

ZOLTÁN JÓSA

(1914—1980)

He left our circle unexpectedly, 66 years old, leaving after himself an irrecoverable loss as a protistologist, as a leading worker of the scientific instruction and, last but not least, as an indefatigable biologist teacher.

He was born on 21 June 1914, in Pancsova. His parents were teachers, as well: his father and grandfather were teachers of biology. In the University in Szeged, he obtained the university leaving certificate in 1936, as a teacher trainee, specialized in natural history-geography. Beginning from this, he acquired the methods of the protistological research as a research assistant in the renowned Gelei-school, with special regard to the physiology of cell, the ion-effects. His successfully career was broken by World War II. Later on, he played a prominent part in the renewal of the Society of Natural Sciences, as the county-secretary of the Society for the Dissemination of Knowledge.

He began dealing rather extensively with scientific research work after 1957. He joined in the work of the Tisza-Research Working Company, as well. (Hydrobiological investigation into the sodic waters of the Great Hungarian Plain, the protozoan fauna, alimentation-, resp. saprobiology of rice-fields, the Ciliata plankton of the Tisza, faunistical, eco-, microbio-, coenological investigations, etc.). His papers have appeared in the yearbooks of the Teachers' Training College (Szeged) and later in the TISCIA.

The principal trend of his educational activity was the research into the fundamental and methodological problems of the biological instruction. As a methodologist, he delivered more than one lecture of national level at home (Nyíregyháza) and abroad (1956: Potsdam, 1969: Dresden, Rostock, Nitra). Through many years, he participated in making and reviewing various curricula of studies. In a school-book-competition, he won a second prize, as well. The subjects of his research were, among others, to establish the quantity of biological concepts and the depth of their contents, to work out their types experimentally, to investigate into their educational effectivity within the framework of the subject „Living world”. His papers relating to these subjects (cca 40), from various spheres of themes (creation of biological ideas and concepts in education, logical and educo-psychological analysis of the biological lesson, role of differentiation, education to evolutionistic approach, etc.), were published in the Methodological Publications. As a reader in the college, he conducted

the activity of the scientific study circle of the Department with great ambition and sense of responsibility. He applied the means of the up-to-date educational technique with success, introduced new methodological investigations (tape recorder, slide synchronizer) into teaching biology.

He deceased in the midst of his work, plans on 1 June 1980. His memory will be treasured by his devotees, colleagues, pupils.

DR. GY. CSONGOR