

PREFACE

This issue of the «Archives Italiennes de Biologie» is dedicated to Ermanno Manni, Professor of Human Physiology at the Medical School of the Catholic University in Rome, in occasion of his seventieth anniversary. This initiative was made possible by the cooperation of all his students, colleagues and friends, who readily accepted the proposal to give him a tangible demonstration of their esteem, respect and affection.

It was decided that the most appropriate way to pay this tribute was to dedicate to Prof. Manni original papers related to research carried out in the various fields of neurophysiology in which he had been engaged during the course of his career. Thus, the diversity of subjects discussed by the authors reflects the cultural interests and the fields of research of Prof. Manni himself. Those who had the privilege of working with him at the Institutes of Human Physiology in Sassari and Rome, and are now continuing their research work in Messina, Perugia, Rome, Sassari, and Turin, had been particularly attracted by the original observations made by Prof. Manni on different aspects of cerebellar and vestibular physiology. In addition to this relevant area, Prof. Manni addressed his work to other fields of research including the proprioception of the extraocular muscles and the peripheral and central organization of trigeminal reflex pathways; on these fields he particularly obtained detailed and valuable results. During his experimentation, Prof. Manni always displayed enthusiasm, inspiration and intellectual rigour that he succeeded to transmit to all those who had the opportunity and the good fortune to work under his guide.

In recognition of these merits, all the friends and colleagues who have contributed to this issue wish to express to the teacher and mentor, Prof. Manni, the deepest gratitude and the best wishes for a still successful and highly rewarding activity in the coming years.

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