

ARVÉDS ASĒNĀS

On Christmas Eve 1981 we received the news that Arvēds Asēns had died. He was 75 years old. The author of this article, his former student, has written a short memoir of him.

IN MEMORIAM

Arvēds Asēns was born on 21st May 1906 in Liepāja. He started attending school in the J. Rīga gymnasium. He continued it in Tukums, Lycéum and Lille which he finished by obtaining a diploma from the French government. His studies and further work is tightly connected with the Medical faculty of the Latvian University. He wrote his doctor's dissertation in Paris at the Institute of Pasteur. He subsequently maintained it in his native country. After man-

EUDERCE ON THE RIGHT SIDE

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Summary

The author describes a new species of Euderces from the Altai mountains, which was collected in the Altai mountains (Siberia) in 1987, p. 11-13). Since his specimen was collected near the town of Khoton in western China (Xinjiang), he gave it the name of *Euderces khotoni*. At present the unique specimen of a male found in 1987 is stored in the Zoological Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences in the Arctic Ocean (Murmansk, Arkhangelsk).

Библиография
Литература
Список
Избранные работы

IN MEMORIAM

ARVĒDS ALKSNIS

On Christmas Eve 1991 we received sad news from America — concerning the death of associate professor, laureate of P. Stradin Prize, Arvēds Alksnis.



Arvēds Alksnis was born the 21 of May 1910 in Liepāja. He started attending school in the 1. Riga gymnasium. He continued it in Turquen's lyceum near Lille which he finished by obtaining a stipend from the French government. His studies and further work is tightly connected with the Medical faculty of the Latvian University. He wrote his doctor's dissertation in Paris, at the Institute of Pasteur. He successfully maintained it in his native country. After han-

ding in his habilitation work to the Medical Faculty of the Latvian university he was elected private associate professor.

In the fatal year of 1940 associate professor Arvēds Alksnis was obliged to work as head of Valmiera hospital. Notwithstanding the change of government he returned to his *Alma Mater* and as associate professor headed the 3-nd surgical and delivered a course of lectures on hospital surgery. During the war surgeon A. Alksnis was called up for military service in the Latvian legion where he headed the hospital's surgical department in Riga. Later the hospital was evacuated to Sverin. After the war he worked for several years in the Hansa city Lübeck.

In 1951 A. Alksnis went to Seattle (USA). Unfortunately he did not work as an experienced urologist there but as an immigration doctor with, a corresponding attitude towards him which was not always favourable. Therefore A. Alksnis decided to pass his examinations a new obtained a practicing licence and in 1954 started his practice in Crescent City on the coast of the Pacific Ocean. From 1969 to 1976 Arvēds Alksnis headed the Association of Latvian doctors and dentists; he organized 3-rd Congress of the Association in 1970; in Los Angeles which coincided with the West Coast Singing Festival.

Associate professor A. Alksnis is also the author of several literary works. The autobiographical novel «Hippocrates in the vices» according to academician Jānis Stradiņš is a well styled cultural and historical document, witty, sometimes even caustic which makes interesting reading material dating back to the years 1939—1940 and the dramatic lives of Latvian doctors in America.

The bonds with his native country were not disrupted. Arvēds Alksnis took part in the first international congress of doctor in 1989 in Riga. A year later his next and last visit in Latvian followed in connection with the 120-th anniversary of his father — surgeon, professor Jēkabs Alksnis (1870—1957). During the festivities at the P. Stradiņš Museum of History of Medicine Arvēds Alksnis delivered an academical lecture «Changes in Medicine» where he expressed the credo of his life.

Sit Tibi terra levis.

Dr. med. JURIS SALAKS