

ALEKSEI ALEKSANDROVICH POMERANTSEV

On March 21, 1979, the eminent Soviet scholar, Doctor of Physicomathematical Sciences, Professor A. A. Pomerantsev passed away.

Pomerantsev was born Sept. 18, 1896, in Moscow, in the family of a physician. After completing the gymnasium in 1915, he studied with the Physicomathematical Faculty of Moscow University, and was then called up for military duty. In 1917 Pomerantsev participated in revolutionary battles for the establishment of Soviet power in Moscow. In 1925 he completed Moscow State University and began his scientific and teaching activities in the laboratory of the State Petroleum Institute. Simultaneously, he served as an assistant at Moscow State University. Under the guidance of L. S. Leibenzon, Pomerantsev completed his first studies in heat transfer and hydraulics.

In 1932 Pomerantsev joined the molecular physics faculty of Moscow State University, where he remained until the final days of his life. In 1940 he successfully defended his doctoral dissertation on the theme "Thermal stresses in bodies of revolution of arbitrary form." He generalized the method of contour integration and provided a theoretical basis for a new technique for solving thermal-conductivity problems. His studies in this field were the basis for development of a technological process for cooling of railway rails in the steel industry. In 1945 Pomerantsev began his study of the development of compression discontinuities in rarefied gases.

A practical direction has been a characteristic feature of all his theoretical studies. His scientific activity was multifaceted and rich in fruitful discoveries and achievements. He published a relatively small number of studies, about 40, but each of them was remarkable for its depth and clarity.

His scientific work was closely connected with his teaching career. He offered various courses to Moscow State University students, and a portion of his lectures has been published. In 1974 his *Physical Principles of Heat and Mass Transfer and Physical Gas Dynamics* was published.

Pomerantsev's fruitful scientific, pedagogical, and social activities were valued highly by the party and government of our country. He was awarded medals and the Orders of Lenin and the Red Banner.

Aleksei Aleksandrovich Pomerantsev's entire life is a splendid example of service to his Soviet Motherland, and his bright memory will remain forever in the hearts of all who knew him.

The editorial college



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