

ON THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JOURNAL CHEMISTRY OF HETEROCYCLIC COMPOUNDS

É. Lukevits

The first issue of the journal *Khimiya Geterotsiklicheskikh Soedinenii* was published in Riga in January, 1965. The English translation, *Chemistry of Heterocyclic Compounds*, soon began to be published in the US. We are now marking 30 years of publication of our journal.

More than 10,000 original articles and letters to the editor written by scientists working in universities and institutes in 74 cities in different countries have been published in *Khimiya Geterotsiklicheskikh Soedinenii*.

Like its doubles of the same age — *Journal of Heterocyclic Chemistry* in the US and *Heterocycles* in Japan, *Khimiya Geterotsiklicheskikh Soedinenii* has been the original center of heterocycle chemists first in the USSR, then in CIS, Eastern Europe, and the Baltic countries. Regular publication of scientific reviews (289, 19 of them in 1994) in the field of chemistry of heterocyclic compounds became the tradition of the journal. The authors of these reviews are heterocycle chemists in Russia, Ukraine, Latvia, USA, Japan, Germany, Sweden, the Netherlands, and other countries. Some of the reviews were published as topical collections (*Advances in the Chemistry of Heterocycles*, 1976; *Five-Member Aromatic Heterocycles*, 1979; *Theoretical and Applied Problems in the Chemistry of Heterocycles*, 1985), and a special issue of the journal (No. 300) was dedicated to them in 1992. In 1992, the journal began publication of reviews in English also. Such reviews not only generalize the data obtained but also stimulate further research in the chemistry of heterocycles. In view of this, the editorial staff of the journal decided to conclude the thirtieth year of operation with a special issue after inviting representatives of many leading heterocycle chemists in Russia, Latvia, the Netherlands, and Sweden to write reviews.

The present issue includes 8 reviews by 18 chemists in Wageningen, Lund, Moscow, and Riga. The reviews reflect the results of studies on transformation of nitrogen-containing heterocycles conducted in Wageningen Agricultural University over 30 years and the development of research in the chemistry of thiophene at Lund University over 40 years, as well as many problems in the chemistry of nitrogen-containing heterocycles — catalytic synthesis, including stereoselective, chemical and microbiological transformations of functional groups, and incorporation and transformation of sulfur-containing substituents.

In the last three years, *Khimiya Geterotsiklicheskikh Soedinenii* has become more independent in its actions, but has simultaneously experienced and is still experiencing all of the difficulties of this transitional period. The publisher of the journal is now the Latvian Institute of Organic Synthesis. All work on preparing the journal for press, including computerized typesetting of the text and equations, is done at the Institute. At the same time, the experienced and dedicated board of scientific editors has been retained.

Khimiya Geterotsiklicheskikh Soedinenii will continue to publish scientific articles, reviews, letters to the editor, notes, and reviews of new books, news items on scientific conferences and bibliographic reviews of the latest studies in the chemistry of heterocyclic compounds. Communications concerning new reagents, materials, and practically valuable products based on heterocyclic compounds, including metallocycles and their biological properties, are also accepted.

In beginning the thirty-first year of publication, the editorial board wishes to thank all authors, editors, and reviewers for contributing to the creation of the journal, hopes for future fruitful collaboration with the chemists who have already published in *Khimiya Geterotsiklicheskikh Soedinenii*, and welcomes articles by new authors.