

50th birthday of Associate Professor MUDr., RNDr. Hynek Lýsek, C.Sc.



Some months ago, the prominent Czechoslovak parasitologist Associate Professor MUDr. RNDr. Hynek Lýsek, C.Sc., Head of the Department of Biology, Medical Faculty, Palacký University in Olomouc, celebrated his 50th birthday and 25 years of fruitful scientific activity.

He was born on 25th May 1929 in Bratislava. Having finished the secondary school in 1950 he started to study at the Faculty of Philosophy, Palacký University in Olomouc. Later he passed to the Faculty of Biology of the Charles University in Prague where he studied biology-parasitology under the guidance of Professor Jírovec. Already during his studies his attention was focused on human parasitology, particularly epidemiology of geohelminthoses. In the last year of his studies he worked as technical assistant at the Department of Soil Hygiene of the Institute of Hygiene in Prague. After his university studies in 1954 he started to serve at the Department of Parasitology of the Institute of Biology, Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences in Prague, devoting himself again to the study of geohelminthoses under various conditions of our country. He continued his epidemiological studies of child's helminthoses at the District Station of Hygiene and Epidemiology in Olomouc in 1957. In November of the same year he passed to the Department of Biology, Faculty of Medicine, Palacký University as Lecturer. He became deeply involved in the study of ovicidal fungi as natural biological

factor destroying eggs of some helminth species in outer environment. At the same time he studied at the Faculty of Medicine, Palacký University and in 1963 he was awarded the Candidate of Biological Sciences degree. The title of his thesis was "Epidemiological problems of geohelminthoses". Later he was appointed Associate Professor and became Head of the Department of Biology, Faculty of Medicine, Palacký University in Olomouc.

Dr. Lýsek has been continuously engaged in the study of epidemiological problems of geohelminthoses for almost 25 years. His significant contribution to this branch of science is the new exact information on ovicidal fungi, the role of which has already been mentioned in his dissertation paper. He has studied for the first time and in a wide scope the role of ovicidal fungi as natural biological control of helminth eggs in various types of soils. He has published more than 80 scientific and scientific-popular papers which are of great importance both in scientific circles and in epidemiological practice. He is a co-author of six textbooks for university students and acts as university teacher in the field of medical parasitology. His scientific and teaching activity was appreciated on the occasion of 400th anniversary of the foundation of Palacký University when he was awarded a medal for merits in the development of science, culture and education. Dr. Lýsek also worked for one year in the Laboratory of Parasitology, Institute of Zoology, Cuban Academy of Sciences, where he applied his knowledge of ovicidal fungi under subtropical conditions.

Dr. Lýsek has also widely acted as propagator of Czechoslovak parasitology and biology in general. He is a Visiting Lecturer in parasitology at the Faculty of Sciences, Palacký University, member of Scientific Board of Medical Faculty of the same university, member of the Committee of Biological Section of the Socialist Academy, member of Parasitological Society etc. In these societies he presents his new results achieved in his laboratory, as well as information obtained from parasitological laboratories of other countries. This activity was appreciated by the Socialist Academy by awarding him an honour.

Czechoslovak parasitologists wish their colleague good health and further success in his scientific work which is a valuable contribution of Czechoslovak parasitology to the health of man.

Dr. Jan Prokopić, D.Sc.