

OBITUARY

GRIGORII KALISTRATOVICH YAGOLA

On September 17, 1989, at the age of 77, the prominent scientist-metrologist and specialist in the field of magnetic measurements, professor, and doctor of Technical Sciences Grigorii Kalistratovich Yagola died suddenly.

In 1933, after graduating from Kiev State University, G. K. Yagola came as a post-graduate student to the magnetic laboratory of the All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Metrology (VNIIM). Since then he devoted all his life to the development of Soviet magnetic metrology. G. K. Yagola's scientific activity was interrupted only once: during World War II, when, as a commander of a unit of engineers, he defended his native country.

Working at VNIIM G. K. Yagola participated in the establishment of the first State standard magnetic induction unit, as well as the establishment of a range of other standards and measurement of high-fidelity instruments. In 1951 he headed the magnetic lab. From 1953 to 1963 Yagola was a director of the Khar'kov State Institute of Measures and Measuring Instruments. There he was in charge of the research in the absolute measurement of the fundamental physical constants of gyromagnetic proton interaction in a strong magnetic field. This work was widely recognized in the Soviet Union as well as abroad. Its results were used for the determination of the numeric value of the gyromagnetic proton interaction endorsed by the International Committee on Weights and Measures for international metrological practice.

From 1963 to his last days, G. K. Yagola worked at the All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Physiotechanical and Radiotechnical Measurements, where he founded the strong magnetic field measurements lab. The most important achievements of that lab, attained under Yagola's guidance, were the establishment of the special State standard magnetic induction unit in the range 1-10 T and laying the foundation of metrology of strong magnetic fields in modern science.

G. K. Yagola actively participated in scientific-organizational work and paid close attention to training specialists. He was a member of several special awarding committees, associate chairman of the Scientific and Technical Council for measuring magnetic fields of the State Standards Committee, Soviet Council of Ministers. For many years he was a member of the editorial board of "Measurement Techniques." G. K. Yagola created a scientific school in the field of magnetic field metrology and many of his students and followers now successfully work in this field.

G. K. Yagola authored about 100 scientific works. His fruitful scientific activity continued to his last days: Yagola's monograph "Measuring Magnetic Characteristics of Modern Magnetically Hard Materials" was published in 1989. He was full of new creative ideas.

A member of the Soviet Communist Party, G. K. Yagola was a communist of high moral principals. Many times he was elected to different Party and Soviet organizations. G. K. Yagola's services were awarded by the State.

All who knew G. K. Yagola respected him for his kindness, sincerity, and desire to help and to share his knowledge, and experience.

With G. K. Yagola's death Soviet metrology lost a scientist whose contribution to the establishment of the Soviet standards is hard to overestimate. His works and ideas play a very important part in the development of magnetic measurement techniques and metrology.

The Editorial Board extends its deepest sympathies to his family and friends.