

# SIXTY YEARS OF "USPEKHI FIZICHESKIKH NAUK"

## To the Editorial Staff of the journal "Uspekhi Fizicheskikh Nauk"

The Presidium of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR congratulates the editors and all the staff workers and readers of the journal "Uspekhi Fizicheskikh Nauk" on the sixtieth anniversary of the appearance of the first issue of this journal.

The creation of a review journal for physics and associated sciences during the very first year of Soviet power reflected a general policy of the Soviet Government aimed at comprehensive development of the sciences and elevation of the country's cultural potential.

The history of the growth and development of all Soviet physics can be reconstructed by tracing the development of the journal "Uspekhi." This mission originally given the journal would appear more than modest by present day standards: in that difficult time, it was necessary to provide Soviet scientists with information on the new trends in physical science that were being developed rapidly in the West.

As theoretical and experimental physical research developed in our country, the journal did a creditable job in recording all steps along the sixty-year journey and reflecting the depth and scope of advanced Soviet science.

Today, with Soviet physics in one of the leading positions in the world and with the volume of scientific information increasing steadily, the review journal "Uspekhi Fizicheskikh Nauk" finds its importance greatly enhanced. A large amount of information concentrated in relatively brief review papers makes possible rapid familiarization with the latest advances in science and correct identification of promising directions for future studies. Further expansion of Soviet scientific manpower, timely preparation of succeeding generations of scientists, popularization of advances in physics, and familiarization of workers in related branches with these advances—these are the problems to whose solution the journal "Uspekhi Fizicheskikh Nauk" contributes meritoriously.

The Presidium of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR is confident that the journal "Uspekhi Fizicheskikh Nauk" will promote the development of Soviet Physics, the strengthening of its bonds to related areas of the sciences, and practical use of its achievements in the national economy as successfully in the future as it has in the past.

PRESIDIUM OF THE USSR ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

It has now been sixty years since Soviet physicists received the first issue of the new journal "Uspekhi Fizicheskikh Nauk." The years of the social revolution and the emergence of the new world were also years of revolution in physics, years in which cardinal new physical concepts and ideas made their appearance.

The new journal was founded with the noble purpose of providing a means of familiarization with the latest advances in physics. It has accomplished this purpose successfully. It would now be impossible to imagine a physicist who worked without consulting materials published in "Uspekhi Fizicheskikh Nauk." Review papers on specific trends in physical research, which are oriented to specialists working in the field; more popular reviews of the present state of various physical problems, which are intended for a broad physical readership; topical reports from the current literature on new advances in physics; brief methodological notes; information on recent meetings and conferences; discussions of the philosophical problems and history of physics—thus can one enumerate what the reader will find in the pages of the "Uspekhi." This is needed both by actively working specialists and by those who are learning and teaching, and by anyone who simply wishes to broaden his scientific horizons. Its encyclopedic coverage of the problems of physics, its frequent excursions into related sciences, and its portrayal of the dynamics of development of physical problems—all this is characteristic of "Uspekhi" on its "sixtieth birthday."

The 124 volumes of the journal that have been published clearly reflect the evolution of Soviet physics during the years of Soviet power. The path that has been traversed by "Uspekhi Fizicheskikh Nauk" evokes feelings of pride and respect, because the journal has always been at the very forefront of science and has faithfully served what is now a notably larger community of Soviet physicists, in whose name we heartily congratulate one of our leading journals on its glorious anniversary.

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