

IN MEMORY OF A. YA. ALYMOV

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The medical society of our country has suffered a great loss. On February 7, 1965 one of the outstanding representatives of Soviet microbiology, immunology, and epidemiology, Corresponding Member of the AMN SSSR, Prof. Andrei Yakovlevich Alymov, died in his 72nd year.

The life and activity of A. Ya. Alymov was wholly devoted to Soviet medical science. Even as a student of the medical faculty of Kharkov University, A. Ya. Alymov, under the influence of the ideas of I. I. Mechnikov, began an investigation connected with the microbiology and epidemiology of typhus and cholera-like diseases.

At the end of the First World War, A. Ya. Alymov temporarily left the University and went to the bacteriological laboratories at the front. In 1920 he joined the ranks of the Red Army and worked as a microbiologist.

In 1922 Andrei Yakovlevich was graduated from the Kharkov Medical Institute. Afterward A. Ya. Alymov organized bacteriological laboratories at many institutions and directed them.

After the organization of the A. M. Gor'kii All-Union Institute of Experimental Medicine in Moscow, A. Ya. Alymov directed the laboratory of infection and immunity in the department of general pathology.

A. Ya. Alymov contributed much to the study of tick-borne rickettsioses. He was one of the first to lay the foundation for a systematic study of tick-borne rickettsioses in the USSR and devoted his doctoral dissertation to this problem.

Andrei Yakovlevich made a thorough study of boutonneuse fever which he discovered in the Crimea. He organized an antiepidemic department to control this disease.

A. Ya. Alymov belongs to that glorious Pleiad of epidemiologists who did not spare their health in the struggle against infectious diseases. To prove the etiological role of some pathogenic agent, the scientist repeatedly inoculated himself with dangerous infections and then most thoroughly observed and described all developmental stages and the course of the disease.



A. Ya. Alymov made a great contribution to the study of the role of the nervous system in the mechanism of disease, recovery, and treatment. His material on infectious pathology comprised an important section in the teachings of A. D. Speranskii on the nervous mechanisms of development of many pathological processes.

A. Ya. Alymov organically combined scientific, organizational, and pedagogical activity.

In 1946-1948 he headed the department of epidemiology of the Naval Medical Academy, and then the chair of the military faculty of the Central Institute of Advanced Training for Doctors.

From 1942 until the end of World War II, A. Ya. Alymov was chief epidemiologist of the Navy, and then chief epidemiologist of the Soviet Army.

In 1946 A. Ya. Alymov was elected a Corresponding Member of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences.

A. Ya. Alymov carried out extensive work as a member of the editorial board of the journal *"Byulleten' Éksperimental'noi Biologii i Meditsiny."* Editing the section "Microbiology and Immunology,"

Andrei Yakovlevich devoted much attention to work with the authors and was concerned with the scientific value of the articles. A formal approach to the matter was foreign to him.

A. Ya. Alymov painstakingly nurtured scientific personnel. About 30 candidate's and doctoral dissertations were performed under his supervision. He left an interesting scientific inheritance: more than 30 works, a number of textbooks and manuals, etc.

A. Ya. Alymov was a great scientist, a wonderful person, a communist, and an active public man! He devoted his entire brilliant life to serving his people.

For outstanding service to the Motherland, A. Ya. Alymov was awarded the Order of the Red Star, Order of the Red Banner of Labor, and medals of the Soviet Union.

The memory of A. Ya. Alymov will be eternally preserved in the hearts of his comrades, friends, and students.