

Professor Mikuláš Gregor will celebrate his 75th birthday



With feelings of greatest respect the Czechoslovak scientific, technical, and pedagogical community commemorates the birthday of Professor Dr. Ing. *M. Gregor*, DrSc., Corresponding member of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, who in good health and full of optimism will reach his 75th year of life on November 25. With the personality of Professor Gregor the education of Slovak technologists, the post-war development of modern Slovak inorganic and silicate industry as well as the development of research into the Slovak mineral raw materials are connected. We reported on his versatile activities on the occasion of his 70th anniversary [*Chem. Zvesti* **26**, 560—562 (1972)].

His over 50-year-long professional career of a scientist, researcher, and university teacher started in 1925 when he graduated from the University for Chemical Technology in Prague. Afterwards he was working for several years in industry and research. In 1939 he became assistant professor, in 1942 extraordinary professor, and in 1946 ordinary professor at the Slovak Technical University in Bratislava. His scientific merits were honoured in 1955 when he was elected Corresponding member of the Slovak Academy of Sciences. In 1964 President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic awarded him the distinction "For excellent work", in 1972 the state distinction "For merits in development" and 1970 he received the State prize of Klement Gottwald. Many other distinctions and awards were bestowed upon him by various Universities, research and industrial institutions.

Professor Gregor belongs to those exceptional scientists who are gifted with a capability for understanding the interdisciplinary scientific correlations and who, moreover, are perfectly well informed on advances in their own field of scientific interest. A salient feature of Professor Gregor's scientific activities is his deep involvement with technology and industry, where he found many inspiring ideas and where he again transmitted the results of his research. Owing to a thorough knowledge of research activities and trends in our country and abroad Professor Gregor was able to give a qualified opinion on the development of research in science and technology in our country. Many of his efforts were devoted to organization and formation of research and industry based on Slovak mineral raw materials, especially on clay minerals; further he paid great attention to the problems of utilization of industrial air pollutants and to certain technological processes, such as the fluid-bed roasting of silicate materials. The results of his activities are reported in a great number of papers published in scientific and industrial journals and in a book on bentonite (1969).

Among all his activities there is one to which he has devoted much of his zeal and which he has performed with a great personal engagement — it is his work of university teacher. He

founded and for long years headed the Department of Inorganic Chemistry at the Slovak Technical University (from which later on the Department of Technology of Silicates was branched off) and he played a decisive role in initiating the foundation of the Institute of Inorganic Chemistry of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, the director of which he was for several years, and in establishing the long-range plans of its research activities. Many of his former pupils became university professors or are in leading positions in scientific and research institutes or in the industry. All of them have appreciated his extremely human attitude and his willingness to help when and where needed.

Numerous friends both from our country and abroad take gladly this opportunity to express their feelings of respect, gratitude, and love. For years to come we wish Professor Gregor good health and for the benefit of all of us may he continue in his successful work with as much enthusiasm and optimism as in the past.

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