

IN MEMORIAM PROF. DR. GABRIEL KOLOSVÁRY

Gabriel Kolosváry was born in Kolozsvár (Cluj) on August 18 1901. His father was University Professor Dr. Bálint Kolosváry, a distinguished scholar of private law. He finished his primary and grammar school studies in Kolozsvár (Cluj) from 1907 till 1919, having taken his final examination at that secondary school. He began his University studies in Kolozsvár, too, finishing them in Szeged, after the University had been removed here. From his professors, mainly István Apáthy's lectures had the greatest influence on him, and he remained a devoted admirer of his in all his life. In 1925 he graduated at the Szeged University, taking first his degree of zoology and geology, and getting in 1926 a diploma qualifying him for teaching in secondary schools. In 1923—1929 he was employed at the Institute of Zoology of the University in Szeged, in 1929—1954 in the zoological, resp. in the plaeontological departments of the National Museum of Hungary. In the meantime, in 1931, he became a honorary lecturer (privat-docent) at the University in Szeged. As a museologist, he made official collecting study-tours in Italy, Jugoslavia and Transsylvania. Since 1954, he was professor of the University in Szeged, leading first the Chair of Systematic Zoology and, from December 1st 1967, the Chair of Zoo-Morphology and Systematic, created by re-organization. Since 1960, he was corresponding member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. In 1956, the distinction of the Honoured Worker of Education was conferred upon him. In 1965, he won the Bogdánffy prize of the Hungarian Hydrological Society.

His scientific activity is conspicuously rich, the number of his scientific monographs is more than 900. He wrote two books, with the titles „Harvest-spiders of Hungary” and „Fishing and settling at the Tisza”. Until his death, he was the leader of the Cooperative of Tisza-research, as well as the

editor-in-chief of the publication series *Tiscia*. Before World War II, he treated first of all of spiders and harvest-spiders. He was a world-known arachnologist. He studied also the living world of sea with a passionate interest. He elaborated the *Echinodermata* material of the old Hungarian expedition „Najade”, investigating the Adriatic Sea. Until the end of his life, he remained an ardent researcher of the cirriped crabs (Cirripedia).

After World War II, requested by the Hungarian National Geological Institute, he began investigating the fossil corals of Hungary. In this field, as well, his activity is of permanent value. Requested by foreign Institutes, he elaborated also Czechoslovak, Yugoslav and English fossil corals, and extinct cirriped crabs obtained from the territory of U.S.S.R. In the interest of his investigations, he made study-tours in 1959 in Moscow, in 1964 in Czechoslovakia, in 1966 in Romania, in 1967 in the German Democratic Republic.

A systematic and organized investigation of the Tisza began under his leadership in 1955. Leading a co-operative of about 25 members, he sailed over the whole Hungarian sector of the Tisza. Later on, with the co-operative of his students, he organized an expedition for investigating the Tisza in every year. The results of the Tisza investigations are recorded and discussed in the papers of the series „*Das Leben der Tisza*” and in the volumes of the publication series *Tiscia*.

The foreign connections of Gabriel Kolosváry were of wide extension, his professional correspondence covered the entire world.

He lectured on an up-to-date level, in a progressive spirit.

With Professor Gabriel Kolosváry's demise, we have lost a warm-hearted man of very humane thinking and a very prominent scientist.

Dr. A. HORVÁTH,

University lecturer,
Institute for Zoo-Morphology and
Systematic, Attila József University,
Szeged, Hungary