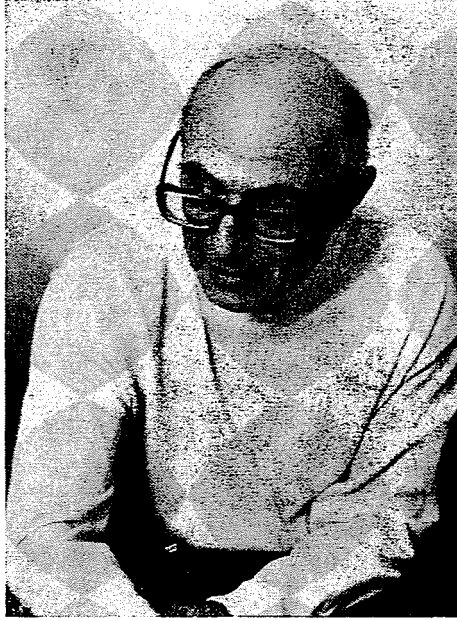


PROF. DR. TAMÁS FREY

(1927—1978)



This special Department issue of the *Periodica Polytechnica* was under preparation, when Prof. Tamás Frey died by a heart attack, on April 9. He was the head of the Department of Mathematics of Faculty of Electrical Engineering and one of the most popular members of the Faculty.

During World War II, still a child, he lost his parents killed by the German nazis and he himself was transported to the Mauthausen concentration camp. After the end of the war he returned to Pécs, his native town, to finish his secondary schools. He became a student of the Technical University, Budapest and graduated as electrical engineer. He worked for three years with a fellowship at the Institute for Applied Mathematics of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, where he prepared his Thesis on Approximation Theory, on the basis of which he achieved the degree "Candidate of Mathematical Sciences". He was one of the first Hungarian experts in computer science and member of the team constructing the first Hungarian program-controlled electronic computer. Later he was appointed director of the Computer Center of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. In 1968 he was granted the degree "Doctor of Mathematical Sciences". The next year he became full professor at the Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Electrical Engineering of our University.

Meanwhile he was also staff member of the Institute for Computation and Automation of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, first as head of the Theoretical Department, later as scientific consultant.

The mathematical interest of professor Frey is unusually wide, ranging from approximation theory, numerical analysis, differential equations, vector analysis, computer sciences, algebraic theory of automation to fields of bi-mathematics. He is the author of two very popular textbooks on elementary functions and on the theory of series. His book on vector analysis (co-authored by Miss Pach) has been translated to various languages, and his monograph in two volumes on applied mathematics in electrical engineering (with I. S. Fenyő, co-author) is considered as basic work. He also co-authored the series "Modern Mathematical Methods in Technology" published originally in German and translated to English and Bulgarian. His early death prevented him from finishing this work. The number of published research papers are over hundred. We lost in Professor Frey a good friend, an excellent teacher and a brilliant scientist!

PROF. DR. I. FENYŐ