (*Sinapis alba*).

Experiments with single salt solutions showed that it is particularly the Ca-ion among the cations (Na, K, Ca, Mg) and the HCO_3 -ion among the anions (Cl , SO_4 , HCO_3), which retard the speed of germination. Also the lack of O_2 in thermal waters is an important factor of inhibition. The germination speed depends strongly on pH, with acid environment being promotive and alkaline environment being inhibitive.

Despite the strong initial retardation of the germination in Ca-hydrogencarbonate solutions the O_2 -consumption is not reduced. Therefore the retarding effect of these ions is not due to an inhibition of cell breathing. In contrast to their initial inhibition on the germination Ca- and HCO_3 -ions have an outspoken favorable effect on the number of growing plants as well as on their elongation.

The causative factors for the plant physiological double effect of low mineralized thermal waters as shown by these experiments are: Their O_2 -lack causing inhibition and their content of Ca- and HCO_3 -ions, which causes initial inhibition of germination and later on promotes the growth.

FRIEDEL, R., C. JOB and R. SCHULZ: Anion dependent sodium permeability of the frog skin. Ber. nat.-med. Ver. Innsbruck, 57 (1969): 143—146, 1 fig., 1 tab., original scientific paper.

Synopsis: The inward penetration of sodium ions through frog skin is influenced by anions in a similar way as the sodium accumulation in the root of mustard germs. The permeability increases in O_2 -baths in the following sequence: $\text{Cl}' < \text{SO}_4'' \ll \text{HCO}_3'$. In baths bubbled by a mixture of 95% O_2 and 5% CO_2 the sodium penetration is reduced as result of the acidification of the skin. The exceptional high sodium permeability from hydrogencarbonate solutions is probably due to the fact, that this anion penetrates as CO_2 -gas, which is converted into HCO_3' inside the cell by the reaction with the cell water.

FLEISCHMANN, W. and S. K. FLEISCHMANN: Thirty years of research on colchicine. Ber. nat.-med. Ver. Innsbruck, 57 (1969): 147-152, 1 fig., review.

Synopsis: The investigations of the alkaloid colchicine by the authors and their associates are reviewed. The following hormone induced growth phenomena were studied with the help of colchicine because this drug arrests

mitosis in metaphase: effect of thyrotropic hormones on thyroids of guinea pigs, of androgens on seminal vesicles of rodents and of corticoids on ovi-positors of bitterlings (*Rhodeus amarus*). It was further demonstrated that X-irradiation of seminal vesicles in castrated male rats and subsequent treatment with androgens delays onset of mitosis. This effect is reversible. Furthermore flat preparations of corneas of rodents treated with colchicine enabled the investigators to estimate the duration of the mitotic cycle at about one hour. Finally the pathways of excretion of colchicine were studied in the Golden Hamster (*Cricetus aureus*). Intraperitoneally administered colchicine is mainly excreted by urine and bile.

PEUS, F.: Fleas from Austria. Ber. nat.-med. Ver. Innsbruck, 57 (1969): 153—158, 1 fig., original scientific paper.

Synopsis: New data are given on the occurrence of fleas in Austria in addition to the earlier reports from SMIT. Especially remarkable are the bird fleas collected by A. AICHORN in the alpine region of Tyrol, such as *Frontopsylla frontalis*, *Ceratophyllus eneideae*, *C. vagabundus alpestris*, and *C. garei borealis*.

MAHNERT, V.: On fleas from Tirol (Ins., Siphonaptera). Ber. nat.-med. Ver. Innsbruck, 57 (1969): 159-178, 1 tab., 3 fig., original scientific paper.

Synopsis: 15 species and subspecies of Siphonaptera (mostly off 400 small mammals) are reported as new to the fauna of Tirol and four species (subspecies) as new to Austria: *Doratomyia dasyneura cuspis*, *Rhadinopsylla mesa*, *Amphipsylla sibirica sepiifera*, and *Myoxopsylla laverani laverani*. Maps on the distribution of subspecies of three species in and around Tirol are given. The vertical distribution of different species is discussed and a list is given of all fleas, hitherto known from Tirol.

ROSEGGER, H., M. INNERHOFER, E. TROYER and H. KONZETT: On the correlation between the bronchoconstrictor action of bradykinin and the activity of kininase in the plasma of the guinea pig. Ber. nat.-med. Ver. Innsbruck, 57 (1969): 179—184, 1 tab., original scientific paper.

