

<sup>2</sup>M. I. Klinger, *Phys. Rep.* **165**, 275 (1988).

<sup>3</sup>P. W. Anderson, B. I. Halperin, and C. Varma, *Philos. Mag.* **25**, 1 (1972).

<sup>4</sup>W. A. Phillips, *J. Low Temp. Phys.* **7**, 351 (1972).

<sup>5</sup>M. I. Klinger, *Solid State Commun.* **70**, 939 (1989).

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## Inaugural Meeting of the Physical Society of the USSR (Moscow, 17–18 November 1989)

V. V. Mikhaïlin, Vice-Chairman of the Governing Board  
of the Physical Society of the USSR

*Usp. Fiz. Nauk* **160**, 162–163 (January 1990)

On 17–18 November 1989 the inaugural meeting of the Physical Society of the USSR (FO SSSR) took place in the main auditorium of the M. V. Lomonosov Moscow State University. The meeting resolved to found the Physical Society of the USSR and approved the statutes. S. P. Kapitsa was elected president of the FO SSSR. The meeting elected a vice president (Yu. V. Novozhilov), the Governing Board and the Auditing Committee. According to the report of the Chairman of the Credentials Committee, K. K. Rebane, there were present at the meeting 785 delegates from 93 cities—practically all the main regions of our country were represented. Greetings to the meeting were brought by representatives of many of the physical societies of the world.

Greetings from the American Institute of Physics and the American Federation of Scientists were brought to the meeting by Frank Von Hippel. He read a message from Kenneth Ford, the Director of the American Institute of Physics, who wished success in the work of the new physical society and also expressed hope to establish mutually beneficial collaboration. Von Hippel spoke of the great contribution made by Soviet and American physicists to the cessation of the state of “cold war”. In concluding his speech he said: “We wish you success in forming this society. We are ready to help you in every possible way.”

The discussion of the statutes of the Physical Society of the USSR was very lively. Many changes were made in going from the initial proposal to the approved statutes:

1.1. The Physical Society of the USSR is an independent creative social organization uniting on a voluntary basis professional scientists working in the field of fundamental and applied physics.

1.2. The Physical Society of the USSR is the successor to the Physical Society founded in Russia in 1872. (The Physical Society was formed at the St. Petersburg University in 1872 and in 1878 joined together with the Chemical Society to form the Russian Physico-Chemical Society that existed until 1931. Unsuccessful efforts to reestablish the Physical Society were undertaken in 1946 and in 1961).

In accordance with the new statutes:

4.1. The Physical Society of the USSR is a federation of local and regional organizations and conducts its activities on a democratic basis.

The question of membership in the Physical Society of the USSR was debated at length at the meeting:

3.1. Membership in the Physical Society is open to scientists, engineering-physicists, and educators working in the field of physics, having scientific publications in leading scientific periodicals, who accept these statutes and participate in the activity of the Society. The members of the Physical Society of the USSR have equal rights independently of their scientific titles, degrees, and official position. Provision is made that physics teachers in schools and students may form their own associations which can join the Society as associate members.

“To maintain high professional and moral-ethical principles and traditions of physicists” is one of the main aims of the Physical Society of the USSR included in the statutes. To strengthen the contacts of physicists working in the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, in the Ministries and in the institutions of higher education; to make known the achievements of the physical scientists and their role in the development of society; to aid in the improvement of the primary, secondary and higher education in physics; to attract talented youth to physics; to develop international collaboration; to aid the social, professional and legal protection of members of the society, to protect the copyright of physicists — this is a brief list of the principal aims set before our Physical Society. Its activity has already started. In the very near future the “Bulletin of the Physical Society of the USSR” will begin publication. It will contain information on the activity of the Society, and also on the international and All-Union conferences, and about other physical societies of the world.

Translated by G. M. Volkoff