

PROFESSOR KÁROLY POLINSZKY



Károly Polinszky was born in Budapest on 19 March, 1922. He graduated from the Faculty of Chemical Engineering of the Budapest Technical University in 1944 as a chemical engineer, and joined the staff of the Institute for Inorganic Chemistry of the same University as an assistant lecturer in the same year. He was appointed senior lecturer at the Institute of Chemical Technology headed by Professor József Varga in April 1945.

Károly Polinszky received the degree of dr. techn. from the Budapest Technical University in 1948 for his research on bauxite, and the degrees of C. Sc. and D. Sc. in 1952 and 1961, respectively, from the Hungarian Academy of Sciences for his achievements in the field of the chemistry and technology of pigments.

In 1949 Károly Polinszky was entrusted with the task of the organization of the newly founded University of Chemical Technology and the Research Institute for Chemical Industry in Veszprém. He worked at this University and Institute as reader, professor, director, dean and rector until 1963.

He was elected corresponding member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in 1964, and full member in 1976. He received the Kossuth Prize in 1961.

In 1963 Polinszky was appointed Deputy Minister of Culture, but he kept his position as university professor as well.

Starting in 1961 he took part in the establishment of the Research Institute for Technical Chemistry of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, where he was Deputy Director, and from 1966 Director. His appointment was extended to further 5 years in 1971.

In May 1974, Polinszky was appointed Minister of Culture, and after reorganization of the Ministry, Minister of Education in July 1974.

He became professor of chemical technology in 1980, and was Rector of the Budapest Technical University in the years 1982 – 1987, Director of the Research Institute for Technical Chemistry from 1987 to 1990. Since his retirement in 1993 he has been working as research professor.

Professor Polinszky is Honorary Member of various foreign universities and societies, serves on the Advisory Board of *Acta Chimica Hungarica*, and he is Honorary Freeman of Veszprém.

His activity in organizing academic teaching has had a lasting effect in Hungary, especially through the elaboration and introduction of the concept of the two-stage training of engineers.

Professor Polinszky's scientific activity was centered around the theoretical problems of chemical technology, with the aim of elaborating general technological and system-theoretical relationships. He has done successful research in the field of bauxite and pigment chemistry. In the field of technical chemistry Károly Polinszky, together with Tibor Blickle, initiated the establishment of a general process science. In this respect the results concerning fluidization are worth mentioning. In addition, Professor Polinszky was concerned with the theoretical and practical questions of teaching.