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BIOGRAPHIC DATA ON CZECH MEDICAL SCIENTISTS

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FOREWORD

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[Following are translations of two biographic articles, titles listed below, from Casopis Lekarů Ceských (Czechoslovak Physicians' Journal). Additional source data accompanies each article]

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70th BIRTHDAY OF PROFESSOR DR SC KLEMENT WEBER, MD

[Following is the translation of an article by Docent Dr Sc Jan Brod, MD, in Casopis Lekarů Ceskych (Czechoslovak Physicians' Journal,) Prague, 1960, No 13, pages 382-383.]

When we pause at certain important anniversaries, we have several reasons for doing so. For the celebrated man himself, it is an occasion to evaluate years gone by, to review work done, hopes fulfilled, and also to plan for the future. For the family, friends, and co-workers, anniversaries present an occasion to show devotion and love. The anniversary of an outstanding individual is an occasion for the public to contemplate the importance and meaning of his life work; also, it is an inspiration to follow a brilliant example.

The 70th birthday of Prof Dr Klement Weber, holder of the Order of the Republic, is such a commemoration.

Dr Weber is celebrating his anniversary amidst full-fledged activity. The past seventy years give him a joyful retrospect and strength for the future.

He can be proud to see that the path he left behind in the life of our nation, in our culture, our science, and our practical medicine is a very deep and permanent one. He can also be satisfied to see that through the depth and breadth of his knowledge and experience, he has brought up and enlightened a wide number of students and co-workers. His followers in turn materialized his thoughts and ideas in a variety of fields, doing so to the benefit of our people. Dr Weber's radiant mental and physical condition promises a future full of plans; this is all the more so because through his work, especially in the past decade he has established a spring board for further scientific and creative endeavor.

There is a multitude of those who would like to use this occasion for expressing devotion, gratitude, friendship, and love. He will be remembered not only by his many students, whom he led and developed into first-rate physicians, but also by hundreds of his pre-war students, fascinated by his unpretentious lectures on therapy of internal diseases based strictly on facts and logic. He will be remembered with love and respect by his co-workers from all the fields that he has passed through, and of whom he is the foremost speaker. He has been an example by his industry, self-sacrifice, honesty, integrity, modesty, and by his providing undisturbed working conditions for all. He will be remembered by his many friends, both at home and abroad, whom he won by his deep interest in their problems, in their joys and sorrows by his understanding manner and encouraging smile. He always took

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their side and, if necessary, fought for them. He will be remembered with great appreciation by thousands of patients who were under his care and to whom he devoted his whole life.

To our medical population, this anniversary will be a reminder of greatness of one of our contemporaries, who is a symbol of purity, uncompromising character, and originality of thought. Dr Weber is a man who created, even under difficult and unfavorable conditions, who never discriminated among patients, and who became a prototype of a physician in a socialist society.

Professor Weber was born in Domazlice on 4 March, 1890. During his years of study at Charles University, he worked as a volunteer at the Provincial Hospital in Prague, the Czech section of Prof Scherer. After receiving his doctorate on 22 November, 1914, he started as an extern with the Second Czech Section for Internal Diseases of Prof Thomayer. Shortly afterwards he was enlisted as a war physician, and started in Kolin, after which he moved to Gorica and Instria in Slovenia, and then to Rumania, finally landing in Pilsen and Prague. After the end of the war in 1918 he returned to his original position. On 1 April, 1916, he became an assistant to the second physician in charge in Prof Syllaba's Section. Subsequently, he was appointed assistant of that section and on 1 February, 1920, assistant of the clinic. His progress was fast, both in the practical and the scientific field, and on 25 March, 1926 Dr Weber was established as a pathologist and therapist of internal diseases. He also substituted as head of the clinic in 1930-1931 for Prof Syllaba, during the Professor's illness and after his death. After Prof Hynek took over the First Internal Clinic, Dr Weber transferred to Bulovka as a head physician of the First Internal Section and the Section for Contagious Diseases. In 1933 he was promoted to Assistant Professor of Internal Diseases. In 1935 he was appointed Medical Manager of Bulovka; he remained in this function till 1942 and resumed this position again for a short time in 1945. Dr Weber stayed with Bulovka till 1951, when he was called upon to take the management of a newly established Institute for Diseases of Blood Circulation in Prague (Krc), where he still works.

