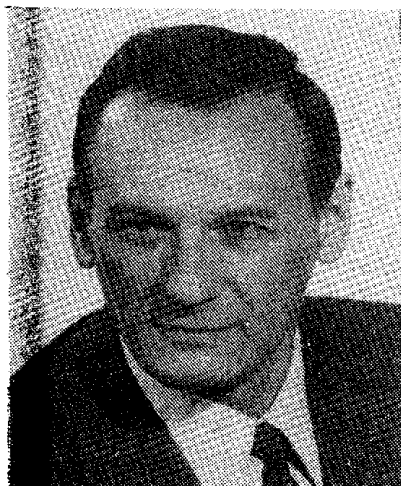


## ANNIVERSARIES

---

### 60th birthday of Professor Ing. Viktor Jesenák, CSc.



Professor V. Jesenák, respected teacher and prominent personality of our scientific life, is 60 years on January 1, 1986.

Professor Jesenák graduated from the Faculty of Chemical Technology, Slovak Technical University, Bratislava in 1952. Here in the Department of Inorganic Technology he started his teaching and research activities under the guidance of Professor M. Gregor. To his scientific growth contributed also the courses organized by the Polarographic Institute of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences under supervision of Academician J. Heyrovský, Nobel Prize Winner. In 1961 he presented his dissertation *Kinetics and Dynamics of Heterogeneous Reactions* and obtained the degree of Candidate of Sciences (corresponding to the degree of PhD). In 1964 he successfully completed the three-year course in chemical engineering organized by the Ministry of Chemical Industry with the presentation of the thesis *Graphical Solution of Heterogeneous Tubular Reactors*. He was appointed associate professor at the Slovak Technical University in Bratislava in 1967, and full professor in 1973. Since 1971 he has been head of research in the Department of Chemical Technology of Silicates.

Professor Jesenák belongs to the generation of our university teachers who grew up in the period of socialistic industrialization of our country and of rapid development of the system of technical universities. His maybe most important contribution to our society has been to be an inspiring teacher for more than 400 undergraduate and post-graduate students of inorganic and silicate technology. He has given lectures in inorganic technology, applied physical chemistry, inorganic chemistry, and general chemistry at the Slovak Technical University in Bratislava, Technical University in Košice, and at the Teacher College of the Komenský University in Bratislava.

Research work of Professor Jesenák focused on applied physical chemistry and chemical engineering. Among the most important results belongs his contribution to the use of radioactive isotopes in the study of diffusion processes in solids, structural changes of carriers, in the investigation of extremely slow reactions and to application of isotopes as sensitive indicators in volumetric analysis. His work contributed to explanation of the mechanism and reaction kinetics of decomposition of complex compounds and clathrates and of a series of industrially important reactions. At the same time he had the ambition to work in a field of research where the results could be put into practical use by industry. His achievements in investigation of roasting of sulfide and oxide ores, of the properties, of inorganic fertilizers, fluidization technique, production of ceramic materials and inorganic binding materials contributed to the development of inorganic, metallurgical, and silicate industries.

Professor Jesenák presented the results of his research in almost 200 papers published in Czechoslovak and international periodicals and proceedings. His works on the mechanism and kinetics of reactions in solid phase have been given a great international recognition. The theory and experimental proof of oscillating reactions in solid phase is an example from his wide field of interest.

Beside his pedagogical and scientific activities, Professor Jesenák must be highly credited for the organization of Czechoslovak chemical communities. He has participated at the organization and direction of Czechoslovak basic research in material science. He gained a well-deserved reputation for his contribution to Czechoslovak conferences on thermal analysis and for promoting cooperation in solid phase chemistry between the institutions in GDR and Czechoslovakia.

His inspiration has not only been on the scientific level, but equally through his deep personal interest in his coworkers and students, their problems and further development in exact scientific thinking.

We thank Professor Jesenák for the very valuable work he has performed hitherto and we wish him many active years still to come.

*E. Kanclír*