ISAAK YAKOVLEVICH POSTOVSKII (ON HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY)

Academician Isaak Yakovlevich Postovskii celebrated his 80th birthday on March 17, 1978.

Academician Postovskii was born in Odessa and received his chemical education in the München Technical University, where his first studies (on the chemistry of porphyrins) were carried out under the supervision of Nobel laureate H. Fischer.

In 1926 at the age of 28 Academician Postovskii arrived in Sverdlovsk and from that time on always linked his destiny with the Ural region and the Ural Polytechnic Institute (UPI). The Eastern Institute of Coal Chemistry, a branch of the All-Union Scientific-Research Pharmaceutical-Chemistry Institute, and the Institute of Chemistry of the Ural Scientific Center were created with his direct participation and supervision.

In the 50 years during which Academician Postovskii headed the department of organic chemistry of UPI he created a large school of organic chemists. A total of 67 masters and seven doctoral dissertations were defended under his supervision. He also published more than 300 scientific papers and obtained dozens of author's certificates for inventions.

The research accomplished by Academician Postovskii has made a fundamental contribution to the development of the theory of organic chemistry. He shed light on problems involving the structures and colors of a number of natural pigments and synthetic dyes of the formazan type. He also made detailed studies of nitrogen-, sulfur-, and oxygen-containing heterocycles, established the interrelationship between the structures and biological activities in these series, and investigated the problems in the tautomerism and dual reactivities of a number of heteroaromatic structures. In addition, he examined the effect of annelation and the introduction of heteroatoms on the properties of cyclic systems and obtained new data pertinent to the problems of nucleophilic substitution of hydrogen in the heteroaromatic ring.

Academician Postovskii's interests are not, of course, limited to the chemistry of heterocycles. For years he has been engaged in the study of condensed hydrocarbons, and his research on the chemistry of organofluorine compounds has been deservedly recognized.

At the end of the thirties, Academician Postovskii became interested in the synthesis of sulfonamide compounds. In 1938 he and L. N. Goldyrev synthesized an original sulfonamide

Translated from Khimiya Geterotsiklicheskikh Soedinenii, No. 2, pp. 276-277, February, 1978.

 0009-3122/78/1402-0230$07.50

preparation — sul'fidin — and during World War II in the Sverdlovsk Pharmaceutical-Chemical Plant he instituted the production of a series of sulfonamide preparations that saved the lives of many thousands of wounded soldiers of the Soviet Army. From that point on Academician Postovskii continued his research on the synthesis of medicinals, occupying himself with the search for antituberculous, antitumorigenic, antiradiation, and detoxifying preparations. The preparations "larusan," "metilftivazid," and "suktsimer" have been incorporated in medical practice.

Academician Postovskii is an outstanding educator and a talented scientific organizer who conveys his knowledge and scientific style to young scientists. Following in his footsteps, all of his students have become enthusiasts of science who are staunchly devoted to their scientific endeavors.

For his outstanding scientific activity Academician Postovskii has been awarded the Order of Lenin, the Order of the October Revolution, three Orders of the Red Banner of Labor, and the Badge of Honor.

Academician Postovskii has twice received the State Prize of the USSR, and in 1952 he was awarded the title "Honoured Scientist and Technologist of the RSFSR." In 1970 he was elected academician of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR.

The editorial board of Khimiya Geterotsiklicheskikh Soedinenii and numerous scientists cordially congratulate Academician Postovskii on his 80th birthday and wish him good health and new creative successes.

MOST IMPORTANT PAPERS BY I. YA. POSTOVSKII ON THE CHEMISTRY OF HETEROCYCLIC COMPOUNDS

1. I. Ya. Postovskii (Postovsky) and F. J. Kogh, "Uber das grüne Stoffevechselprodukt des Bacillus chloroachin," 24, 19 (1924).
2. L. N. Goldyrev and I. Ya. Postovskii, "Structure and pharmacological activity of substances containing the SO_2NHR group," Zh. Prikl. Khim., No. 2, 316 (1938).
3. Yu. N. Sheinker, I. Ya. Postovskii, N. G. Voronina, and V. V. Kushkin, "Tautomerism of some derivatives of heterocyclic compounds," Zh. Fiz. Khim., 31, No. 8, 1745 (1937).
4. R. O. Matevosyan, I. Ya. Postovskii, and A. K. Chirkov, "Research on the chemistry of free radicals of the hydrazine series," Zh. Obshch. Khim., 29, No. 10, 3186 (1959).
5. N. N. Vereshchagina, I. Ya. Postovskii, and S. L. Mertsalov, "New instance of hydrolytic cleavage of the pyrimidine ring of quinazoline," Zh. Obshch. Khim., 34, 1689 (1964).
6. I. Ya. Postovskii and N. B. Smirnova, "New instances of covalent hydration and cleavage of the pyrimidine ring," Dokl. Akad. Nauk SSSR, 170, No. 3, 604 (1966).
7. Yu. A. Sedov, N. P. Bednyagina, and I. Ya. Postovskii, "New instance of the spontaneous formation of formazans," Zh. Obshch. Khim., No. 1, 139 (1967).
8. N. P. Bednyagina, I. Ya. Postovskii, A. D. Garnovskii, and O. A. Osipov, "Hetarylformazans," Usp. Khim., 44, 1052 (1975).
9. O. N. Chupakhin and I. Ya. Postovskii, "Nucleophilic substitution of hydrogen in aromatic systems," Usp. Khim., 45, 908 (1976).
10. K. I. Pashkevich, G. B. Afanas'eva, E. G. Kovalev, and I. Ya. Postovskii, "Research on the chemistry of phenoxazines. Effect of annelation on the electronic structures and electronic spectra of phenoxazines," Khim. Geterotsikl. Soedin., No. 10, 1316 (1970).
11. B. K. Sadybakasov, Yu. N. Sheinker, Yu. T. Struchkov, V. E. Shklover, I. B. Lundina, and I. Ya. Postovskii, "Molecular and crystal structures of sterically strained dithiazolopyridazines and ditriazolyls. Part I. 3,3'-Dimethylbis(sym-triazolo[4,3-b,3',4'-f]pyridazine)," Zh. Strukt. Khim., 18, No. 1, 112 (1977).
12. E. G. Kovalev, K. I. Klopotov, and I. Ya. Postovskii, "Spatial orientation of benzofluorenones in the synthesis of dibenzorubicenes," Zh. Org. Khim., 13, 386 (1977).
13. O. N. Chupakhin, V. N. Charushin, I. M. Sosonkin, E. G. Kovalev, G. P. Kalb, and I. Ya. Postovskii, "Role of one-electron transfer in reactions with arylamines," Khim. Geterotskl. Soedin., No. 5, 690 (1977).
14. Yu. P. Azev, G. A. Mokrushina, and I. Ya. Postovskii, "Nucleophilic substitution in 2-nitro-3-halopyridines," Khim. Geterotsikl. Soedin., No. 6, 792 (1974).
15. G. A. Mokrushina, I. Ya. Postovskii, and G. K. Kotovskaya, "Syntheses of bisheterocycles on the basis of 2-hydrazino-3-aminopyridine," Khim. Geterotsikl. Soedin., No. 3, 411 (1977).