

Docent Michal Valent, C.Sc., M.D. is fifty

Docent Michal Valent, C.Sc., M.D., senior scientist of the Parasitological Institute, Medical Faculty of the Comenius University in Bratislava celebrated his 50th birthday last October. He was born 3. 10. 1929 at Lutilla. He graduated from the Medical Faculty, the Comenius University in Bratislava in 1953. Already as a student worked at institutes and clinics as demonstrator



and dealt with research problems within the students' scientific activities. At the I. Clinic of gynecology and obstetrics he solved the problems of staphylococcus infections in obstetrics and obstetric analgesia.

After graduation he worked at the II. Clinic of gynecology and obstetrics till 1960, when he left the Clinic and took up gynecological practice. In December 1963 he returned to the Medical Faculty, the Comenius University taking the post of scientific worker of the Parasitological Institute. As an experienced clinician he decided to devote his scientific efforts in the field of parasitic infections closely associated with gynecological-obstetric practice. He focused his interest primarily on problems of trichomoniasis and in 1967 he presented his thesis for the award of the Candidate of medical sciences degree

entitled "To the problems of trichomoniasis in the population in Slovakia", which covers the epidemiology and clinics of this widespread parasitic disease. As an experienced clinician he also paid attention to the therapy and particularly to the early diagnosis of this disease, which resulted in his dissertation paper for his qualification as Associate Professor, entitled "Analysis of factors influencing the incidence of trichomoniasis and proposal of its prevention". He also studied problems of toxoplasmosis, the main target of research, primarily in the field of obstetrics, carried out at the Parasitological Institute, Medical Faculty of the Comenius University.

With great initiative he prepared, in cooperation with the Bratislava Public Health Department, projects to establish the Department of Clinical Parasitology, which is at present one of the most progressive, but still exclusive medical institutions where theory and practice are combined in one whole.

Docent M. Valent takes an active part in teaching biology and parasitology both the undergraduate and post-graduate medical students.

Doc. Valent's publication activities are very extensive. He published 7 books and monographs and over 140 scientific and professional papers in Czechoslovak and foreign journals. He belongs to the most active propagators of medical science and published over 130 articles on health education, and his lectures which he read as prominent representative of the Central Committee of the Socialist Academy of the Slovak Socialist Republic, are very popular.

Doc. Valent is noted for his excellent organizational abilities and personal qualities which he applies as administrator of scientific societies and organizer of congresses and symposia. His outstanding personal qualities have won him a host of friends. He is a modest man, exacting in his work and duties, and as demanding to others. He takes a great interest in creative art and regularly visits exhibitions, enjoying beautiful pictures or other works of prominent and talented creative artists.

We are happy that Docent M. Valent celebrated his 50th birthday in good health, vital energy and personal well-being. We wish him many scientific successes and much happiness in the coming years.

Prof. MUDr. G. Čatár, D.Sc.