

PARASITOOZONOSES — SYMPOSIUM HELD AT ŠTRBSKÉ PLESO, MAY 1975

Czechoslovak Parasitological Society affiliated to the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, Institute of Helminthology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, Institute of Parasitology of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences and Slovak Society for Agricultural, Forestry and Food Sciences affiliated to the Slovak Academy of Sciences organized "Parasitological Days 1975" on the subject "Parasitoozonoses" at Štrbské Pleso from 7th to 8th May 1975.

The symposium was devoted to 30th anniversary of liberation of Czechoslovakia by the Soviet Army. Honorary presidents were Minister of Health of the Slovak Socialist Republic, corresponding member of the Slovak Academy of Sciences Prof. Dr. Emil Matejíček, D.Sc., and Minister of Agriculture and Food of the Slovak Socialist Republic, Ing. Ján Janovic, C.Sc. The symposium was attended by 95 research workers, pedagogues and specialists of 50 Czechoslovak institutes and one foreign visitor, Prof. M. D. Sonin, D.Sc. of the Helminthological Laboratory of the USSR Academy of Sciences, Moscow.

The inaugural address entitled "30th anniversary of liberation of Czechoslovakia in the light of development of Czechoslovak parasitology" by Academician B. Rosický and Academician J. Hovorka was read by Academician J. Hovorka. He reported on the wide development of parasitology and the results achieved by Czechoslovak parasitologists both in the scientific research and practice under conditions of the socialist system, and outlined further prospects of development of this important biological discipline in Czechoslovakia.

Afterwards Prof. M. D. Sonin read a short report. He congratulated the workers of Czechoslovakia on the occasion of 30th anniversary of free life and evaluated the co-operation of Czechoslovak and Soviet parasitologists. He expressed his belief that this co-operation will continue and deepen in the coming years.

In the two following lectures delivered by Academician J. Hovorka (Present state and perspectives in the region of helminthozoonoses) and Prof. Dr. G. Čatár, D.Sc. (Present state and perspectives of other parasitoozonoses) the participants got acquainted with the recent problems of parasitic diseases transmissible from animals to man, which are to be solved in the nearest future.

The first day of the conference was devoted to helminthozoonoses. The 21 lectures read at this section dealt with the serodiagnostics of helminthoses, methods of preparation of antigens and results of tests of new drugs for treatment of human helminthoses. Attention was also paid to the occurrence of larval cestodoses (especially *Cysticercus bovis*) and other larval stages of helminths in animals intended for consumption by man (cattle, pigs and fish) and threatening thus the health of man. Especially the liking for meals prepared from underdone or raw meat (e.g. beefsteak à la Tartar) leads to the increase of the number of diseases caused by cestodes (especially *Taeniarrhynchus saginatus*).

Other parasitoozonoses and parasitoses (caused by microsporidia, *Toxoplasma gondii*, leptospirae and other agents) were on the program of the second day. A total of 20 lectures on this subject were read. Of interest were the results obtained in the diagnostics of infections of parasitic worms in the dormitories of foreign students. The increasing migration of the human population, especially into tropical countries (tourism, help to the developing countries) will amplify the scope of parasitic diseases afflicting our citizens and introduce those parasitoses which have been unknown under our geographic conditions until lately.

The program was suitably complemented by two original popular science films, "Fasciolosis of farm animals" and "Reflexes in ticks", from the Institute of Helminthology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences in Košice and Institute of Virology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences in Bratislava.

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and MVDr. J. Čorba, C. Sc.