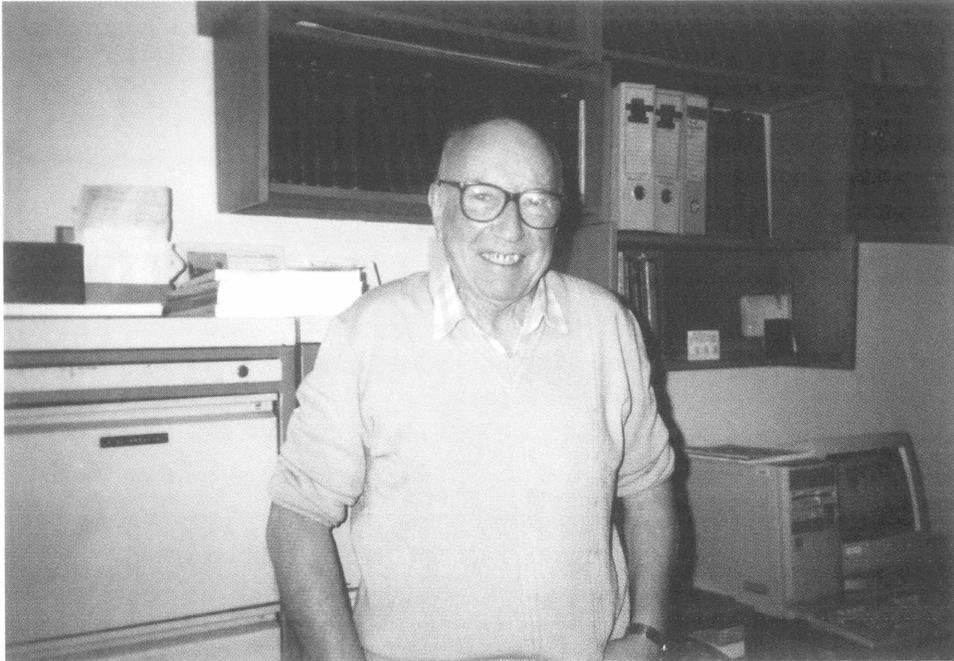


EDITORIAL



Pavel Hník is Seventy

On November 30 this year, Pavel Hník, MD, DSc, is going to celebrate his seventieth anniversary. We are very happy to cheer and congratulate him on this occasion and we are absolutely certain to do so on behalf of a great many friends and colleagues who have also had the pleasure of knowing Pavel in person.

Pavel Hník's career spans more than 46 years. He first worked for some time in rehabilitation of infantile paralysis and then, wishing to further study neuromuscular disorders, joined the Institute of Physiology, Academy of Sciences, in Prague. This academic research institution has been his permanent affiliation since 1952 and due to the long-lasting professional and personal bonds, a number of key moments in Pavel's curriculum have become part and parcel of the history and image of the Institute itself, and *vice versa*. His scientific interests have been rather extensive, yet we can, in a somewhat "short and snappy" way, roof them with the title "Nerve-Muscle Interactions". His experimental work has gained wide reputation and won him the position of a renowned researcher in the neuro-muscular physiology. For example, his papers about late consequences of early postnatal nerve injury became part of classical

references in the field, he was the first to directly measure the potassium concentration in working muscles using ion-selective electrodes, he mastered chronically implanted EMG electrodes in awake experimental animals for long-term studies; the list of printed scientific communications has some 300 items; he is an Ordinary Member of the British Physiological Society and a Honorary Member of the Czech Physiological Society, to name just some of Pavel's achievements and honours.

We would like to mention here also some other aspects of Pavel Hník's personality his friends appreciate so much, namely his unfailing preparedness to help others with English and his earnest love for music. Owing to the former, not only could many of us widely (and sometimes rather wildly...) exploit his will to review English manuscripts almost any time of the day or night, but also several generations of former PhD students and post-docs learnt so much from him and will never forget his amusing English classes with limericks and "bad bats in beds" (you bet!). And then there is Music which has always been more than just a fine hobby for Pavel, a gifted and experienced violinist never failing to reveal the beauty of classical music both for himself and for others, for several years also as the primarius of the Academic String Quartet.

Last but not least - it is not at all by chance that this anniversary congratulation to Pavel Hník is published in this particular journal. Since 1958, he has been acting as Foreign Language Editor in *Physiologia bohemoslovaca* (now *Physiological Research*) and he also worked as the Managing and/or Chief Editor in this journal and in *Československá fyziologie* for many years, so that the very existence of these scientific periodicals has indeed been firmly connected with his name.

Well, thanks a lot for all and for being with us, dear Pavel - and many happy returns!

Richard Vejsada and František Vyskočil