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A Journal of Original Papers and Reviews on Theoretical and Applied Ecology

Nikolai Vladimirovich Timofeeff-Ressovsky
(In Commemoration of His 100th Anniversary)

In the year 2000, the scientific community commemorates the 100th anniversary of the birth of N.V. Timofeeff-Ressovsky, an outstanding Russian biologist,
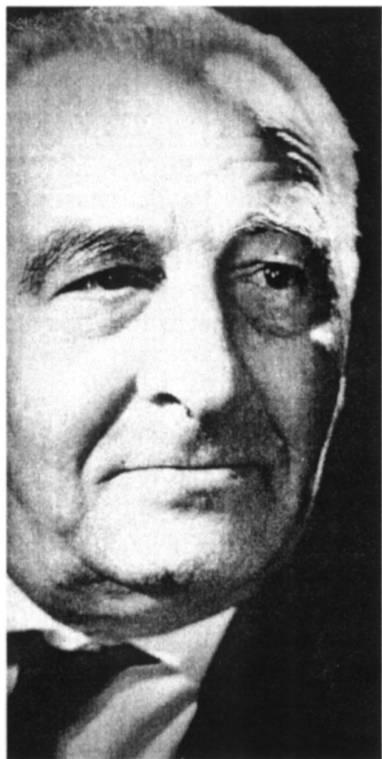
elected a member of many national academies, and awarded several international prizes. As time passes, we become increasingly aware of the magnitude of Timofeeff-Ressovsky's personality and talent and the significance of his contribution to the development of basic fields of the natural sciences, such as genetics, population theory, radiation biogeocenology, and the theories of evolution and the biosphere. The main role in his life, which was full of dramatic events, belonged to science. Timofeeff-Ressovsky asserted that the possibility of working in science exists under any circumstances, and taught his students how to do this work. Specialists in many research fields regard him as their teacher, having learned from him the essentials of natural sciences: consistent methodology, proficiency in formulating all principles and concepts strictly and precisely, and the ability to distinguish "significant from insignificant." The international community honored Timofeeff-Ressovsky's contribution to science by including the 100th anniversary of his birthday in the UNESCO list of important dates. Giving tribute to the most prominent of contemporary biologists and a striking personality who lived among us, the editorial board of our journal has included in this issue several papers devoted to Timofeeff-Ressovsky's life and work and papers dealing with studies in the fields on which his attention was focused when he worked at the Institute of Biology in the Urals.

Academician V.N. Bol'shakov,
Editor-in-Chief