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Obituary

Stefan Engel M.D. died on 22 February 1968. He was born on 7 September 1878 in Reichenbach, Silesia, and studied at the Universities of Breslau, Wuerzburg, and Munich. His early anatomical studies in Breslau under Ponfick (1903/04), where he took his M.D., and his subsequent paediatric work with Schlossmann, in Dresden (1905/06), and in Düsseldorf (1906/13), not only laid the foundations but also saw the first results of his research work which continued almost to the very end of his long life. Among his early publications are his classical studies on the correlation between the anatomy of the breast and its capacity for lactation, the relationship between ingested fat and its presence in the milk, tuberculin sensitivity, and cholostrum chemistry. This work was recognized through the award of the title of Professor. Engel combined his research activities with clinical practice and published one of the first general textbooks on the care of infants. This book was printed in 14 editions and was translated into a number of languages.

At the end of the First World War he was appointed director of the Children's Hospital at Dortmund. This he rebuilt along principles which were revolutionary then

and are sound to this day. His work on occult tuberculosis, tuberculous meningitis, and on the anatomy and radiology of the bronchial lymph glands was carried out during this time. He founded and was co-editor of *Kinderärztliche Praxis*. The *Handbuch der Kinder-tuberkulose* was edited jointly by Clemens von Pirquet and Stefan Engel. He also edited the *Handbuch der Röntgen-Diagnostik und-Therapie im Kindesalter* with L. Schall, and he was founder and co-editor of *Ergebnisse für die gesamte Tuberkuloseforschung* and of *Annales Paediatrici*.

In 1936 Stefan Engel was forced to emigrate and he made London his new home. Although this proved to be the end of his career as a paediatrician, it may be regarded as a blessing in disguise. Engel was now able to devote all his time to the research for which his anatomical, pathological, and clinical experience had fitted him so well. His first post in London after his arrival in England was as a research assistant in the overcrowded laboratories of the old Great Ormond Street Hospital. With an astonishing facility he adapted himself to this entirely new role of non-clinical, purely laboratory research worker. He spent most of his time on the intermediate anatomy of the lung. Later on he continued this work at the Royal College of Surgeons which ended in his book on the anatomy of the lung, which included the macroscopic, intermediate, and microscopic structures of the lung.

A.G.S.

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