

Vasilii Vasil'evich Parin

The eminent Soviet scientist and Academician of the Academy of Sciences and Academy of Medical Sciences of the USSR V. V. Parin was born 75 years ago on March 18. Vasilii Vasil'evich was a pupil of the outstanding physiologists B. F. Verigo and A. F. Samoilov, but while still a young man he chose his own road in science. His basic research was devoted to the physiology of the circulation and, indeed, to its most difficult problems—the role of the pulmonary circulation in the regulation of the circulation as a whole and the study of the cardiac output. A talented master of fine techniques of animal experimentation, V. V. Parin at the same time devoted great attention to the development of methods of investigation of the circulation in man. His wide erudition in all fields of physiology, the depth and clarity of his thinking, his ability to sense what is new, and his lucid understanding of tendencies and growth points in science were always typical of V. V. Parin. He initiated the development of such important trends as clinical physiology and medical instrumentation in the USSR.

V. V. Parin combined research and teaching duties with extensive and fruitful activity in scientific organization. He was rector of Sverdlovsk, and later of Moscow Medical Institute, during the Second World War he was Deputy Minister of Health of the USSR, one of the founders of the Academy of Medical Sciences and its first Academician-Secretary and later Vice-President. V. V. Parin was Head of the Institute of Normal and Pathological Physiology, Academy of Medical Sciences of the USSR and of the Institute of Medico-Biological Problems, Ministry of Health of the USSR.

For many years V. V. Parin was a member of the Editorial Board of this Journal, and from 1960 through 1968 he was its Editor-in-Chief. In this post Vasilii Vasil'evich consistently demonstrated his inherent good qualities: his wide erudition, his high devotion to principle and his exigency, but always combined with exceptional kindness. V. V. Parin was a fascinating person, and conversation and work with him were always instructive and generated deep satisfaction and true happiness.