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Foreword

We would like to thank Dr. Schleichkorn for his diligent labor in collecting the necessary material to write a book on our long and eventful lives. We are now almost totally retired and looking back over the last 50 years of the development of our concept. From the beginning, we had a great struggle to develop the concept and have it accepted. It was based purely on empirical lines by Mrs. Bobath's observation of children and adults with neurological lesions and their response to treatment. We are very proud of the fact that the concept in its long development has remained a living thing based and modified on clinical observation and practical experience.

We are very grateful to our friends around the world for their criticism, loyal support, and love, especially during the first years when all results of treatment had to be proved. The concept is hypothetical in nature, although to some extent it has been confirmed and strengthened by recent research which we hope will continue in the future.

However, in spite of the struggle, we enjoyed every minute of it and are happy at the end of our career to look upon an eventful and fulfilling task, requiring our total absorption which we considered an adventure, the result of an accidental discovery, impossible to judge at first, and only proved through long experience of evaluation and treatment.

Next year we hope to celebrate our golden wedding anniversary looking back on a life of fulfillment, total love, and comradeship.

Berti and Karel Bobath
November 1990