

MEN OF SOVIET SCIENCE

ANDREI KAPITONOVICH KRASIN

(ON HIS SIXTIETH BIRTHDAY; AFTER FORTY YEARS OF SCIENTIFIC WORK)



May 21, 1971 marked the sixtieth birthday and forty years of scientific work of Andrei Kapitonovich Krasin, a member of the editorial board of the journal *Inzhenerno-Fizicheskii Zhurnal*, a member of the Presidium of the Academy of Sciences of the Belorussian SSR, the director of the Institute of Nuclear Power Engineering of the Academy of Sciences of the Belorussian SSR, an honored scientist and Technologist of the Academy of Sciences of the Belorussian SSR, a Lenin prize laureate, and an Academician of the Academy of Sciences of the Belorussian SSR.

A. K. Krasin was born in 1911 in Tomsk. In 1934 he graduated from Tomsk State University (the physics-mathematics branch) with a major in physics. From 1934 to 1940 he worked at the Siberian Physicotechnical Institute, where in 1939 he defended his Candidate's Dissertation.

Besides his scientific work as an assistant professor, he also conducted pedagogical work at Tomsk State University.

From 1941 to 1945 A. K. Krasin was at the front during the Great Patriotic War, and for his military services he was awarded the Order of the Patriotic War of Second Class and two medals.

In January of 1945 in accordance with a government resolution, he was recalled from the active army, and directed to work in the laboratory of Academician I. V. Kurchatov.

From 1946 to 1956 A. K. Krasin worked as the assistant director for the scientific department, and then as director and chief of the scientific branch of the Physico-Power Institute in Obninsk. At the same time he was one of the supervisors and participants in the creation of the world's first atomic electric power station, for which he was rewarded with the highest government award – the Order of Lenin, and he was one of the first academics to be honored with the title of laureate, which was only established in the USSR beginning with the Lenin Prize.

During these years of work at the Obninsk Physico-Power Institute, A. K. Krasin carried out a number of investigations connected with the use of beryllium in atomic reactors as a moderator. As a result, in 1954, the world's first beryllium reactor was constructed and started up. The data of the investigations

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and operation of the experimental reactor in 1958 were reported by A. K. Krasin at the Second International Geneva Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, and they obtained a high evaluation from a large number of scientists from foreign countries.

A. K. Krasin was a pioneer and scientific leader in the development of reactors with nuclear superheating of vapor for the Kurchatov Beloyarskii atomic electric power plant.

At the same time, A. K. Krasin, as the scientific leader participated in the creation of the first mobile atomic electric power plant (TÉS-3). The TÉS-3 model and the paper describing it were presented at the Third International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy in Geneva.

Besides the enumerated studies, Krasin as scientific leader participated in the development of a number of atomic power installations with graphite-sodium reactors.

In 1955 he successfully defended his doctoral dissertation and was awarded the academic degree Doctor of Physicomathematical Sciences. In 1957 he was awarded the title of professor.

In 1960 he was elected a Member of the Academy of Sciences of the Belorussian SSR, and headed the Department of Atomic Energy of the Power Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the Belorussian SSR.

From 1962 to 1969 A. K. Krasin worked as secretary of the Department of Physicotechnical Sciences of the Academy of Sciences of the Belorussian SSR, and beginning in June 1965 he was appointed director of the newly organized Institute of Nuclear Energy of the Academy of Sciences of the Belorussian SSR.

Under the guidance of and with the direct participation of A. K. Krasin at the Institute two essentially new scientific directions were formulated: the use of dissociating coolants in nuclear energy and energy of nuclear fuel for the realization of radiation-chemical processes and radiation modification of materials.

These studies were directed toward the substantial improvement of the technical-economic indices of atomic electric power stations and the significant increase of the effectiveness of use of atomic energy in the national economy.

At the institute a powerful experimental base was created, and skilled scientific personnel were trained.

The results of the scientific work of A. K. Krasin made a considerable contribution to native and world atomic energy. He is the author of more than 300 scientific works. He conducts much work on the training of scientific personnel. He has prepared 35 candidates and six doctors of science.

A. K. Krasin carries out much scientific-organizational and public work: he is a Member of the Presidium of the Academy of Sciences of the Belorussian SSR (AS BSSR), the assistant chairman of the section of the scientific council of "Vysokotemperaturnaya Teplofizika" of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, chairman of the council on problems of the AS BSSR on the use of atomic energy, a member of the academic council on the awarding of academic degrees at the Institute of Heat- and Mass-Exchange of AS BSSR.

A. K. Krasin is a member of the editorial board of the journals "Atomnaya Énergiya" and "Teploénergetika," a member of the editorial council "Inzhenerno-Fizicheskii Zhurnal" and Editor-in-Chief of the journal "Izvestiya AN BSSR" (seriya fiziko-énergeticheskikh nauk).

He is an active propagandist for scientific knowledge: he regularly appears in print, on the radio and television, and also before collectives of various organizations and enterprises both in the Belorussian SSR, and also elsewhere.

In 1971 Andrei Kapitonovich was selected a delegate of the Supreme Soviet of the Belorussian SSR.

For his great service in the development of science and technology, and in connection with his sixtieth birthday, Andrei Kapitonovich Krasin was awarded the Order of the October Revolution.

The editorial board of Inzhenerno-Fizicheskii Zhurnal warmly congratulates Andréi Kapitonovich on his sixtieth birthday and on his high government awards, and wishes him health and further successes for the good of Soviet science.