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DEVELOPMENT OF CHEMISTRY IN TADZHIK SSR

RESEARCH AT TADZHIK AFFILIATE, ACADEMY OF SCIENCES USSR

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The conversion of the Tadzhik Affiliate, Academy of Sciences USSR, into the Academy of Sciences Tadzhik SSR is irrefutable proof of the fact that despite its relative youth, the affiliate has made some important contributions in various fields of science. This article, however, seeks to discuss only one aspect of the work conducted by the affiliate, i.e., the work of the Chemistry Institute, which was organized but 5 years ago.

The Chemistry Institute was formally dedicated in September 1945. Its personnel were immediately faced with important problems stemming from the demands of a rapidly expanding national economy. The primary problems had to do with a better understanding of the chemical composition of locally available crude oils, and with a clearer picture of the mineral wealth of the country.

During the early days of the institute, it set for itself a twofold purpose: (1) educational and carrying out theoretical research, and (2) carrying out research of a purely applied nature. It was also during the early days that the institute attained prominence in the scientific world in the light of the discovery of a new class of compounds in the field of organic chemistry which had application in the study of the chemistry of acetylenes. The institute was able not only to synthesize several of these new organic compounds which proved so valuable to the organic synthetics industry, but also was able to determine certain heretofore unknown chemical aspects of these compounds.

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In 1947, the institute faced a problem in that representatives of the mining industry demanded a more efficient method for leaching several types of metals out of ores. G. A. Bekhtel, a youthful scientific associate of the institute, developed a new method for processing various ores. This method has been examined by various specialists and they have recommended its immediate adoption into industrial practice.

Rapid advances are being made by the institute with respect to the study of the Tadzhik SSR's fuel resources. Z. L. Rumyantsev, Candidate in Chemical Sciences, and his associates have conducted studies in the republic's petroleum deposits. They studied not only the chemical characteristics of petroleums from old oil fields, but also the petroleums from newly opened fields, which petroleums heretofore had not been submitted to chemical analysis. As a result of this work it was possible to establish tables showing the physicochemical characteristics not only of the petroleums, but also of their distillates.

Another group of young scientists, including Z. I. Pevzner, M. V. Voynalovich, A. G. Nikolayev, conducted research on coal obtained from one of the larger coal fields of Central Asia. These scientists used a well known and generally utilized method for dressing coal, and applied the method with several modifications to dressing coals found in newly discovered coal fields.

The results of research being conducted on coal and petroleum will serve as the basis for future industrial utilization of these items.

Since its organization, the institute has maintained close liaison with the industrial enterprises of the republic. Thus, this relationship, though perhaps weak in certain respects nevertheless has had a twofold effect: it has aided the operations of the industrial enterprises and it has aided the institute in determining its research trends.

It is interesting to note that the institute's personnel is composed primarily of persons trained by the institute in scientific research activities. Gradually, the institute is graduating classes of students who are to be assigned as associates to the institute. It is hoped that the institute will eventually take the place of the chemical institutes of the Academy of Sciences USSR in Moscow, which up to now conducted the aspirants' classes. As a matter of fact, some of the institute's leading scientists, L. Sh. Radzhabov, Kh. P. Radzhabova, and S. B. Basitova, are currently taking their aspirant training in Moscow.

L. Sh. Radzhabov completed his doctorate's training and submitted and defended his dissertation for the Doctor of Chemical Sciences degree; Kh. N. Radzhabova defended her dissertation for the degree of Candidate in Chemical Sciences. In the near future, Saodat Basitova will defend her candidate's dissertation. The institute also sent I. U. Numanov, A. Suleymanov, and Kh. Madaminov to Moscow to train at institutes of the Academy of Sciences USSR.

Despite the fact that the Chemistry Institute is the youngest institute within the Tadzhik Affiliate, it will become one of the most important ones with the conversion of the affiliate into the independent Academy of Sciences Tadzhik SSR.

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LECTURES ON SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS OF TADZHIK SSR

B. Norov

In connection with the conversion of the Tadzhik Affiliate, Academy of Sciences USSR, into the Academy of Sciences Tadzhik SSR, the Committee on Cultural Education, Council of Ministers Tadzhik SSR, is conducting a series of lectures to impress the peoples, specifically the scientists of Tadzhik SSR with the scientific achievements in that republic.

Lectures will be delivered by Candidate in Physicomathematical Sciences Zakharov, Candidate in Philological Sciences Uspenskaya, Professor Yuspova, Candidate in Historical Sciences Iskandarov, Candidate in Philological Sciences Tabarov, and Candidate in Historical Sciences Mulladzhanov. -- B. Norov

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