

## DR. JÁN GAŠPARÍK'S 50th BIRTHDAY



On October 19th, 1975 Dr. Ján Gašparík, CSc. celebrated his fiftieth birthday. The jubilant is an outstanding scientist working at Dionýz Štúr Institute of Geology. He was born in Tesárske Mlyňany—Nitra, in 1925. He attended Primary school in Zlaté Moravce, Secondary school in Banská Bystrica. After the school leaving examination in 1945, Dr. Gašparík worked in educational branch until 1947. In the year 1947—1951 he studied geology at the Faculty of Natural History at the Comenius University in Bratislava where he took his doctor's degree in 1952. Because of his particular interest in geology and for his special abilities he was lecturer of stratigraphical and historical geology in the Department of geology and paleontology at the Faculty of Natural History as early as in 1951. In the fifties there was a boom in the development of geology in Slovakia owing to increasing

economical demands for an extended mineral resources basis. The demands might only had been satisfied by means of experienced specialists with organizational abilities. This was why in 1955 Dr. Ján Gašparík, CSc. left for Turčianske Teplice to join there specialists on the research and prospection for coal deposits. The specialists were concentrated at the Geological Survey where Dr. Gašparík worked until 1962. Then the Survey moved to Žilina. In 1967 Dr. Gašparík left for Bratislava to enter Dionýz Štúr Institute of Geology. When the Slovak Geological Office was established, it was necessary for its special activities to provide it with specialists experienced in investigational, prospectional and organisational work. For this reason Dr. Gašparík was temporarily released by D. Štúr Institute of Geology to work at the Slovak Geological Office in the years 1969—1970. After returning back, he became head of the Neogene Department, and since 1974 he has been head of the department of regional research.

Dr. Ján Gašparík, CSc. still as lecturer at the Faculty of Natural History started the research mostly of Neogene areas of Slovakia. He treated problems connected with both the theoretical and practical tasks. He paid a considerable attention to the distribution of coal-bearing formations in the West Carpathians. His name was also connected with the research carried on by foremost specialists on these problems, like Dr. Ing. Vsevolod Čechovič, DrSc. awarded with Klement Gottwald National Prize, and Dr. Ing. Ján Slávik, DrSc. All they have merits in extending the coal reserves in the Handlová—Nováky and Modrý Kameň coal basins. Dr. Gašparík, CSc. organized supervised and valued works important for prospection for metalliferous resources. He applied his practical experience on the basical research of the Neogene formations in East Slovakia, in the Danube lowlands, and on the research of the Inner Depressions Neogene. The results are valuable for compiling paleogeographical maps made in cooperation with a group of authors. Dr. Gašparík is author of more general maps to the scale of 1:25 000, used for general maps of the ČSSR 1:200 000. His maps compiled in the last time are comprised in the official edition of geological maps. The Neogene of the West Carpathians is a problem predominant in Dr. Gašparík's research work and also the theme of his thesis vindicated successfully in 1967 when he was conferred the degree of Candidate of Science.

For some time (1959—1960) Dr. Gašparík worked in Albania as an expert for the research of ironstone deposits to verify industrial reserves.

For his experience in the research of nonmetalliferous resources, Dr. Gašparík was appointed an expert in a Commission for classification of mineral reserves at the Czechoslovak Government.

Dr. Gašparík, CSc. is a member of the Scientific board of Dionýz Štúr Institute of Geology, and of the joint Scientific board of the Central Institute of Geology in Prague and of D. Štúr Institute; a member of the Editorial Board for geological periodicals at D. Štúr Institute; of the Editorial Board of the journal *Geologický průzkum*; a member of the commission

for approving geological maps, and member of many other commissions. For this scientific and organisational work Dr. Gašparík was awarded the medal "The Best Worker of the Geological Service" in 1970; and a diploma on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of foundation of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia in 1971. On the occasion of his jubilee he was awarded "Honourable acknowledgement of merits in the development of geology in Slovakia" and a plaque of Dionýz Štúr Institute of Geology as an appreciation of his research work in the Slovak Neogene. In 1975 he was also conferred the national award „For working faithfulness“.

The entire geological public and particularly the colleagues from Dionýz Štúr Institute of Geology wish Dr. Ján Gašparík, CSc. good health and much success in his further work.

O. FUSÁN — O. SAMUEL

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9. Geologická charakteristika kremičitých pieskov Slovenska. Bulletin SVSP — Slovenské základy technického skla, Bratislava, 1964.
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