

Preface

Five years ago Prof. Dr. B. CSÁKÁNY as the Rector of the J. A. University in his letter of 28B – 1990. Sz. O., dated 21th August 1990, recognized the functioning statutes of our laboratory. This was the official act of the legalisation of an earlier working group functioning on a multidisciplinary character.

Five years period is not a long time. But it is a hope that the activity of the laboratory was remarkable. The history of the laboratory was reviewed by A. TÓTH in this number, she is one of the most active young members as a university student, of the laboratory. To this occasion the symbol of the laboratory was also finished, and used for the first time on the previously published monograph. Moreover a commemorative medal of the laboratory and a diploma was founded for this occasion. The medal was made in 25 pieces, and will be presented to personalities as follows:

- i. Personalities who render important assistance in the interest of the laboratory.
- ii. Scientists working on similar or identical research programs, and who has world wide excellent, high standard results.
- iii. Colleagues who are working on joint research programs with the laboratory.

For the first time three medals were awarded.

The first one was handed to Prof. Dr. B. CSÁKÁNY on the 18th August in my work-room in a very exclusive reception. The two others were offered to Mme. M. VAN CAMPO (Montpellier, France) and to Prof. Dr. W. KRUTZSCH (Berlin, German F. R.). I am very sorry that they could not come to Szeged because of several occupations, so the medals were mailed to their addresses.

Mme. M. VAN CAMPO as chief editor of the review *Pollen et Spores*, and the head of the Palynological Laboratory of the C. N. R. S. in Paris helped very effectually my scientific achievements in Palynology. During my stay in Paris (1966–1967) I had the chance to work in her laboratory. This and other facts influenced positively the activity of the laboratory for the time being. I am very glad that she wrote me among others the following: "La médaille est bien arrivée, elle est splendide et j'en suis très fière."

Prof. Dr. W. KRUTZSCH is an excellent scientist of the pre-Quaternary, mostly Upper Cretaceous and Tertiary Palynology. His first monograph published in 1959 on the spores of the Eocene layers of Geiseltal is at present also a basic work for the taxonomy of the fossil spores. This was followed by the famous series of "Atlas der mittel- und jungtertiären dispersen Sporen- und Pollen sowie der Mikroplanktonfor-

men des nördlichen Mitteleuropas." After six volumes this valuable monograph was broken, in consequence of strange circumstances, which are independent of Prof. Dr. KRUTZSCH's scientific activity. After the taxonomic activity of Prof. Dr. W. KRUTZSCH the paleophytogeographical concept must be pointed out, in connection with the evolutionary evenments of the angiosperms. Our scientific and personal contacts started at the beginning of the sixties, and I hope will continue for many years. When our laboratory was in the making he was the first visitor of this small research unit. I received from her also very nice letters, let me cite some sentences: "Sehr geehrter Herr Prof. Kedves, für die mir anlässlich der 5. Jahrestagung des Bestehens des o. g. Laboratoriums verliehene ehrenvolle Auszeichnung möchte ich mich bei Ihnen und Ihrer Universität auf das herzlichste bedanken. Ich fühle mich geehrt, daß meine wissenschaftlichen Arbeiten bei Ihnen in Ungarn auf solche Anerkennung gestoßen sind, daß Sie mich für würdig einer solchen Auszeichnung befunden haben."

On the 22th August an exclusive reception was in the laboratory of the students and colleagues working in the laboratory or are in scientific contact with our laboratory. On this occasion three laboratory diplomas were distributed for the following persons:

Dr. I. KINCSEK (Lecturer at the Biological Department of the J. Gy. High School, Szeged), for a very long time cooperation with her and her students.

A. TÓTH (University Student at the A. Szent-Györgyi Medical University, Szeged). She is one of the first secondary-school students who were pioneers of the youngest generation working for the realization of the scientific program of the laboratory. Her scientific activity is well known.

Dr. I. BAGI (Senior Assistant at the Department of Botany of the J. A. University, Szeged). He is very helpful in the solution of the everyday problems of the function of the laboratory, moreover joint scientific research programs were also realized.

The function of the laboratory is assured financially in the first place by Grants. First the importance of the Grant OTKA must be emphasized; OTKA 1/2-24/88, 1/3-104, 1/5 T 007206, 1/7 T 014692. The monographs of the laboratory and Plant Cell Biology and Development were supported by several Foundations and Institutions as follows.

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In this place I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the following personalities: Dr. D. KOSÁRY President of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Dr. I. LÁNG Secretary General of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Dr. GY. TELEGDY President of the Regional Committee of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Dr. T. BALOGH Secretary of the Regional Committee of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Dr. T. KECSKEMÉTI President of the Hungarian Geological Society, Mr. G. JÓZSEF business

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M. KEDVES
Head of the Laboratory