Synopsis: 1. The activity of kininase in blood plasma and the bronchoconstrictor action of bradykinin (0,5 µg i. v.) was measured in guinea pigs. 2. When the bronchoconstrictor action of bradykinin was weak, a high activity of kininase was found in the plasma of the same animal. A strong bronchoconstrictor action of bradykinin corresponded to a low activity of kininase. 3. The correlation coefficient between the activity of kininase in plasma and the bronchoconstrictor action of bradykinin was significant on the 0,1 level.

PITSCHMANN, H.: Algae in thermal springs on the island Ischia (Italy). Ber. nat.-emd. Ver. Innsbruck, 57 (1969): 185—193, 2 tab., 4 fig., original scientific publication.

Synopsis: Because of extreme temperature conditions (there are frequently fluctuations between approximately 15° and 60° C in winter) and the high salt content the investigated springs contain only a few species of algae.

Phormidium valderianum is the species mostly represented in all three springs.

Because the habitats are periodically flooded by salt water a number of littoral algae of wider distribution (*Entophysalis granulosa*, *Gloeocapsa crepidinum*, *Calothrix parietina* and *Synedra gaillonii*) occur in addition to thermobionts (that are thermophilic forms). *Schizothrix lardacea* has been found for the first time in a hot spring.

THALER, K.: On some Erigonid spiders from Tyrol (Araneae, Erignoidae). Innsbruck, 57 (1969): 195—219, 1 tab., 11 fig., original scientific paper.

Synopsis: There are presented informations on five poorly known Erigonid spiders: *Asthenargus helveticus* SCHENKEL (= *A. baumi* MILLER, new synonymy) (♂♀), *Caracladus avicula* (L. KOCH) (♂), *Diastanillus pecuarius* (SIMON) (♂♀), *Janetschekia lesserti* SCHENKEL (♂♀) and *Rhaebothorax brockhus* (L. KOCH) (= *Gongylidiellum* (?) *tenerum* SCHENKEL) (♂♀). Furthermore, *Sisicus apertus* (HOLM) and some others are reported from Austria for the first time.

EIGELREITER, H.: Function polarity of the heart muscle of the frog. Ber. nat.-med. Ver. Innsbruck, 57 (1969): 221—256, 9 tab., 12 fig., original scientific paper.

Synopsis: The behaviour of 488 ventricular stripes of the frog heart was investigated 2773 times in the stream of direct current.

In further development of the experiments of Dames — she has investigated ventricular stripes with only one, the ventral center — the research was enlarged on ventricular stripes with both centers preserved (ventral and dorsal center) respectively on ventricular stripes with only the dorsal center (the ventral center was removed) and on ventricular stripes without any center.

It is worthy of note there was no essential difference in the behaviour of the ventricular stripes in the stream of direct current indifferent if both centers or only one center (with removing the other one) were preserved. Direct current in Ringer-solution streaming along the stripes made no change of function even if the direction was reversed. Ascending and descending direction of d. c. accelerate the autogenous ventricular rhythm, ascending more, descending less. Ventricular stripes without spontaneous rhythm start to beat in the ascending and the descending d. c.

If the d. c. streams transverse the stripes the functions-polarity of the pace-maker-tissue is discovered. Autogenous beating ventricular stripes are beating faster with ascending d. c., slower with descending d. c. Ventricular stripes without spontaneous rhythm begin to beat with ascending d. c., with descending they do not.

Ventricular stripes without any center have no functions-polarity in the stream of d. c. even with highest intensity of d. c.

From this it is concluded the functions-polarity is restricted on the pace-maker-tissue (the cells of atrioventricular funnel of the frog heart): there is a polar structure of this cells to be expected.

The investigation supports the hypothesis of Scheminzky: the position of the effective physiological electrodes on the sensitive tissue-elements is determining for the opposed influence of the function of an organ by d. c.

AN DER LAN, H.: **Biological and medical problems of modern civilisation.**
Ber. nat.-med. Ver. Innsbruck, 57 (1969): 259—269, review.

Synopsis: The present situation is characterized by an unbelievable fast progress in all technical and scientific fields. It was proved however in the last decades that a great many of our civilizing progress does not coordinate with the interests of the living world including human society. Caused by our own progress, an increasing number of materials foreign to our body (lead, mercury, pesticides, cancerogens) enter our environment more and more. This involves a serious danger for human beings. It must be pointed out that the american, english, swiss, and german tolerance values for lead are too high. Based on russian research significantly lower values must be demanded. Manufacturing with mercury and the use of pesticides containing mercury causes this metal to become a serious danger. With regard to pesticides it can be shown by a number of examples that tolerance values of stable chemical compounds are useless since they may increase to a manifold of the tolerance values in biocycles. Man is included in this biocycle. Concluding, the problems of the general toxic situation is being discussed.

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