

OBITUARY

ANATOLII MATVEEVICH BORZDYKA



At age 40

On May 24, 1990, Anatolii Matveevich Borzdyka, a prominent scientist in the field of metallurgy, died at the age of 81.

After graduation from the N. E. Bauman Higher Technical College in Moscow, A. M. Borzdyka worked at the Institute of Steels and Alloys, Heat Treatment Department as an engineer-researcher. Under the guidance of N. A. Minkevich, the department's head, A. M. Borzdyka established the country's first Creep Lab for the investigation of the mechanical properties of metals at high temperatures. Since then all of Anatolii Matveevich's scientific activity was devoted to one of the most important fields in modern technology — heat-resistant materials.

The first Soviet monograph in heat-resistant steels was published by A. M. Borzdyka in 1936.

Thus, A. M. Borzdyka is recognized as a founder of this field in Soviet Union.

From 1930 to 1950 A. M. Borzdyka worked at the Institute of Steels and Alloys, interrupted only by the war when he was drafted into the Far East Navy.

From 1950 and for the rest of his life A. M. Borzdyka worked at the I. P. Bardin Central Scientific Research Institute of Ferrous Metallurgy.

Sixty years of his life were devoted to one subject. Even though he did a great deal, he only achieved moderate notoriety. This was due to the remarkable modesty of this prominent scientist.

It is impossible to list all that was done by Anatolii Matveevich: how many steels and alloys were developed, how many students were educated, and how many books were written. The number is enormous. Most of A. M. Borzdyka's works were devoted to such industries as metallurgy, power mechanical engineering, and aviation.

As Anatolii Matveevich's legacy I would like to choose one thing: the heat-resistant alloy ÉI 893 created by him with Yu. V. Latyshev. In contrast to the period's widely used nimonick-type alloys based on Ni-Cr strengthened by γ' -phase fractional isolation, the new alloy was created using additional application of tungsten and molybdenum for strengthening.

Alloy ÉI 893 displays a higher heat-resistance than nimonick-type alloys and substantially surpasses them in technological efficiency.

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For this reason, even after a quarter-century, this alloy is still widely used in power mechanical engineering. A. M. Borzdyka wrote a great article (see Metal Science and Heat Treatment, No. 3, 1990) about this alloy on the anniversary of its formulation and called it his swan song. And, sadly, it was.

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