



Stanisław Ostrowski

chemist, a member of the Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences, a member of the Editorial Council of the 'Oceanologia' and 'Studia i Materiały Oceanologiczne', professor of the Medical Academy in Gdańsk, died on January 13, 1990.

Professor Stanisław Ostrowski was born on 20 July, 1905, in Karczmisko, Białystok District (Poland). He studied at the Chemical Faculty of the Technical University of Warsaw, graduating in 1929 with the degree of chemical engineer. After the obligatory military service he worked for two years in Warsaw as a senior assistant in the Inorganic Chemistry Division of the Technical University. In 1931 he began his work in the customs laboratories of Poznań and Zbąszyń. A year later he was employed as the spokesman of the Polish side in the Central Laboratory of Commodities, belonging to the Free City of Gdańsk. After the war and his release from the officer P.O.W. camp he returned to Poland. In October, 1945, Professor Ostrowski organized and conducted the chemical laboratories of the United Canned Food Industry and Customs Office in Gdańsk and Gdynia, among others. At the same time, from 1946, he worked as a lecturer at the Technical University of Gdańsk. Three years later he gained the post of tutor in the Inorganic Chemistry Division of the University, followed by a similar post in the Inorganic and Analytical Chemistry Division of the Pharmaceutical Faculty of the Gdańsk Medical Academy. In the years 1952-1954 Professor Ostrowski was the manager of the Division of Food and Marineware Examination of the Health Office in Gdynia. At the same time he gave lectures on physical chemistry at the Pharmaceutical Faculty of the Gdańsk Medical Academy. From 1954 he was a tutor in the Division at Technical Analysis and the Science of Commodities at the Technical University

of Gdańsk. In 1956 he was appointed head of the Technical Analysis Department at the Technical University. In the same year he was appointed by the Geophysics Department of the Polish Academy of Sciences to organize a chemical laboratory in the Marine Station of the Geophysics Department of PAS. From then on Professor Ostrowski devoted himself to the study of marine chemistry. In 1958 he was delegated to Helsinki to initiate cooperation with the Institute of Sea Investigation. From 1960 he was the head of the Inorganic and Analytical Chemistry Division of the Pharmaceutical Faculty of the Gdańsk Medical Academy. He was also the vice-dean of this faculty. At the same time he managed the marine chemistry laboratory in the Marine Station of the Geophysics Department of PAS. He was invited by the Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research of PAS to participate in the work of the Team of the Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research interested in the problems of Physical and Chemical Oceanography. In the post-war period he was twice the secretary and twice the vice-chairman of the Board of the Gdańsk Division of the Polish Chemical Society. From 1961-1965 he was the secretary of the Board of the III Department of the Gdańsk Scientific Society. His great scientific activity and research resulted in numerous lectures being delivered by Professor Ostrowski at the meetings of different Scientific Associations. He was the author or co-author of ca. 70 scientific papers. Moreover, Professor Ostrowski was a great teacher and tutor for both students and young scientists. This is illustrated by the fact that he conferred numerous Ph. D. theses of his students, some of which yielded later on Dr. Sci. theses. The scope of the problems dealt with in the works of Professor Ostrowski was therefore quite wide; however, it was always the analytical direction that prevailed. Papers on marine chemistry, reflecting the interests of a category of analytical papers. It should be emphasized that Professor Ostrowski initiated investigation into chemical oceanography in Poland. This branch, together with other branches of oceanography, is still strongly supported by UNESCO. Professor Ostrowski was the Nestor of the Gdańsk Medical Academy. His great effort and professional activity, together with his modesty and sensitivity, have been crowned by the achievements of the scientific school created by him. Although retired, he continued his work, preparing new scientific papers for publication and participating in the editorial work of the Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research of PAS. The welfare work of Professor Ostrowski as a member of the Editorial Council of the 'Oceanologia' and 'Studia i Materiały Oceanologiczne' should also be emphasized. Despite his retirement, he was always willing to advise and help, and was vividly interested in the didactic and scientific development of his students. Till the very end he was held in high esteem not only as a teacher, but also as a man. Professor Ostrowski was received a number of decorations, including the Chivalry of the Polonia Restituta Order, the Golden Cross of Merit, the decoration 'To people meritorious for the Gdańsk Region', University Medals of the thirtieth and fortieth anniversaries of the Gdańsk Medical Academy, the medal 'Meritorious for the Gdańsk Medical Academy', as well as receiving the commemorative medal for patriotic activity in Polish organization in the Free City of Gdańsk in the period between the wars.

His passing away is an irreparable loss.

Piotr Szefer