

## HOMAGE TO PROFESSOR CHOLNOKY



Professor emeritus TIBOR CHOLNOKY, C. Sc.,  
turns eighty on July 29, 1981.

The outstanding engineering, educational and public activities of Prof. Tibor Cholnoky are well known at our University, in the world of engineers in this country and abroad. He worked from 1934 to 1950 at the *Hungarian State Railways* (MÁV) and at the *Ministry of Transports*, further on again at the MÁV, appointed director. In particular, direction of post-war *reconstruction* works of blasted *railway bridges* across the rivers Danube and Tisza won him much appreciation. In the following decades he highly distinguished himself in the design and construction of bridges and important engineering structures.

Prof. Cholnoky had been teaching from 1925 to 1971 at the *Department of Civil Engineering Mechanics* of this University. He continued this work also during his career in the Ministry and at the State Railways. In 1950 he was appointed Head of this Department, for two years he acted as *Dean of the Faculty of Civil Engineering*, and 1954 to 1956 *Rector of the Technical University of Building and Transport Engineering*. He was awarded the *Kossuth prize* in 1957 for his outstanding educational and managing activities. His services done in different domains of public life were honoured by several distinctions and medals both by the Government and by this University. In 1965 the academic degree Candidate of Technical Sciences was conferred upon him.

Prof. Cholnoky took his share of voluntary work in many domains and significantly contributed to the development of sports life at the University during his eight years of activity as *teacher-president of the Athletic and Football Club of the Technical University* (MAFC). Meanwhile he was *member of the Hungarian Committee of Olympic Games*.

Even since his retirement in 1971 he has been continuously active at the Department and doing different Faculty and University tasks with his well-known precision. His educational and scientific activity is hallmarked by a university textbook in three volumes, several notebooks and papers.

During his activity of several decades, Prof. Cholnoky had brought up generations of civil engineers. The effect of his educational work is directly or indirectly still acting and will possibly be traced for a long time. What are we owing him and what does the example of his *œuvre* teach us? We owe his directing methods and concepts the ability of the Department of Civil Engineering Mechanics to systematically function in much wider frames as before and to keep level with the requirements. His conduct during the post-war reconstruction, and later, at the outbreak of the counter-revolution exemplifies how to stand firm in historical circumstances; we all bear a secret envy for his proverbial diligence, care and — last but not least — his immense self-control.

Prof. Cholnoky has much contributed to make the Technical University Budapest —badly damaged during World War II— an institution acknowledged today even more as before all over Europe. Surrounded by his affectionate

family, he has brought up both sons to become internationally active, efficient civil engineers.

In this issue honouring his eightiest birthday you will find papers by his collaborators and pupils. We beg the Fêted to accept these publications as a sign of our respect and friendly feelings and we wish him good health to continue working among us in the years ahead.

Staff of the Department of  
Civil Engineering Mechanics,  
Technical University, Budapest

Abócsi István	Adonyi István	NEMESDYNE' Ne.
Abalauzi István	Árkai János	R. Németh Ferenc
Árnyas István	Kápolnai András	Pápai László
B. Urbó Károly	Kovácsy Klára	Pántos Erzsébet
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Burján Tamás	Kukuczka János	Székely István
Csik Gyuláné	Lévai István	Stuba Ferenc
Csákos István	Mészáros István	Révai István
Csúcs István	Mészáros István	Székely István
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Gyöngy István	Wassai István	Gyöngy István
dr. Hódosi István	Székely István	'S. Hódosi István'
Horváth István	Székely István	Székely István
	Székely István	Székely István