

### Professor RNDr. Ľudovít Krasnec 75 Years Old



On August 20th, 1988, full of creative energy and vital activity, Professor RNDr. *Ľudovít Krasnec* celebrated his meaning anniversary — 75 years. Honoured person belonged till his retiring in 1982 to the prominent representatives of pedagogic staff at the Faculty of Pharmacy of Comenius University in Bratislava; being head of the Institute of Inorganic and Organic Chemistry and of the Scientific Research Institute.

Born in Dunajov na Kysuciach in a needy worker's family, grown up in difficult social circumstances, he became very soon orphan. He attended secondary school in Žilina; regarding his diligence and talent, with very good results. He was then educated at the Faculty of Sciences of Charles University in Prague. Since his third school year, he was engaged as assistant lecturer and later as lecturer in the Institute of Inorganic Chemistry with Professor RNDr. *J. Křepelka*, where he got his Doctor of Natural Sciences (RNDr.) title. Here began his pedagogic activity among students of pharmacy; at the beginning he led their practices in inorganic chemistry.

At the end of 1939 Dr. Krasnec began to work as lecturer in the State Health-Social Institute in Bratislava as head of Laboratory of Medicines Inspection. Since 1941 he was assistant in the Institute of Pharmacology, Faculty of Medicine of the Slovak University in Bratislava and began with other colleagues under Professor MUDr. *F. Švec* guidance to organize fundamentals of pharmaceutical education. He focused his attention on one of the most important branches of pharmaceutical sciences — pharmaceutical chemistry; this was due to him constituted and there began, respecting modern principles of science knowledge of that time, the development of pharmaceutical chemistry.

Modern scientific approach of Dr. Krasnec and his large theoretical and practical experience in the field of fundamental and specialized branches of chemistry was fully asserted after 1948, when revolutionary movement and the development of our school system enabled principal reform also in education of pharmacy. At that time, Dr. Krasnec established and headed the Institute of Pharmaceutical Chemistry of the Faculty of Medicine, later the Institute of Chemistry of the Faculty of Pharmacy of Comenius University, which was brooder of all further chemical specializations in pharmaceutical education. He was active in leading functions also in other chemically orientated institutes of the Faculty and gradually concentrated on organic chemistry.

After habilitation in 1950 and some years activity as associate professor, in 1956 Dr. Krasnec became ordinary professor of organic chemistry, then he became head of the

Department of Inorganic and Organic Chemistry and of the Scientific Research Institute of the Faculty of Pharmacy.

The pedagogic-research activity of Professor Krasnec is characterized since the beginning by his creative and inventive pedagogic approach, as well as by his profound theoretical knowledge and wide outlook on the field of basic and specialized chemical and biological branches. Initially he gave lectures on pharmaceutical chemistry and later on theoretical organic chemistry, which became domain of his pedagogic activity; after 1960 some years also at the Faculty of Natural Sciences of Comenius University and at the Faculty of Chemical Technology of the Slovak Technical University in Bratislava. His pedagogic activity rises from modern knowledge of contemporary science.

Scientific work of Professor Krasnec began in the field of inorganic chemistry, intended for analytical chemistry. Later he extended his scientific interest to the region of organic synthesis; here he accentuated the investigation of newly synthesized compounds using modern physical and physicochemical methods. The principal trend of his scientific activity, however, was the research of solubilization and hydrotrophy especially in systems containing pharmaceutically important organic compounds. In this field, he has paid attention also to problems of basic, theoretical research, as well as to seeking application of a given phenomenon in pharmaceutical production and in practice. In the last years this research trend led to general examination of organic electron donor-acceptor complexes. Professor Krasnec prefers here problems of weak intermolecular interactions; results of work of his school show theoretical as well as practical importance also from the viewpoint of investigation of solid substances physics. He also led for many years scientific teams as their responsible head at works on the state research programs and grants.

Professor Krasnec published up to the present day more than 100 scientific papers and read lectures at many scientific conferences and symposiums in this country and abroad as well. Together with his coworkers, he is author of more than 60 patents. Professor Krasnec is coauthor of the monograph *Základy preparatívnej organickej chémie* (Principles of Preparative Organic Chemistry) by *M. Marko* and *L. Krasnec*. He is a founder of the Slovak nomenclature of organic chemistry and together with Professor *M. Marko* and Associate Professor *J. Heger* author of corresponding monographs which appeared in numerous reeditions.

Professor Krasnec had creatively applied his educational qualification at the education of new generation of scientific and pedagogic workers at the Faculty and in other institutions. Comparatively valuable was his activity as supervisor of PhD. students first in pharmaceutical, later in organic chemistry. He executed the function of subdean at the Faculty of Medicine, first dean and subdean at the Faculty of Pharmacy, vice-chancellor of the Commission for scientific research and was a member of the Scientific Council of Comenius University. He worked many years in Experts' Commission of the Ministry of Education for development of pharmaceutical education, mainly at formation of modern and progressive conception of pharmacy education system in CSSR. He had also an important function in Scientific Council of the Ministry of Health of SSR.

The personality of the jubilarian is inseparably connected with the development of sports in our country. He was active in light and field athletics and during forties he achieved top results in hammer throw in Slovakia. Also later, he remained true to sports,

as a functionary. In 1958 he was vice-president of light and field athletics section of the Slovak Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Union of Physical Training.

For his devoted, successful and engaged activity Professor Krasnec was awarded numerous honours, diplomas, and thanksgiving letters. The most important are the Order of Labour (1969), The Golden Medal of Comenius University (1973), The Golden Medal of the Faculty of Pharmacy of Comenius University (1977), Medal for Merits in Sports, obtained at the 70th anniversary of the Athletics Federation establishment in CSSR, and The Great Silver Medal of Comenius University (1988).

At the occasion of his costly 75 years, we have to thank Professor Krasnec for all what he had accomplished for the development of pharmacy and chemistry up to the present day and to wish him good health, personal happiness, and success in his coming years.

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