

Editorial Note:

The 50th anniversary of the HVAR Expedition, held in Split, in January 1999, was of great importance to the Fisheries research in the Adriatic. The convention was organised under the sponsorship of the Croatian Ministry of Science and Technology, and the Croatian Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. Contributions of this meeting will be published in the Supplement to this Volume.

The International Workshop "Problems related to fishing and biodiversity" was held in the Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries in Split, in February 1999. The Workshop was organised under the sponsorship of the Croatian Ministry of Science and Technology, and the British Council in Croatia. Three papers from this meeting are published in this Number (*), while the others will also be published in the Supplement to this Volume.

With respect to the great contribution to the HVAR Expedition and Fisheries research, this Volume is dedicated to the memory of a scientist of great reputation, the late Prof. Tonko ŠOLJAN.



Prof. Tonko Šoljan, Ph.D.
1907 - 1980

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Prof.dr.Tonko ŠOLJAN was an internationally reknown scientist, ichthyologist, and efficient organiser of scientific work, expert in fishery problematics, especially in the Adriatic, professor of the generations of biologists. Prof.dr. Tonko ŠOLJAN was born on April 18, 1907 in Hvar. He attended primary school in Zadar and Split, and grammar school in Zadar, Dubrovnik and Šibenik, where he graduated in 1925. Prof. ŠOLJAN started his university studies, enrolling the Natural Sciences College (Biology) at the Philosophy Faculty at the University of Zagreb (1925-1926), in Vienna (1927-1929), and in Graz (1929-1930), where he completed his studies in 1929, and received his Ph.D. in Zoology in 1930.

The same year Prof. ŠOLJAN arrived in Split, where he became a curator of the Biological-Oceanographic Institute in Split. Not long after that, he went for his specialisation in Helgoland, at the Institute for Marine Biology.

In the period between 1935 and 1941, he was teaching Zoology, Botany, Geology, Mineralogy and Geography at the grammar school in Split, and today, his former students nostalgically and fondly remember him as an excellent professor. Prof. ŠOLJAN also worked as a principal of Museum of Natural Sciences in Split. In 1941, he arrived in Zagreb where he accepted a position as the Chief of Department for the Ministry of Fisheries from 1941 to 1943. After that, from 1943 to 1945, he became the Chief of Department for Zoology at the Philosophy Faculty at the University of Zagreb (today the Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics), and director of the Museum of Zoology.

After the Second World War (1945-1946), he started to work for the Ministry of coastal Maritime and Fisheries in Zagreb. At that time, Prof. ŠOLJAN organised a number of stations for Marine research and advancement of Fisheries along our coast. In the period between 1946 and 1947, he was the principal of the station for advancement in shellfish research in Ston. In the years between 1947 and 1955, he was the director of the Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries in Split, which included the stations in Rijeka, Dubrovnik, Opuzen and Ston. In 1956, he was chosen as a professor at the Faculty of Philosophy, in Sarajevo, until he retired in 1970. His rich and admirable life suddenly ended on February 18, 1980 in a traffic accident in Sarajevo.

Professor Tonko ŠOLJAN contributed to our knowledge of marine fisheries, directing scientific researches towards solving biological and fisheries problems in the Adriatic Sea. Among his most significant works is the monography "Ribe Jadrana" (Fishes of the Adriatic), which has already been published in 5 editions. Prof. ŠOLJAN was a member of a great number of scientific, as well as expert, national and international associations in which he carried a number of responsibilities. From 1927, he was the member of the Croatian scientific association in Zagreb. In 1949, Prof. ŠOLJAN was chosen as an associate of Yugoslav Academy of Science and Art, at present Croatian Academy of Science and Art. In 1967, he became the regular member of the Academy of Science and Art in Bosnia and Hercegovina.

As an excellent professor he raised generations of fishery biologists and was responsible for achievement of acceptable conditions for the successful work of young scientists.

Professor Tonko ŠOLJAN was awarded many times for his dedicated scientific and humanitarian works.

Bibliography of his selected papers will be published in the supplement to this Volume.

Dr. Ivo KAČIĆ
