

OBITUARIES

SERGEI RUFOVICH MARDASHEV

The Editor-in-Chief of this journal, the leading Soviet biochemist Professor Sergei Rufovich Mardashev, Hero of Socialist Labor, State Prizewinner, and Academician of the Academy of Medical Sciences of the USSR, died on March 28, 1974 in the 68th year of his life after a severe illness.



A great scientist, an outstanding teacher, and one of the most conscientious of men has departed from this life.

S. R. Mardashev achieved fame through his work. He was born on October 13, 1906 in Leningrad where his father was a workman. After completing his studies in 1930 at the Leningrad Medical Institute, he devoted the whole of his subsequent career to biochemistry. At the end of his postgraduate studies in biochemistry at the All-Union Institute of Experimental Medicine he rapidly became head of the laboratory at that Institute. In 1937 he became assistant professor in the Department of Biochemistry at the I. M. Sechenov First Moscow Medical Institute, and from 1952 until 1973 he was head of the department without interruption.

S. R. Mardashev's scientific activity was linked with the study of some of the most important problems in medical chemistry. He earned widespread recognition for his work on the study of nitrogen metabolism in the body in health and disease, on enzymology, on the biochemistry of tumors, and on the development of methods of enzymic diagnosis of lesions of the internal organs. Mardashev was the author of many scientific papers and of a textbook of biochemistry. He trained several generations of physicians and scientists.

Mardashev combined scientific and teaching duties with social and political activity. A member of the CPSU since 1929, Mardashev devoted all his efforts to the service of the Party and People. For many years he was Vice-President of the Academy of Medical Sciences of the USSR and a member of many Soviet and foreign medical and biological societies and academies.

Sergei Rufovich paid considerable attention to the production of this journal, of which he became Editor-in-Chief in 1966. His high principles, his broad erudition, and his unfailing kindness made a great contribution to the work of the Editorial Board and to the popularity and success of the journal.

Mardashev's services were highly esteemed by the Party and Government and he was awarded the high honor of Hero of Socialist Labor, three Orders of Lenin, the Order of the October Revolution, two Orders of the Labor Red Banner, and medals. He received government awards from several socialist countries.

The memory of S. R. Mardashev, a talented scientist and teacher, a great organizer of science, will remain for all time in the history of medicine and in the annals of our journal. The memory of Sergei Rufovich, a wonderful teacher and remarkable man, will remain unforgotten in the hearts of all who had the pleasure of working with him.

The Editorial Board

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