



VASILII VASIL'EVICH PARIN  
(ON HIS 60TH BIRTHDAY)

The outstanding Soviet physiologist and pathophysiologist Vasilii Vasil'evich Parin celebrates his 60th birthday on March 18, 1963.

He began his scientific career under the guidance of the eminent Russian scientists B. F. Verigo and A. F. Samoilov, and then for 40 years this versatile and erudite physiologist has concentrated his attention on the physiology and pathophysiology of the circulation, in which field he has conducted extensive research. The results of his work have been acclaimed in the USSR and elsewhere.

Parin's work on the regulation of the circulation laid the foundations of many current ideas of the reflexes from the pressure receptors of the pulmonary circulation, playing an important part in the mechanism of this regulation. He discovered a reflex from the pressure receptors of the pulmonary artery on the principal blood depot — the spleen. This is now known by his name: "Parin's reflex." The results of his researches have been communicated in articles and in the monograph: "The role of the pulmonary vessels in the reflex regulation of the circulation" (1946). His other researches into the problem of the regulation of the circulation have been concerned with the elucidation of the role of nervous and humoral factors.

As a result of Parin's work on the physiology of the heart, a new important principle has been discovered, namely, that the heart can increase the strength of its contractions without any preceding increase in the length of the myocardial fibers or in the diastolic volume of its chambers. This fact, demonstrated in 1936 by means of his own roentgenophysiological method, was subsequently confirmed by the work of foreign physiologists.

V. V. Parin's later investigations into the physiology and pathology of the circulation have been concerned with improving the technique of measurement of the minute blood volume, with the pathophysiology of the myocardium, the pathogenesis of hypertension, and the introduction of modern methods of clinical and physiological investigation (ballistocardiography, methods based on the principles of electronics and cybernetics). His investigations into the pathophysiology of the circulation are described in a series of papers issuing from his laboratory, and summarized in his monograph: "Essays on the clinical physiology of the circulation."

Recently, in collaboration with a group of research workers, V. V. Parin has undertaken an extensive study of the physiology of animals and man in the conditions of flight in cosmic space. He has frequently and successfully represented Soviet cosmic medicine abroad.

Besides being a great scientist, Parin is also a talented organizer. For many years now he has contributed largely to the development of medical science in the Soviet Union. As Deputy People's Commissar of Health of the USSR (1942-1945), in conjunction with N. N. Burdenko he was one of the organizers of the Academy of Medical Sciences of the USSR, and he was its first academician-secretary. Later he was again chosen as academician-secretary of the Academy, and he now is Vice-President of the Academy of Medical Sciences of the USSR and Director of its Institute of Normal and Pathological Physiology.

In his capacity as head of important scientific groups for many years, V. V. Parin has remained an exceptionally modest and warm-hearted individual. He has striven to obtain facilities to enable young scientists to pursue their work. Under his direction, 20 doctorate and candidate dissertations have been presented.

V. V. Parin participates actively in the work of scientific societies. He is President of the Moscow Society of Physiologists, Biochemists, and Pharmacologists, Vice-President of the All-Union Society of Cardiologists, a member of the committee of the All-Union Society of Pathophysiologists, and director of the section of "Cybernetics and living nature" of the Cybernetics Council of the USSR Academy of Sciences and of the section of medical electronics of the A. S. Popov All-Union Scientific and Technical Society of Radio and Electrocommunications.

During recent years V. V. Parin has been responsible editor of the journal "Byulleten' éksperimental'noi biologii i meditsiny."

The Soviet government has recognized the great worth of V. V. Parin's work on behalf of the health of the community and has awarded him three orders of the Labor Red Banner, and the medals "Victory over Germany," "Valiant work during the Second World War," and "Defense of the Caucasus."

V. V. Parin's outstanding feature as a scientist and communist is his ability to grasp the principles underlying the solution of important scientific problems. This has created his well-earned and high reputation among the scientific fraternity.

On the occasion of his 60th birthday, the editorial committee of the journal "Byulleten' éksperimental'noi biologii i meditsiny" and the entire Soviet scientific community congratulate Vasilii Vasil'evich Parin and wish him long life and success in his work.