

**Dr. OTMAR KARLOVAC**

(1902—1980)

Dr. Otmar Karlovac was born in Split on 7 February 1902 where he attended primary and secondary school. He studied biology at the College of Philosophy of the University of Belgrade. He graduated from the University in 1926. After his return to Split he spent some time as a high-school teacher at the Grammar School in Split. During the period 1927—1946 he worked for some time at the Biological-Oceanographic Institute in Split (nowdays Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries) and at the Municipal Natural History Museum, ZOO and Aquarium, first as a volunteer and later as curator and director of the institution.

In 1946 he joined the staff of the Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries in Split where he worked until his retirement in 1962. Soon after his entering the Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries he was appointed the head of the Laboratory for Ichthyobenthos. During the period of his work at the Institute in Split he received his doctor's degree in 1953 on the thesis on norway lobster (*Nephrops norvegicus*). After his retirement he became the professor of biology at the High School for Stomatology in Split.

Dr. Karlovac was a keen scientist. During his fruitful life of scientist, teacher and popularizer of science he wrote 29 scientific papers, 28 expert papers and 9 science-popular papers. In addition, his 62 short contributions on fishery biology for the Maritime Encyclopedia should be mentioned. Major part of his scientific papers were published in the publications of the Institute (*Acta Adriatica*, *Izvješća-Reports* and *Bilješke-Notes*).

Some of his papers were published in other home and foreign publications. His expert papers were mainly published in the journals »Morsko ribarstvo« and »Jugoslavenski mornar«. Thorough in his work he never hesitated either to criticize or to receive criticism.

During his work Dr. Karlovac paid considerable attention to systematics, biology and ecology of benthic fish and decapod crustaceans. He gave detailed studies of the ecology of hake (*Merluccius merluccius*), norway lobster (*Nephrops norvegicus*) and deep-water pink shrimp (*Parapenaeus longirostris*). He gave significant contribution to the knowledge of the Adriatic fauna by his reports on the first records of some deep-sea benthic species of fish and crustaceans.

The publication of major importance for the knowledge of distribution, abundance and ecology of benthic fishes, cephalopods and crustaceans was the paper »Exploitation of fish stocks and edible invertebrates carried out by

trawling in the open Adriatic» published in the series »Izvješća-Reports« 1959. The paper was based on the data of Fishery-Biology Expedition »Hvar-1948—49). By his scientific work he provided the basis for the improvement of commercial fisheries and rational exploitation of the Adriatic biological resources.

Dr. Karlovac was one of the initiators of the Fishery-Biology Expedition »Hvar« in which he took an active part.

He was the member of a variety of national and international organizations, member of the Research Committee of the GFCM (FAO), chairman of the group for marine research coordination of the Council for Scientific Research of the SR of Croatia, redacter of the I and II editions of the Maritime Encyclopedia, founder of Split aquarium, etc.

For his devoted work and achievements he was honoured the Award of the town of Split in 1971.

Dr. I. Jardas

#### PRINCIPAL SCIENTIFIC AND EXPERT PAPERS OF Dr. O. KARLOVAC

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