

Sestre milosrdnice



University Hospital

HISTORICAL REVIEW



Dr Stanko Dujmušić was head of the Department of Pulmonology at our Hospital from 1949 until his death fifty years ago, in 1960¹⁻³. Dr Dujmušić was a renowned Croatian and Yugoslav expert in pulmonary tuberculosis, and all those that knew him and wrote about him on various occasions used the term virtuoso when referring to him as a specialist in operative thoracoscopy^{4,5}. Dr Dujmušić started his medical career in Klenovnik, as pulmonary tuberculosis was the field of his special interest; in 1929, he performed the first operation according to Jacobaeus there. From 1938, he worked in Brestovac health resort, and in the meantime in the Central Bureau of Health Insurance in Zagreb for some time. The great achievements of his fruitful scientific and professional career he successfully presented in articles and books; his very first book entitled *Operativna torakoskopija* (Operative Thoracoscopy) appeared in 1946 and was translated to German to be published in Vienna in 1953. Henry Souttar, the book reviewer, praised the book as the best presentation of operative thoracoscopy with excellent descriptions of the procedures and nice illustrations; his only objection was that the book appeared in German, thus unfortunately being unusable by many British physicians.

Dr. Dujmušić received high recognition for his *Atlas operativne torakoskopije* (Atlas of Operative Thoracoscopy), which appeared in 1951 in Croatian and English language; this book is addressed in the section On Notable Books in Our History.

Dr. Dujmušić was very active in the field of medical literature of his time. He was Assistant Editor-in-Chief to Professor Ante Šercer, Editor-in-Chief of the first edition of medical encyclopedia, Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Tuberkuloza*, and one of the editors of the famous volume entitled *Iz hrvatske medicinske prošlosti* (From the Croatian Medical History), published in 1954. As an expert and enthusiast in the history of medicine, he initiated publication of classic medical books in the collection entitled *Temelji medicine* (The Foundations of Medicine), published by Medicinska knjiga from 1948. Dr Dujmušić prepared the first of the basic books of the collection, *Novi izum* (The New Invention) by Leopold Auenbrugger from 1761 and *Umjetni pneumotoraks* (Artificial Pneumothorax) by Carlo Forlanini from 1882. Professor Mirko Dražen Grmek, our medical historian, describes Dr Dujmušić as a “man of broad education and exceptionally strong mind”. The life and work of Dr Dujmušić confirmed these words. As a physician and an expert in a special field, it appears that he followed the thought of Dr Đuro Baglivi, quoting him in his foreword to Leopold Auenbrugger’s book *Novi izum*: “...in medicine, experience is superior to pure thinking, while thinking is superior to the authority”⁷.

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