

## LAUDATIO

*Prof. Dr. J. Hoorens*

Prof. emerit. Rudolf Fankhauser was born in Switzerland, in the Canton of Bern. He became doctor in veterinary medicine in 1945 at the University of Bern. He spent shorter or longer periods of post-graduate education in many places of his home country and abroad, f.i. from January 1948 to spring 1949 in Alfort/Paris and afterwards some months at the Veterinary School of Vienna.

On from 1945, he was a research fellow of prof. Dr. med. E. Frauchiger at the Department of comparative Neuropathology in Bern. In 1952 he worked at the well known Bunge Institute of Prof. Dr. Ludo van Bogaert in Antwerp. Between 1962 and 1968, he was in the U.S.A. for 4 periods of several months each, mainly at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia and at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, Washington DC.

After his promotion to private-docent for comparative neuropathology in 1951, he became Professor extraordinarius in 1955 and ordinarius in 1966. Besides his occupation with comparative neurology, he was also active in the Ambulatory Clinic during many years. He was Dean of his Faculty and was Rector of the Berne University during the period 1980-81.

His performance made that he became Doctor honoris causa of the Universities of Torino, Hannover, Ghent and Philadelphia (Univ. of Pennsylvania).

Prof. Fankhauser was also interested in the history of veterinary medicine and published a number of papers mostly on the history of Swiss veterinary medicine. Therefore it was an excellent opportunity to propose our doctor honoris causa as a candidate for the Sarton-medal.

The Sarton committee agreed with the proposition and invited him for giving his lecture on "The development of veterinary medicine in Switzerland during the 19th century".