

Notiziario/News

IN MEMORY OF PROFESSOR BORIS DMITRIEVICH PETROV
(1894-1991)

On the 15th of January 1991 died Boris Dmitrievich Petrov, a distinguished scientist and teacher and a prominent public figure.

In 1950 B. D. Petrov was promoted to professor and in 1969 was elected a corresponding member of the Academy of Medical Sciences of the USSR.

B. D. Petrov is the author of over 300 publications on the history of Medicine. A valuable contribution to the history of medicine was his publication *Role of Russian scientists in medicine*, which appeared in 1954 and which was translated into English, French and Italian languages, as well as his monograph on Ibn Sin, Botkin and other. He was the editor of the Book *History of medicine* (1954).

During 30 years B. D. Petrov was also editing an annual reference journal *Noteworthy and anniversary dates in the history of medicine*.

An important aspect of B. D. Petrov's activities was editing the works of the classics in the field of medicine (Avicenna, Nicolas Semashko and other). He was also the critic (reviewer) of many books which dealt with the organization of health care and history of medicine.

Under B. D. Petrov's tutorship and guidance were supported 31 doctorate theses, devoted to the history of medicine and health care. Many chairs of the social hygiene and of the history of medicine in the countries belonging to the Commonwealth of Independant States are headed by B. D. Petrov's former students.

B. D. Petrov was a brilliant lecturer, teacher and popularizer. He was greatly helped in this by his desire to share his knowledge with others, his ability to kindle interest in his listeners and to make them attracted to investigations in the field of medical history.

B. D. Petrov devoted many efforts and energy to training specialists working in remote regions of the country. He extensively travelled throughout the country delivering lectures to all kinds of audiences: to specialists in the field of medical history, students, as well as to laymen, giving encouragement to those who only recently started investigations in the field.

Boris Dmitrievich Petrov's students and colleagues are much grieved by the death of the talented historian of medicine.

Mark B. Mirsky

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE HISTORY OF PSYCHIATRY

The *European Association for the History of Psychiatry* is holding its triennial conference from 17 to 20 August 1993 in London (at Friends House, 173-177 Euston Road, London NW1). Plenary sessions will be held on the Historiography of Psychiatry and the Epistemology of Psychiatry. There will additionally be numerous parallel sessions and workshops on many specific aspects of the history of psychiatry taken in its widest sense: Therapeutics, Forensic Psychiatry, the Asylum, Psychoanalysis, Psychiatry and Religion, Diagnostics, Feminism and Psychiatry, etc. Visits have been arranged to the Freud Museum and the Bethlem Museum and Archives. Films on the history of psychiatry will be shown.