

Jan Jerzy Bekier
Łódź

Opowieść o moim Ojcu – profesorze Edwardzie Bekierze

The story about my father, professor Edward Bekier

SUMMARY

Edward Bekier was born on October 9 1883 in Sierpc. He finished secondary school in Warsaw in 1904, then began philosophical studies at the Jagiellonian University and earned a doctorate in philosophy in 1911. He continued his studies at the laboratory of physical chemistry, the University of Goettingen (1912) and later at the Polytechnic School in Charlottenburg (1913). From 1914 he worked at the Chemical Department of the Warsaw University of Technology, where in 1918 he gained a Reader degree. In 1920 he received a professorial appointment at the Stefan Batory University in Vilnius. The University's activity was interrupted by the war of 1920 and Edward Bekier served voluntarily as cannoneer in the 1st Anti-aircraft Regiment of the Polish Army. After the war in 1921 he received a nomination for a professorship at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań and in 1922 a nomination for a professorship of physical chemistry at the Stefan Batory University in Vilnius. He organized its Physical Chemistry Unit and directed it until the end of 1939, when the University was closed down. During his work at the University, he six times held the position of Dean or Deputy Dean of the Mathematical-Natural Department. His scientific achievements cover 29 titles published in national and foreign literature. Those were the works in electrochemistry and radioactivity, as well as properties of metals and their alloys. Bekier conducted his scientific studies mainly in the field of chemical kinetics in homogenous and heterogeneous systems.

During German occupation, Bekier lectured on physical chemistry, involved in the activities of the underground Stefan Batory University in Vilnius. He died suddenly on February 10 1945.

Analecta – Studia i Materiały z Dziejów Nauki
[Analecta – Studies and Materials on the History of Science]
XXIV, 2015, 1, 149-164