

UNIV. PROF. RNDr. ZDENĚK POUBA, DrSc. — SIXTY YEARS OLD



On June 8th, 1982, Univ. prof. RNDr. Zdeněk Pouba, DrSc., the chief of the Department of Deposit Geology at the Natural Sciences Faculty of Charles' University in Prague, reached sixty years. This important jubilee remembers with honour and gratitude the whole Czechoslovak geology and particularly workers on the field of geology of mineral raw material deposits, the majority of whom were his pupils.

Z. Pouba was born on June 8th, 1922 in Zvolen. After leaving examination in the years 1941 at the gymnasium in Prague he could not immediately continue in university studies, was working as technician and worker in the frame of total war engagement until the end of II. World war. He began the study at the Natural Sciences Faculty of

the Charles' University immediately after the end of war and finished it with acquiring the title RNDr. in the year 1948.

Already during his studies he was assistant at the Geological-Paleontological Institute of Prof. R. Kettner and after finishing his studies he became specialized assistant at the Department of Deposit Geology, led by prof. J. Koutek. In the year 1952 the particular Department of Mineral Raw Materials formed from this Department and Z. Pouba became its first assistant professor. After serious illness of prof. Koutek in the year 1953 he was commissioned with leading the Department — and has been leading this Department — later re-named as Department of Deposit Geology — with success already for three decades.

The title of Candidate of Geological Sciences he obtained in the year 1957, was named ordinary professor in the year 1961, obtained the title of Doctor of Geological Sciences in the year 1967, what all is the result of his extraordinarily intensive scientific-research activity. The high standard of his pedagogical and scientific work brought him soon general acknowledgement and reputation in our and international geological public as one of leading authorities in deposit geology and geological sciences generally. In organic connection with that came his commissioning with numerous and important scientific and professional-organizing functions, in the field of university as well as in Czechoslovak geology, also in the field of international scientific cooperation. We mention from them at least some: pro-dean for scientific work 1960—1962, director of the Institute of Geological Sciences of the Natural Sciences Faculty of Charles' University 1965—1967, member and later chairman of the professional

commission of the Ministry of Education 1960—1970, Chairman of the Czechoslovak branch of I. A. G. O. D. from the year 1967, chairman of the Czechoslovak Society for Mineralogy and Geology at the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences since the year 1972, member of the editorial board of *Časopis pro mineralógii a geológii* (Journal for Mineralogy and Geology) since 1966, member of the Scientific Board of Geology and Geography of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences since 1961, member of the Federal Commission for Classification of Mineral Raw Material Resources since 1952, member of the scientific Council of the Central Geological Institute since 1955, member of the Commission for Projects of the Czech Geological Office since 1976, member of the Government Commission for conferring of state prices of K. Gottwald since 1961, vice-chairman of the International Geological Congress in the year 1968, member of the Commission for Geology Teaching at University Level at IUGS 1963—1970 etc.

Prof. P o u b a organized numerous important home-and international scientific conferences and excursions, cooperates in IUGS correlation programmes, informed on the results of his extensive scientific work, and on the other hand obtained an amount of valuable knowledge on his numerous study and research journeys, expert and lecture stays, conferences and congresses in about twenty countries of three continents, from Indonesia, India and Mongolia to Mexiko, USA and Canada.

During his studies and office of an assistant Z. P o u b a received from his professors R. K e t t n e r, O. K o d y m, F. S l a v í k, J. K o u t e k a. o. a very wide and deep basis from all main geological disciplines. He intensively developed this further and used in his research work, which has an uncommonly wide thematic spectrum. Besides the predominating problem of mineral raw material deposits he was largely dealing also with solving of the geological structure of various areas of the Bohemian massif and West Carpathians, with problems of block and global tectonics in application to the Bohemian massif, petrological problems of plutonism, volcanism and metamorphism, cooperated with geophysicists and drew from their results wider geological and metallogenetic conclusions. Some works even represent valuable contributions also in paleontology, sedimentology and speleology, paid attention to history of geology and mining, problems of teaching of geology at universities, popularization of geological knowledge in wider public etc.

Of extraordinary value for education of young geologists is his extensive and precise methodical handbook "Geological mapping" (Publishing house of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, Prague, 1969, 524 pages). From the problem of geology of mineral raw material deposits from a lot of works the set of works about geology and nonmetallic raw materials of the Plzeň basin, about geology and ore deposits of the area surrounding the Muránska planina plateaus, about the ore deposits of Jasenie and Magurka in the Nízke Tatry Mts. and mainly the results of many-years complex investigation of the structure and ore deposits of the Hrubý Jeseník Mts. can be stressed. Then he paid attention to solution of the fundamental problems of metallogenetic development of the Bohemian massif in relation to epochs of magmatism, structure and deep faults in earth crust and in the last decade he developed complex investigation of stratiform

ore concentrations in the Middle-and West Bohemian Proterozoic, in relation to volcanism and biolithogenesis. An important result is the evidence of importance of stromatolites for formation of uranium, vanadium and iron concentrations in Proterozoic formations. He is solving many important problems also in further works, devoted to correlation of Proterozoic and Paleozoic stratiform deposits of the Bohemian massif, to relations of metallogenesis to the main elements of new global tectonics and other theoretical problems of geology of ore deposits. Significant is also the share of prof. P o u b a in compiling of synthetic deposit and metallogenetic maps of Czechoslovakia 1:1 mil. and 1: 500 000 and explanations to them.

The intensity of the scientific-research work of the celebrated can be documented by the list of his published works counting more than 220 titles. In this place we cannot mention them in full extent, we are choosing works concerning problems of Slovakia only.

This list of works shows the significant contribution of the celebrated to the geological investigation of Slovakia, which he liked very much. This is also testified by the fact that he often organizes excursions and field courses for his listeners, many times he spent also his leisure in the Slovak mountains and was not missing at almost any more serious scientific undertaking organized by Slovak geological institutions. He directly educated numerous Slovak geologists and with his advice, lectures, scientific works and example he widely contributes to further raising the standard of Slovak geology. At the present significant life jubilee of Prof. RNDr. Z. P o u b a, DrSc. therefore the whole Slovak geological community joins with pleasure other congratulators, expresses him sincere thanks for systematic friendly cooperation and wishes for the following years much health, enthusiasm and personal success.

Translated by J. Pevný

Prof. RNDr. Cyril V a r č e k, CSc.

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