Since his first days with the clinic of Prof Syllaba, Dr Weber devoted his time to scientific work aimed at penetrating clinical symptomatology through the physiological basis of clinical medicine. This is the nature of his publications dealing with auscultative findings in cases of arteriovenous aneurism and paroxysmal arterial hypertension accompanying meningitis, etc.

His attention was soon drawn to the importance of the neuro-vegetative system as the source of pathological formation. This research gave a basis to his treatise on the function of the vegetative system in the clinical concept of chronic and epidemic encephalitis, post-adrenaline hyperglycemia, in connection with the neuro-vegetative system. This research also gave a basis to his outstanding work on noci-pathology and a foundation for his inaugural disserta-

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tion. Significant is his treatise on the importance of the vegetative nerve system for the pathogenesis of myositis ossificans progressive, and finally for the pathogenesis of paroxysmal general paresis. His interest in the vegetative nerve system led consequently to the study of ions of kalium and calcium in the heart and to the importance of ions for the regulation of blood pressure, especially under hypertension. Since 1923 he has focused his interest on cardiovascular problems and especially on arrhythmia. His treatise on this subject is original and unique, characterized by clarity, objectivity, and originality of approach. Next to Lewis' short monograph, Dr Weber's book is one of the first treatises on this subject. Apart from this publication, Dr Weber treats arrhythmia in a number of other books.

While at Bulovka Dr Weber wrote especially about the clinical problems of electrocardiography and cardiology. With the Institute for Diseases of Blood circulation, he devoted himself to the problem of revascularization of myocardium and to the problem of ischemic diseases of the heart in general.

To summarize, Prof Weber is the author of two monographs and about 50 scientific works, besides other occasional contributions, a handbook for nurses, etc.

Professor Weber has been a frequent visitor overseas. In 1926 he paid a visit to the clinics of Prof Vaqueze and Prof Labbe in Paris, the Internal Clinic of Dr Gallavardina in Lyon, the Internal Clinic of Prof Clerk in Nancy, and the Internal Clinic of Prof Merklen in Strasbourg. In 1930 he visited the clinic of Prof Naegeli in Zurich, and in 1952 took part in the First Congress of the European Cardiological Society in London. During 1954 he participated in the Third International Congress of the Internal Society in Stockholm. In 1955 he was one of the delegates to Poland, a trip organized by the Scientific Council of the Ministry of Health. In 1956 he visited the USSR. On all these trips he established important scientific connections and gained many friends, who respect him not only as an individual but who, due to his influence, respect Czechoslovak science.

Since 1920 Dr Weber has been a member of the Society of Czech Physicians and since 1929, a member of the Committee of the Czechoslovak Cardiological Society. He has twice been chairman of the Czechoslovak Cardiological Society (1939 - 1941 and 1951 - 1954).

In 1956 he was elected a member of the All-Union Society of USSR Internists and in 1959, a honorary member of the Czechoslovak Cardiological Society. Since 1951 he has been a member of the Medical Section of the Socialist Academy in Prague (later the Medical Section of the Society for Promotion of Scientific and Political Knowledge). Since 1953 Dr Weber has been a member of the Scientific Council of the Ministry of Health.

In 1950-51 Dr Weber was a second pro-rector of Charles University.

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In 1955 the President of the Czechoslovak Republic awarded him the highest honor, the Order of the Republic, for his outstanding contributions to the Development of our medicine and science.

Dear Comrade Professor, on behalf of your many friends, co-workers and students, who think about you on this day especially, I would like to say how much we all appreciate your kind smile, your gentleness, wisdom, insight, and your sense of justice. We all learn from your uncompromising attitude, honesty, sense of order, conscientiousness, assiduity, and your fine sense of humor.

We wish you many, many years of good health, joy in work, and a lot of personal happiness. For ourselves, we hope that, inspired by your shining example, we may soar to the highest goals in building better medical care for our people, and to higher goals in our Czechoslovak science. May you be proud of us when we meet again at your next anniversary.

