

ACADEMICIAN IVAN P. BARDIN

(OBITUARY)

On January 7th, 1960, in Moscow, Ivan Pavlovich Bardin, prominent metallurgist, notable scientist, and Vice President of the USSR Academy of Sciences, died in his 77th year.

Bardin was born in 1883 to a peasant family in the village Shirokii Ustup in Saratov Province. After graduating from the Kiev Polytechnic Institute, he spent a year and a half as a laborer in the Chicago steel mills.

Upon returning to Russia in 1912, Bardin was employed in the largest steel plants of Southern Russia. In those early years he, together with the well-known blast furnace expert M. K. Kurako, dreamed of building a large, fully mechanized and efficient Russian steel industry.

His great accomplishment was the rebuilding of the Soviet iron and steel industry in 1922-1928. During the first five-year plan, Bardin directed the construction of the huge Kuznetsk Metallurgical Combine in Siberia which was built and put in operation in record time. In 1932 he was elected a full member of the USSR Academy of Sciences. From 1937 onward he was employed in leading posts in ferrous metallurgy and he always supported the new and progressive.

During the second world war, Bardin contributed much to the transfer of the metallurgical industry to the East and to the increase of iron and steel production there. He also participated actively in the rebuilding of the plants destroyed during the German occupation.

Bardin directed many large-scale research operations in connection with complex problems of ferrous metallurgy such as the use of oxygen in blast furnaces and steel manufacture, continuous casting of steel and many other important topics, as well as investigations of the natural resources of various regions of the USSR; he encouraged the basic trend in metallurgical production toward maximum use of continuous processes.

He had a great part in establishing the production of titanium and heat-resistant alloys in our country. He was also instrumental in increasing the research volume on low alloy steels and metal for the railroads. There was no technical problem in the ferrous metallurgy industry in which Bardin did not take a creative part.

He was the organizer and full-time director of two large scientific research institutes—the Metallurgy Institute of the A. Sci. USSR and the Central Iron and Steel Research Institute, where under his direction and with his participation, a large number of important investigations were performed. In 1942 Bardin was elected vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences and he remained at this post until his death. He was also a member of the Academies of Science of Hungary, (Eastern) Germany, Czechoslovakia and Rumania; in 1959 he received the Brinell Gold Medal from the Swedish Academy of Technical Sciences. He gave much work and energy to the preparation of scientific cadres and educated thousands of metallurgical engineers. He was also one of the organizers of our journal.

Academician Bardin was elected a deputy of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and received many medals and other outstanding honors, too numerous to mention. He will always be in our memory.

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