

DR. ZOLTÁN SÁNDOR

1900–1982

Zoltán Sándor, Professor emeritus of the Faculty of Chemical Engineering of the Technical University Budapest, late Head of the Department of Agricultural Chemical Technology, (1948–1952), chemical engineer honoured with golden medal, died on November 3, 1982, at the age of 83 years after brief suffering.

Zoltán Sándor begun his activity at the University in 1925, at the Department of Food Chemistry, under the leadership of Mihály Vuk. His main field of interest was the testing and qualification of food products. When the new teaching subject, Technical Microscopy was introduced in 1932, he was appointed lecturer, and taught this subject over more than 20 years. He prepared of this theme his thesis "Microscopical Testing of Food Products" to obtain the title of a Privat docent on August 9, 1937. He summarized his experiences in teaching and research in the books "Food Chemistry" (1934) and "Food Chemistry" (1938), written in co-authorship with Professor Mihály Vuk, and "Preserving Agents and their Determination" (1934). In addition to being a valuable contribution to technical literature, these works served also as text-books to students of the Technical University in times, when practically no Hungarian text-books were available to students.

Similarly, his lecture notes "Technical microscopy" were perused by many generations of students. His numerous communications published in periodicals concerned also mainly food analysis and problems of qualification.

In May 1948, Zoltán Sándor was appointed Professor and Head of the Department of Agricultural Chemical Technology. During his professorship he organized the development of the Department after the reconstruction of war damages. Pilot-plant scale practice was introduced at that time as official subject in the curriculum of chemical engineering tuition, an important step in the modernization of education. In accordance with reformatory aims, several changes took place in the syllabus taught at the Department. Particularly the teaching of enzymology and microbiology was developed, and the subject "Agrochemistry" was introduced.

In 1952 Professor Sándor asked to be released from his duties at the University on account of his poor health.

Hungarian food science lost an excellent scholar by the death of Zoltán Sándor. He was highly estimated both as scientist and as man. In spite of his temporary bitterness and severity caused by his tormenting illness, students liked him, because they always felt his goodwill, and his endeavour to give from his knowledge as much as possible to youth. We pay the tribute of respect to his memory.

Prof. Dr. Radomir LÁSZTITY