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The Sixth Korshak's Readings (Moscow, January 11-12, 1994)

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The Sixth Korshak's Readings (Moscow, January 11–12, 1994)

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Traditionally, Korshak's Readings were as always held around the birthday of Professor Vasilii V. Korshak who was a founder of the synthetic polymer school in the former Soviet Union and was at the head of polymer science there for a long time. Among his disciples, there are 200 Philosophy Doctors and 40 Doctors of Science. This year, the readings were dedicated to the 85th anniversary of Professor Korshak's birthday (January 9, 1909) and organized by the Scientific Council on Macromolecules of the Division of Pure and Applied Chemistry of the Russian Academy of Sciences, the Nesmeyanov Institute of Elemento-organic Compounds of the Russian Academy of Sciences (IEOC), and the Mendeleev Russian University of Chemistry and Technology. The organizing committee involved the well-known colleagues and disciples of Professor V. V. Korshak. These included Professors A. L. Rusanov (Chairman), A. A. Askadsky, P. M. Valetsky, V. A. Vasnev, S. V. Vinogradova, Ya. S. Vygodsky, V. A. Davankov, V. V. Kireev and A. R. Khokhlov. About 100 scientists from 15 research centers contributed to the conferences.

This year's conference consisted of presentation and wide discussion of nine plenary lectures of the leading experts in the chemistry and physics of polymers. The opening remarks were made by Professor Mark E. Vol'pin, director of the Institute of Elemento-organic Compounds who focused on the contribution of Professor Korshak in the development of the theory of polymer science and its practical application.

The lecture of Professor K. Matyjaszewski (Carnegie Mellon University, USA) "Synthesis of Well Defined Inorganic and Organometallic Polymers" was of great interest and was widely discussed. Professor L. M. Bronstein (IEOC) presented the results he and his colleague, Professor P. M. Valetsky, derived from their research on mobilization of organometallic compounds on polymeric matrices. The properties and catalytic activity of organometallic polymers were considered in detail. This study attracted the attention of research centers from companies in USA, Western Europe and Japan, some of whom successfully developed cooperative relationships with IEOC's scientists.

Professor M. Moller (Ulm University, Germany) considered some concepts for nanometer architectures with polysilylene copolymers, while Professor V. A. Davankov and Doctor M. P. Tsyurupa focused on the problems and perspectives of synthesis and application of hypercrosslinked polystyrene.

The latest achievements in the field of synthesis and the properties of fluorinated poly(arylether) and self-crosslinkable fluorinated poly(arylether)s were discussed in the lecture of Professor F. Mercer (Raychem Corporation, USA). The lecture of Professor A. A. Askadsky was of undoubted interest due to the presentation of the most recent achievements of the author in the development of highcrosslinked polymer networks with unusual properties. This research meets wide interest and attention from various Western companies.

The lecture entitled "Polyphosphazerenes: Unique Structure and Specific Rheology" was given by Professor N. A. Plate (Director of the Institute of Petrochemical Synthesis of the Russian Academy of Sciences); Professor V. G. Kulichikhin (Laboratory Head of the same institution); and Doctor D. R. Tur (IEOC). The results obtained by the authors open great perspectives for further application of polyphosphazenes.

The two last lectures were given by Doctor S. N. Salazkin "Polyarylenephthalimidines" and Doctor V. A. Pankratov "New Principles of Condensation Polymer Stabilization Using Bi- and Polyfunctional Consolidants," both authors of the IEOC staffs.

All the speakers and scientists who participated in the discussion emphasized that the research and ideas of Professor Korshak defined the development of science in the area of chemistry and physics of polymers to date.

The next Korshak's Readings will be held in January of 1995.