

## PROF. ING. MILAN MATULA, DrSc. — 60 YEARS OLD



*This year professor Ing. Milan Matula, DrSc. chief of the Department of Engineering Geology at the Faculty of Natural Sciences of Comenius University in Bratislava lives to an important jubilee in the full bloom of his creative forces. He was born on May 20, 1924 in Dolný Ľur, district Levice. He studied at the grammar school in Levice and Prievidza. He enrolled the Faculty of Engineering Building of the Slovak Technical College. During 1951—1954 he was research candidate at Mining Faculty and at the Faculty of Geological and Geographical Sciences. He was led by academician D. Andrusov. In 1956 he was nominated docent and since 1965 he has been professor of engineering geology at the Faculty of Natural Sciences of Comenius University. He achieved research degree DrSc. in 1967.*

*Profesor Matula took part in the foundation of a modern school of engineering geology and hydro-geology in Slovakia. He established department as the educational centre for geological experts. But this deed was not single in the development of socialist school system. In 1948—1951 he took part in its foundation as the secretary of the State committee for universities and as the Head of the University Branch of the School Committee. At present he is the Vice-chairman of Experts' Commission for geology of Ministry of Education. Since 1963 he has been the member of the Scientific Council of the Comenius University and he was vice-chancellor of this university. He holds also important function as chairman of commission for defence of doctoral and candidate dissertations.*

*Since 1970 as coordinator he has led numerous team of Czechoslovak universities and the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences to solve the topical problems of basic research in the field of engineering geology and geotechnics. Professor Matula actively organizes science as a member respectively as chairman of many academic and departmental advisory boards, councils and commissions. One of these functions is his membership in Council of the 2nd programme for the State Plan of the Basic Research at Presidential Board of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, Commission for Utilization of Raw Base at the Ministry of Construction and Technics of Slovak Socialist Republic and his membership in the Scientific committee of the SAS for Sciences about the Earth and the Universe.*

Professor Matula is the author of more than 120 scientific works, six of them are monographs. His research work is aimed at following four spheres:

- investigation of geological conditions for construction of hydroelectric power stations. He worked out and applied methodology of regionalization of valleys for compiling of schemes of energetic utilization of the Slovak rivers (for the State Hydrological Plan). As the leading geologist he gained great experiences during difficult construction of Nosice dam in 1953–1958. He worked out these experiences in monographs. Since 1955 he has been solving research tasks, as expert and opponent he has taken part in preparation of construction of hydroelectric power stations at Danube, Liptovská Mara, Čierny Váh etc.;

- the Matula's works in the sphere of engineering geological cartography represent remarkable contribution to engineering geology also on a world. He compiled a lot of original maps of various types and he theoretically worked out its methodology which became one of the main bases for directions of CMEA (Moscow 1965). International reference book UNESCO for engineering-geological cartography was compiled and published under his leadership (Paris 1976);

- the 3rd basic branch of the scientific work of professor Matula is represented by systematic investigation of conditions of engineering geology in Slovakia. Especially his monograph Regional Engineering Geology of Czechoslovak Carpathians (1969) had the great international response;

- the wide problems concerning relations between geology and regional planning, town planning and protection of environment represent the 4th topical sphere of professor Matula's scientific research. He was nominated general reporter on three world congresses (Sao Paulo 1974, Madrid 1978, Newcastle 1979) on basis of the results which he has reached in his scientific research. He was awarded the prize of Slovak Literary Agency for his book *Geológia a životné prostredie*, 1979 (Geology and Environment, 1979).

Professor Matula applied results of his research work in solving the most important problems of capital construction. His contribution as experienced expert and erudited opponent is well-known within geologic experts and projectors of great constructions. He was often awarded numerous honorary medals besides State honours „For Deserves in Building“.

He tried to link up the basic and applied research with practise. He fulfilled responsibly his tasks in the Commission for Raw Basis at the Ministry of Construction and Technics. At present in cooperation with his research team he is aimed at solving of geological problems of nuclear power station and pumped storage plant building and conditions of town planning of Slovakia. In sphere of geology he works actively as member of Editorial Boards of *Mineralia Slovaca* and *Geologický zborník — Geologica carpathica*.

Professor Matula is well-known person in the world engineering geological association where thanks to his erudition, research results and knowledge of foreign languages he plays important role as representative of socialist science and as organizer of international scientific cooperation. Over 12 years he is the chairman of the 1st permanent commission of the International Association for Engineering Geology (IAEG). This commission has done a remarkable work in the field of unification and standardization in engineering-geological cartography under initiative and sponsorship of UNESCO. He achieved the greatest appreciation when he was elected Vice-president of IAEG in 1982. Pro-

*fessor Matula delivered more than 30 reports in international congresses and symposia and he presided in several world congress sessions (e. g. Paris, Moscow, Sydney, Montreal).*

*We wish him contentment in his personal life, good health, much creative force for fulfilment of all his plans.*

Doc. RNDr. R. Ondrášek, CSc.

Translated by M. Drozdová