

----- International Federation News -----

----- □ Obituary -----

----- Professor GENICH KATO passed away in the evening of 1 May 1979, at the age of 89. He

was born in Okayama Prefecture on 11 February 1890, entered Kyoto Imperial University Medical School in 1912, and was graduated in 1916 with honors and recognition from the Emperor for outstanding achievements. He studied physiology under Professor Hideo-urnaru Ishikawa for two years and was then invited to the faculty of the new Keio University Medical School. Under his direction 237 students earned degrees of Doctor of Medical Sciences before he retired in 1960 after 42 years of teaching. Thirty-eight of his students became university professors.

Professor Kato's research over more than 12 years proved, contrary to prior belief, that excitation is transmitted without decrement, even under narcosis. His proof required isolation of single muscle and nerve fibers. In 1935 Pavlov invited him to demonstrate his physiological work. One pupil, Dr. Tasaki, investigated the nodes of Ranvier using such single nerve fibers.

Professor Kato received many awards and honorary degrees, was the founder of Microphysiology, and an honorary member of the American Physiological Society, IBRO, and other societies. In 1965 he was vice-president of IUPS, and chairman of the IUPS Congress in Tokyo.

Yasuji Katsuki