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Professor Václav Medek (1923--1992)

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## PROFESSOR VÁCLAV MEDEK 1923 – 1992

An eminent Slovak mathematician and pedagogue, a distinguished officer of the Union of Czecho-Slovak Mathematicians and Physicists, and an outstanding organizer of scientific and pedagogical life, Professor Václav Medek died suddenly on 31st March 1992. He was born at Žilina on 23rd October 1923. He finished there the secondary school and passed his leaving examinations in 1942. In the same year, he entered Comenius University in Bratislava, where he studied mathematics and descriptive geometry at the Faculty of Sciences till 1946. He received his RNDr. degree in 1949.

All pedagogical activity of V. Medek was devoted to the Slovak Technical University in Bratislava: since 1943 until his death he acted there as a demonstrator, an assistant lecturer, a senior lecturer and since 1963 a professor at the Department of Mathematics and Descriptive Geometry of the Faculty of Civil Engineering. He was the head of this department for a long time. He belonged to the first teachers of the descriptive geometry at the technical universities in Slovakia and provided an essential contribution to the development of the education in this subject. His numerous textbooks on descriptive geometry and computer geometry for technical universities and secondary schools stay in the fundamental stock in these domains till our days.

The research interests of V. Medek focused on several branches of the geometry. In the first period he dealt with problems of classical projective and algebraic geometry closely adjacent to the descriptive geometry. The second period includes results on foundations of geometry, particularly on finite projective planes and their subsets and on special mappings of these objects. It also contains the solution of some special problems of descriptive geometry. In the last period V. Medek paid a great attention to computer geometry, computer graphics and their applications in the descriptive geometry, such as a contour of convex surfaces, cyclo-graphic mapping, descriptive geometry in an orthogonal space etc. In particular, V. Medek's approach to the construction of the contour anticipated methods of computer graphics which were developed twenty years later.

Professor V. Medek played a significant role in the education of young research and scientific workers and university teachers in geometry, descriptive geometry and computer graphics.

Professor V. Medek was an excellent example of modest man, friendly behaving, of high moral character, of cordial relations to all colleagues and friends, accurate in work. He always offered words of understanding, wise advice and help to anybody in need. His name will remain in the memory of Slovak mathematicians and in the history of Slovak mathematics.

Ján Čizmár

### LIST OF SCIENTIFIC PAPERS BY PROFESSOR VÁCLAV MEDEK

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