

In memoriam Dr. Eva Buzágh



With deep regret we announce, that one of the starters and for 20 years editor of our journal, Eva Buzágh deceased on November 4, 1990.

Eva Gere was born in Budapest on June 29, 1925. She graduated at the Pázmány Péter Science University (Budapest) and was appointed an assistant lecturer at the Institute for Colloid Chemistry and Technology of the same University. The head of the Institute was Professor Aladár Buzágh, an internationally acknowledged colloid scientist whose books that were published also by German and English publishers are still considered as fundamental works in colloid chemistry. The young assistant started her research and teaching activity under the supervision of Professor Buzágh. In 1948 Eva Gere married Professor Buzágh. Eva Buzágh received her Ph.D. degree for a thesis written also in this field.

In the autumn of 1956 she took part in the University movements and demonstrations which preceded the Hungarian revolution. In 1958 she joined the staff of the Institute of General and Analytical Chemistry of the Technical University Budapest as a research fellow. At the time the Institute was headed by Professor László Erdey. This Institute was considered as an internationally important centre of thermoanalytical research.

In 1963 Dr. Buzágh joined the work of the research group for thermal analysis. She was author and co-author of more than 50 papers dealing with among others the decomposition and kinetic processes of inorganic salt hydrates. Beside thermal analysis she was an expert of scanning electron-microscopy, the applied thermal methods and combined thermal and

electron microscopic techniques for solving problems for industry. She contributed to a huge Analytical Handbook which appeared in Hungary.

Eva Buzágh and the authors of this obituary have realized the necessity for a special international journal devoted to thermal analysis. It has never been an easy task to start an international journal, especially in a small country with an exotic language like Hungary. However, efforts were successful and the first issue of the first journal devoted to the thermochemistry in the world, the Journal of Thermal Analysis appeared in 1969 in the joint edition of Akadémiai Kiadó (Budapest) and Wiley & Sons Ltd. (Chichester) or its legal predecessor. The Editorial Board has always gathered excellent experts of the field from all over the world. Its past all over 20 years, and its popularity seems to justify the starters' ideas and efforts.

Eva Buzágh was not only one of the starters but also one of the editors of the Journal from the beginning. She continued editing even after she retired until the very moment of her death. One can hardly imagine an editor more conscientious and more exact than she was. The authors of the several hundred papers that appeared in the journal have experienced her thoroughness and expertness. She required perfect work and did the same herself. We wish to insist on this in the future too.

There are many thermal analysts who have known her personally, who have known her fine, kind and highly cultured personality, since she attended a number of ICTA and ESTAC meetings and gave lectures on her research results. She was one of the organizers of the ICTA-4 Congress in Budapest (1974). She had many friends and admirers from all over the world who may find it hard to realize that she is no more with us. She was seriously ill for five years and operated on several times. She clearly saw that there would be no escape from the fate her illness destined, but she lived and worked like everybody else or even harder till her last weeks. She did not let people notice her state of health and pains, she followed world affairs and attended cultural events. Alone. For she remained alone, she lost her parents and husband, she had no children. She had unbelievable strength to endure her fate. Her strong belief in God helped her over her extreme difficulties.

It is hard to imagine how to go on without her.

F. Szabadváry – J. Simon