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60 th BIRTHDAY OF PROFESSOR JOSEF HYNIE, MD

[Following is the translation of an article by Mr Vondracek in Casopis Lekaru Ceskych (Czechoslovak Physicians Journal) No 13, Prague, 1960, pages 670-671.]

We can speak of Professor Hynie as the founder and builder of Czechoslovak sexology. Before Hynie we had Prof Pecirka, who made an attempt to establish a sexology institute. That was, however, at the time when Pecirka was already ill. The whole inheritance left by him was a cabinet. There existed some studies in the field of sexology before Hynie, but they were done exclusively in the field of psychiatry. Dr Pelnar also was interested in sexology; in 1902, as an Assistant of the Czech Psychiatric Clinic of Charlese Fere, he translated and published a book, "Sexual Instinct, Its Development and Disorder." Later on, he took interest in Steinach's experiments with the so-called male climacterium and other sexological problems.

Dr Hynie met Prof Pelnar as a young physician and was impressed. During the years of military service Dr Hynie worked in dermato-venerology, and later in a clinic of dermato-venerology. Both these occurrences determined Dr Hynie's path.

He was born on 8 May, 1900 in Dobrovice near Mlada Boleslav, the son of a mechanical engineer. His father had a great influence on young Hynie. He stirred his interest for nature, physics, and the laws of nature. While a student in the lower division of the gymnasium in Mlada Boleslav, he devoted a lot of time reading technical literature and magazines. He was determined then to study mechanical engineering. In the upper division of the gymnasium, his professor of zoology, Ph Dr Schaeferna, a well-known limnologist and later a university professor, inspired Hynie in biology and psychology. At the same time, the required reading in Plato led him not only to old Greek philosophy, but to philosophy in general. After graduating from this high school in 1918, Hynie did not enter the technical faculty, but the medical faculty. Interest in physics, however, has remained with him.

During his studies at the university, Hynie attended the lectures of Prof Heverloch, who had the gift of evoking interest in his students for medical psychology and psychiatry. Thanks to this professor, the psychological and psychiatric orientation has never weakened in Hynie. On the contrary, he has grown closer to our psychiatrists.

As a young physician, Hynie practiced two years at the Pelnar Clinic. The strong individuality of Prof Pelnar has influenced all of his students. Hynie admired Pelnar's attitude toward his patients

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and followed his example. He respected Pelnar as a neurologist and endocrinologist. During those years, he entered a circle of young physicians at the clinic, buoyant with ideas and new concepts in internal medicine. This was the trend of the time, and in Prague the physiological concept of internal medicine started to take hold.

In 1924 Hynie received his doctorate. The greater part of his military service was spent in the dermato-venerological section. After the termination of military service he took histopathology from Prof Sikla.

In 1926 Dr Hynie entered the Clinic of Dermato-venerology headed by Prof Samberger. Prof Samberger soon discovered Hynie's inclination and potential, and encouraged him to follow sexology.

To follow sexology as a main field at that time was pioneering. There were lively discussions about the essence and breadth of sexology. It was also argued whether sexology should have a place and justification as an independent branch. Without the energy and stubbornness shown by Prof Samberger, sexology would have never developed.

Prof Samberger was interested in sexology since his early medical years, and helped Hynie as much as he could. Prof Samberger made it possible for Dr Hynie to travel to Vienna and Berlin to meet various representatives in this field.

In 1929-1931 Dr Hynie studied biochemical fundamentals, physiology, diagnostic methods (Weissenberg, Goldschmidt, Steinach, Perutz, Heyn), psychotherapy with Kronfeld, Adler and Stekel, and exology proper with Magnus Hirschfeld. He looked for close ties with psychotherapists and entered only more deeply into the field of psychiatry.

His practical treatment of sexual disorders started at the Clinic of Prof Samberger in 1928. In 1934 Dr Hynie was established in sexology at 34 years of age. Prof Gawalovski, successor of Prof Samberger, was very amicably disposed toward Hynie's efforts; upon his recommendation, Hynie was named Professor of Medical Sexology and head of the Sexology Institute in the year 1945. In 1956 Dr. Hynie was appointed Chief of the Laboratory for Sterility Research, and in 1957 as the head of the Sexology Division at the Polyclinic.

