50 Years of *Neftekhimiya*

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Dear authors and readers!

Half a century has passed since the publication of the first issue of *Neftekhimiya* (Petroleum Chemistry), a journal of the Russian Academy of Sciences, reporting original results of theoretical and experimental research in the field of petrochemical science and industry. During this period, the journal has published on its pages hundreds of interesting items concerning the topical problems of chemistry and technology of oil, gas, and other hydrocarbon feedstocks. They include not only the traditional subject matter of investigation into the chemical composition of oil, gas, gas condensates, the scientific principles of their processing, and organic and petrochemical synthesis techniques, but also a wide variety of materials on environmental problems in the petrochemical industry and environmental protection, chemical methods for enhancement of oil recovery and refinery yield, optimization of petrochemical processes, and current information on scientific and technical conferences and symposia on the aforementioned issues.

The founders of the journal were prominent Russian scholars, representing various areas of chemical science. The first editor-in-chief was Academy member Alexander Topchiev, an outstanding scientist and organizer of science. The first Editorial Board included P.I. Sanin, a deputy editor in chief; A.S. Eline, the executive secretary; A.N. Bashkirov; G.D. Halperin; K.F. Zhigach; B.A. Kazanskii; M.M. Kusakov; K.P. Lavrovsky; S.K. Makarov; M.F. Nagiyev; N.S. Nametkin; R.D. Obolentsev; A.D. Petrov; A.F. Plate; L.S. Polak; V.P. Sukhanov; N.I. Shuykin; and N.M. Emanuel.

The staff of the editorial board changed several times over the fifty years. Professor Pafnutii Ivanovich Sanin and Academician Habib Minachevich Minachev successively made the editor-in-chief during 1963–1988 and 1989–1999, respectively; from 2000

to date, the editor-in-chief is Academician Salambek Naibovich Khadzhiyev. Sitting in the editorial board at various times were well-known petroleum chemists, such as Al.A. Petrov, V.V. Kamzolkin, S.M. Loktev, Yu.B. Amerik, E.D. Radchenko, G.F. Bolshakov, and V.M. Frolov.

Selecting and preparing papers intended for publication, the journal, as an organ of the Academy of Sciences, prefers articles containing the results of basic research; nonetheless, the most important and relevant materials concerning the basics of applied studies are also published.

Over all these years, the journal has expanded the scope of international cooperation. Along with articles prepared by scientists from the CIS countries, works of scientists from Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Iran, China, and other countries have recently been published, and articles written in English may be published as received.

The journal is published by “Nauka” and “Pleiades Publishing” simultaneously in two languages, Russian and English (“Petroleum Chemistry”), and is distributed in the form of electronic versions. For example, 326 scientific papers were placed in the eLibrary in 2008, with the citation number and the impact factor being 1092 and 0.343, respectively. The number of subscriptions to the electronic version of the journal is constantly growing; it was 539 in 2009.

International Academic Publishing Company Nauka/Interperiodica awards annual prizes for the best publication of the year.

Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the journal, the editorial board greatly acknowledges all authors, subscribers, and readers for their participation in the work and attention to the journal, and looks forward to the same close and active cooperation in the future.