

## OBITUARY

IN MEMORY OF VIKTOR STEPANOVICH FEDOROV

The Editorial Board of the Journal



Viktor Stepanovich Fedorov, former Minister of the Petroleum-Refining and Petrochemical Industry of the USSR and recipient of a special Soviet pension, died on February 1, 1990, after a prolonged illness. An outstanding man, a prominent organizer of science and industry, and an untiring public figure has died.

Viktor Stepanovich Fedorov was born in Armavir on May 29, 1912, in a worker's family. In 1926, after completing a seven-year school, he began his working activity as a fitter's apprentice in the oil fields of Groznyi. In 1928 and 1929, he studied in a school for drivers and in a secondary school. In 1929, he entered the Groznyi Petroleum Institute and was successfully graduated from it in 1932 with a degree of engineering. Having manifested aptitude for scientific work, he remained in the graduate school and was graduated from it in 1937 after having defended a candidate's dissertation. In the same year, he was chosen head of the Department of Petroleum Chemistry and Technology of the Institute and was appointed assistant professor.

Comrade V. S. Fedorov was named Director of the Groznyi Petroleum Scientific-Research Institute in 1938, Deputy Head of the Grozneftekombinat Groznyi Petroleum Combine in 1940, Manager of the Grozneftezavody Groznyi Petroleum Refineries Trust in 1941, Head of Grozneftekombinat (the country's largest petroleum combine, which was transformed into the Grozneftezavody Organization in 1945) in 1943, Deputy Minister of the Petroleum Industry of the Southern and Western Regions in 1946, Deputy Minister of the Petroleum Industry in 1948, and First Deputy Minister of the Petroleum Industry in 1951.

In 1957, after reorganization of the administration of industry and construction, V. S. Fedorov was sent to work as Chairman of the Council of the National Economy of the Bashkir Economic Administrative Region, one of the country's largest centers of chemical, petroleum, and petroleum-refining industries. Soon, after the resolutions of the May (1958) Plenary Session of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) regarding accelerated development of the chemical industry, he was named Chairman of the State Committee of the Council of Ministers of the USSR for Chemistry, later transformed into the State Committee for Chemistry under the State Planning Committee of the USSR, and later he was named Chairman of the State Committee of the Petroleum-Refining and Petrochemical Industry under the State Planning Committee of the USSR. In 1965, V. S. Fedorov headed the Ministry of the Petroleum-Refining and Petrochemical Industry of the USSR.

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Under his direct leadership, new trends were developed in the design of processes for petroleum refining, large-capacity organic synthesis, and the manufacture of fuels, oils, additives, rubbers, and tires, new methods were introduced for the design of petrochemical complexes and individual processes and for the scale-up and combination of such processes, and ecological problems were dealt with and solved. Viktor Stepanovich Fedorov gave much effort and energy to improving scientific-research and design work in the branch and to strengthening the link between science and industry.

Viktor Stepanovich Fedorov is the author of more than 100 scientific publications and inventions. Widely known are his books "Tubular Furnaces," "Evaporation and Fractional Distillation," "Investigation of Groznyi Crude Oils," "Promising Petroleum Refineries of the USSR," "Problems in the Development and Distribution of the Petroleum-Refining and Petrochemical Industry," "Ways to Lower Costs in the Construction of New Petroleum Refineries," "Problems in Studying the Composition of New Petroleum Refineries," "Problems in Studying the Composition of Crude Oils as Feedstock for Petrochemical Processing," and "Pyrolysis Processes for Hydrocarbon Feedstock."

For his exemplary fulfillment of the targets of the party and government of the USSR during World War II in providing petroleum products to the front and the national economy, V. S. Fedorov was awarded the title Hero of Socialist Labor. He was awarded five Orders of Lenin, Orders of the October Revolution and the Red Banner of Labor, and many medals. Twice he was awarded State Prizes of the USSR: in 1942 for development and implementation of a method for increasing the production of aviation gasoline in existing facilities and plants and in 1948 for radical improvement of a method for manufacture (design of Soviet catalytic cracking) of petroleum products providing significant expansion of the reserves of high-octane gasolines.

In 1939, Viktor Stepanovich Fedorov became a member of the CPSU. He was elected a candidate for membership in the Central Committee of the CPSU at the 22nd, 23rd, and 24th Congresses of the CPSU, a member of the Central Committee of the CPSU at the 25th and 26th Congresses, and a member to the Supreme Soviet of the USSR from the 5th to 11th convocations.

The fond memory of Viktor Stepanovich Fedorov will always remain in our hearts.