Dr Hynie's name is well known overseas. He is a member of the International Fertility Association and a corresponding member of the Union Internationale des Organismes Familiaux.

He worked hard in research and made many valuable observations, but none were thus far published. He mentions only some in his occasional works and in his monograph, Introduction to Medical Sexology, published in 1940.

Dr Hynie's basic findings and the new methods introduced by him are mainly as follows: establishment of an index of propulsion of sperma, measurements of the characteristic sexual proportions, measurements of the length and volume of testis by a measure

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that he himself has contrived, coloration of sperma, analyses of the forms of sperma, andrographic methods leading to objective diagnoses of readiness in genitalia, and the introduction of a diagnostic system.

He presented his work in many lectures and at Congresses. He lectured in Amsterdam, Belgrade, Budapest, Naples, Paris, Plovdiv, Poznan, Sofia, and Geneva.

Dr Hynie participates a great deal in health welfare. He is active as lecturer and writer, and is popular in both fields. His stress is on maturing and marriage. This theme requires a skillful pen and diction. Dr Hynie possesses these qualities.

Dr Hynie has lectured to medical students since 1934, with an interval during the years of occupation and the years of turmoil regarding sexology. His lectures are well attended and appreciated.

He has broad experience as a judicial expert. He figures as an authority in paternity and divorce cases. He renders his opinion in cases of rape, juvenile-sexual delinquents, and deviants.

Thanks to Dr Hynie, the sexology institute was established out of modest foundations. Before the Second World War, the Institute had no rooms and no inventory, except a few books and instruments. The only worker was Dr Hynie.

In 1945 a few bare rooms were given to Dr Hynie in the rear of Tract Two of the Chemical Institute. In 1950 Dr Hynie was given better accommodations in the Polyclinic. Out of this, Dr Hynie developed the Institute, where about 10,000 patients are being treated yearly and lectures for post-graduate students and physicians are given. Hynie now works with the help of three sexologists whom he brought up. In this institute many czechoslovak and foreign sexologists are trained.

Dr Hynie is a "pyknic" type, of short and stocky build, and with a slight inclination to obesity. He is very agile and at 60 is full of vigor. He is also polite and helpful. But his is not the sweet politeness of a cool heart, but a politeness floating from a sincere and warm heart. Many a time he was treated unjustly, but he took it with courage. Dr Hynie is seldom angry and always tolerant toward the opinion of others. He never shows malice toward any one. He is of a cheerful disposition and is a good companion. He is known as a temperate eater and almost an abstainer.

Dr Hynie has a happy married life with his wife, Adolfa, and their four sons. Two of them divided between themselves their father's talents, one studies medicine and the other, engineering.

Sexology is a field connecting many branches of medicine: bynecology, urology, endocrinology, internal medicine, dermatovenerology, neurology, and psychiatry. There is a lot of psychiatry in this field, and our psychiatrists appreciate Dr Hynie's awareness and his stress of this aspect. He cooperates with many fields,

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but especially close is his cooperation with psychiatrists. Many coordinated research projects on several topics were undertaken. Their clinical and consultative cooperation is close. We appreciate that Hynie judges a man as a whole human being with his physiological and psychological nature. It is unbelievable to see how long it takes for some to grasp the importance of sexology for the collective. If we consider the importance of sex for the individual and psychological trauma of such magnitude it leads to suicide or life-long unhappiness, the role of sexology for the collective and for the maintenance of the nation and humanity is evident.

Dr Hynie's contribution lies in his courage to fight for the place of sexology in medicine and in having won this fight. We know the unfavorable conditions he had to face, and we give him credit for founding and building the field of sexology.

Dr Hynie has entered a step called "age " in the international terminology of gerontology.

We have to state, however, that there are cases in gerontology where age does not manifest itself, and I believe that Dr Hynie is such a case.

On behalf of your friends, co-workers, students, and the wide medical population, I wish you, Professor Hynie, a calm outlook on things which this age grants; full energy for work, which this age does not weaken; and good health and personal happiness to strengthen you for many, many years of work in this important humane and economic field.

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