ANNIVERSARIES

Ing. Milan Lazár, DrSc. — 60 Years Old



Dr. Milan Lazár, a distinguished Czechoslovak macromolecular chemist will celebrate his sixtieth birthday on October 8, 1987. Born in Rybáre, district of Zvolen, he attended the primary school in Brezno and the Grammar school in Bratislava. In 1951 he graduated from the Faculty of Chemical Technology of the Slovak Technical University in Bratislava.

Dr. Lazár has devoted his life of a creative scientist to systematic efforts to solve topical and respective problems associated with radical reactions in polymers and modification of their properties aimed at extending their utility properties. He started his professional career at the

Research Institute of Cables and Insulants in Bratislava, where he became acquainted with the field of his future scientific interests and began to work on his dissertation. After obtaining his CSc. degree in 1957 (equivalent of PhD.), Dr. Lazár's research centred on the reactions of free radicals during modification of thermomechanical properties of polyethylene. This area became the initial subject of scientific research of the Laboratory of Polymers of the Slovak Academy of Sciences founded by Dr. Lazár in 1963, which later (in 1967) became the present Polymer Institute, Dr. Lazár having been appointed its first director. At that time he organizes the scientific work of the rapidly increasing team of young coworkers, which, in a relatively short time achieves original results in the progressive fields, new contacts with scientific world are made, and international reputation is achieved. He makes substantial contributions to questions of the mechanism of elementary reactions of free radicals in solid polymers, which have later become the theme of his Doctor of Sciences thesis defended in 1968.

He made significant contributions to the elaboration of new scientific trends in the Institute, to education of young scientific workers, many of whom are members of the present scientific staff of the Polymer Institute. Dr. Lazár has always been a great help to scientists working with him and has always been able to find or propose proper ways for solving scientific as well as organizational problems.

He has never forgotten to follow the possibilities of practical application of scientific achievements. He was an initiator of or participated in research projects for industrial application. Among the results directly applied in industry are crosslinked polyethylene, light-sensitive polymer layers and other preparations for offset printing and mediator of the transport of liquids made of porous polyethylene, which is utilized in textile industry.

The scientific activities of Dr. Lazár are reflected in his writing and lecture presentation. He is an author and coauthor of about 150 papers published in renowned Czechoslovak and foreign journals; he presented about 70 lectures at the conferences at home

and abroad. He is the author and coauthor of six monographs, three of which were published abroad.

Dr. Lazár was a member of the Scientific Boards of the Slovak Academy of Sciences and Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences for chemical sciences from 1962 to 1970 and of the scientific boards of several research institutes. He is a member of the Executive Editorial Board of this Journal.

We know Dr. Lazár as a distinguished scientist and expert in his research field and as a good-natured man and sincere friend. On the occasion of Dr. Lazár's jubilee, we would like to express our warmest congratulations on behalf of his friends and coworkers, wishing him good health and satisfaction in his professional and personal life. May he continue to be active to his own and our delight.

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