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60th anniversary of E. V. Gvozdev

12 December 1978 marks the 60th birthday and 40th anniversary of scientific, professional-organizational and social activities of the Soviet parasitologist, Vice-President of the Kazakh SSR Academy of Sciences, Prof. Dr. Evgeniy Vasilyevich Gvozdev.

E. V. Gvozdev has devoted his entire life and professional career to his beloved science, placing his vast knowledge and talent at the service of biology. He received his professional education at the Biological Faculty of the Kazakh State University (1938—1944). His enthusiasm for biology became manifest during his university studies, when he devoted his free time to the instruction of young naturalists, to the work at the Zoo and Alma-Ata game preserve in the summer watching the animals and studying the role of rodents in biocenoses. In collaboration with his colleagues he invented a mechanical bird, by means of which he studied the feeding of birds.

His university studies were interrupted by the Great Patriotic War. In his fourth year of studies he was drafted into the army, participated in the fighting on the distant approaches to Moscow, was wounded and after his recovery continued his studies at the university.

E. V. Gvozdev specialized in parasitology under the guidance of V. A. Dogel', the prominent scientist and professor of the Leningrad University, who had inspired the undergraduates and young specialists in Alma Ata during the war in pursuing a contemporary new trend — ecological parasitology. E. V. Gvozdev's first professional publications "Parasite fauna of fishes of the upland Asiatic subregion" (1945),



Acolpenteron nephriticum sp. nov. — Dactylogyridae, adapted to endoparasitic way of life" (1945), "Infection of the sand hare with lung nematode depending on the population density and habitat of the host" (1946), "To the ecology of the Tien-Shan vole in the spruce forest of the Alma Ata State Reserve" (1947) and others date back to that time.

E. V. Gvozdev's exceptional abilities as researcher, experimenter and organizer of science became evident very early. He completed his post-graduate studies, receiving his Candidate of Sciences degree in 1947 and became head of the Laboratory of parasites and diseases of

game animals (later renamed as Laboratory of parasites of fishes and birds) which had been founded by V. A. Dogel'. He has been heading this laboratory to date.

Vast knowledge of nature, great keenness of observation, wide experience in field investigations in all landscape zones of the Republic, scholarship in systematics and parasite fauna of fishes, birds and mammals have contributed to E. V. Gvozdev's reputation as an erudite parasitologist, whose works are well-known beyond the borders of the Soviet Union. Apart from systematics and ecology of parasites, he is also actively interested in many theoretical problems of parasitology, including the natural focality of helminthoses, to which he has made outstanding contributions, and other problems such as parasitological factors in the acclimatization of animals, life cycles and evolution of helminths, etc. He described new species of Monogenea, trematodes, cestodes, nematodes and Acanthocephala parasitic in fishes, birds and mammals.

To date E. V. Gvozdev has published over 110 scientific works, including several monographs. His book "Parasitic worms of Galliformes of Kazakhstan" (1958) is still a basic source for the studies on this group of helminths in the Republic. As coauthor with other helminthologists he released "Key to helminths of hare-like mammals of the USSR" (1970). Together with Prof. R. S. Shul'ts he participated in the compilation of the manual "Fundamentals of General Helminthology" (1970, 1972, 1976). The first and second volumes of this handbook include sections written by him covering sys-

matics, morphology, biology and life cycles of all scolecid worms.

E. V. Gvozdev was granted a Doctor of biological sciences degree on the basis of his publications summarized in the "Fauna, systematics and ecology of helminths of wild animals (fishes, birds, rodents and hare-like animals) in Kazakhstan and natural focality of helminthoses of domestic fowls" (1967).

Since 1971 E. V. Gvozdev has been the Director of the Institute of Zoology, the Kazakh SSR Academy of Sciences. In 1972 he was elected Corresponding Member of the Kazakh SSR Academy of Sciences, later Academician and in 1976 its first Vice-President.

E. V. Gvozdev has attended numerous international symposia and conferences, maintaining close scientific contacts with scientists abroad — in Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, Yugoslavia, France, England etc. He serves on the editorial board of several scientific journals, including *Folia parasitologica* (Praha).

For his fruitful scientific activities and training of specialists E. V. Gvozdev was decorated with the order of Lenin and awarded several medals and diplomas. He was repeatedly elected deputy of the District Soviet of Working People's Deputies.

At present E. V. Gvozdev is in the prime of his life. We hope that he will yet make many contributions to the benefit of his beloved science — parasitology and of the organization of biology in Kazakhstan as well. We wish him many happy returns of the day, good health, great success in science and organization activities.

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Prof. Dr. B. Rosický, D.Sc.*