

Closing Address

All the schedule of the 43rd Annual Meeting of our Society, the Arthropodan Embryological Society of Japan, finished with fruitful results.

The schedule was hard, but I think it is a good chance to learn the international atmosphere especially for young students.

The first I thank very much to the guests, Prof. Romano Dallai and Dr. Klaus-Dieter Klass, they gave us the excellent lectures on insect phylogeny based on morphological evidence, and to the impressive lectures on the comparative embryology by Japanese students.

And also I thank for the very well management of this meeting by Dr. R. Machida and his staff and the winner of the Hidemichi Oka Prize, Dr. Masatsugu Hatakeyama. Congratulation on your success!

I am very glad this Annual Meeting was held in Sugadaira Plateau, because the 1st Meeting of "Study Group of Students of Arthropodan Embryology" was held at the Sugadaira Biological Laboratory of Tokyo Kyoiku University, present the Sugadaira Montane Research Center of the University of Tsukuba, in 1963, when only several students attended, and Dr. Morio Matsuzaki is one of them. In 1982, the Study Group was renewed as the present the Arthropodan Embryological Society of Japan and today the member of our Society is near one hundred contained many foreign students. Now our Society develops into the international level, I think.

In 1950, just after the 2nd World War closed, I began to study the embryonic development of a primitive anisozygopteran dragonfly *Epiophlebia superstes* (Selys), under the guidance of my major Prof. Hidemichi Oka and then I extended my study to other insect orders from the standpoint of comparative concept, which is very important to consider the animal phylogeny.

I fostered many excellent disciple scholars and they also fostered many good students. Therefore we have a bright future in our study on the comparative embryology of insects, I believe.

More than a half century passed from I had commenced the study on insect embryology and this year I become 84 years old, an old man, so I hope to retire from the up-to-date study for the reason that I know the limitation of my ability.

Lastly Mrs. Sonia Dallai and Mrs. Elke Klass we are very glad you have come here, beautiful Sugadaira, and we hope you enjoy enough in the historical Capital Kyoto and present Capital Tokyo.

Everybody, thank you very much! Thank you.

July 6, 2007

Hiroshi Ando

President of the Organizing Committee

The 43rd Annual Meeting of the Arthropodan Embryological Society of Japan