CONFERENCE OF JOURNAL READERS

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In March, 1978, a seminar was held in the pavilion "Electrification of the USSR" at the Exhibition of National Economic Achievements of the USSR (VDNKh), on the theme, Effectiveness of Reconstruction and Modernization of Existing Hydroelectric Stations.* Participating in the seminar were representatives of the Main Directorate of Engineering (Glavtekhnopravlenie) and State Inspection Department (Gosinspeksiya) for Operation of Power Stations and Networks, All-Union Association for Power Engineering (Soyuztekhenergo) in the Ministry of Power and Electrification of the USSR, representatives of the Central Administration of the Scientific-Engineering Society (NTO) of EIÉP; and about 200 representatives of hydroelectric stations in various regions of the country, power directorates, design, scientific-research, maintenance and repair organizations, and plants manufacturing hydropower equipment.

In accordance with a resolution by the editorial staff of the journal Gidrotekhnicheskoe Stroitel'stvo and the Central Administration of NTO EIÉP, a conference of the readers of this journal was held at the abovementioned seminar on Mar. 23, 1978. Present from the editorial staff were the Editor-in-Chief A. P. Aleksandrov, his deputy, M. F. Skladnev, and members M. F. Krasil'nikov and V. S. Serkov. Chairing the conference following his election was M. F. Skladnev, member of the presidium of the Central Administration of NTO EIÉP and Director of the B. E. Vedeneev All-Union Scientific-Research Institute of Hydraulic Engineering. Reporting on the work of the editorial staff and office of the journal for the years 1977 and 1978 was A. P. Aleksandrov, Editor-in-Chief, twice Hero of Socialist Labor.

First, A. P. Aleksandrov presented a brief statement on the main problems facing designers, investigators, constructors and operators/hydropower personnel in the third year of the Tenth Five-Year Plan and about the five-year plan in general. He then described the activities of the editorial staff and office of the journal Gidrotekhnicheskoe Stroitel'stvo for the years 1977 and 1978.

The previous conference of readers of our journal on an All-Union scale took place in December 1976 in Leningrad, at an All-Union Conference on the theme, "Power Engineering in the USSR in the Tenth Five-Year Plan, and the Protection of Water and Land Resources".† The subject conference was asked to examine the work of the editorial staff and office in the jubilee year 1977 and early this year — the third of the Tenth Five-Year Plan.

The year 1977, the 60th anniversary of the Great October, was typified by great enthusiasm of Soviet workers, a further general development of socialist competition in executing the tasks set by the Twenty-Fifth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU). Participating actively in the nationwide socialist competition were constructors, assemblers, designers, scientists, operators of hydraulic structures and hydropower undertakings. The majority of the collectives fulfilled or exceeded their pledged socialist commitments.

At construction sites of the Main Construction Directorate for Hydropower Projects in the Far Eastern Regions (Glavvostokgidroenergostroi) all of the eight turbogenerators scheduled for operation, with a total capacity of about 2000 MW, were commissioned ahead of schedule with excellent and good ratings, by the anniversary of the Great October. On the eve of the jubilee date, constructors and assemblers at the Ust-Ilim hydroelectric station placed the 15th turbogenerator in service ahead of schedule, and the power station reached its design first-stage capacity of 3600 MW. The fifth and sixth turbogenerator

*Information on the seminar is given in this issue of the journal.
†A brief review of this readers' conference was published in issue No. 3 for 1977, pp. 58-60.

units of the Nurek hydroelectric station were likewise commissioned for industrial operation, ahead of schedule. On the eve of the Great October celebration, 2 months ahead of schedule, the fourth turbogenerator of the Zeya hydroelectric station was placed under industrial load.

The construction-assembly organizations of the Main Construction Directorate of Hydroelectric Power Plants for Central and Southern Regions (Glavgidroenergostroi), engaged in hydrotechnical construction in the center, south and northwest of the country, achieved great successes in the jubilee year. The first-stage complex of the Vazuza hydraulic engineering system was completed by the constructors and assemblers 2.5 months ahead of schedule. The construction team working on the largest arch dam in the USSR, for the Inguri hydroelectric scheme, working in socialist competition in honor of the great October anniversary, placed the 1.5 millionth m^3 of concrete ahead of schedule, completed closure of the diversion tunnel, and thus commenced reservoir impoundment. The concrete placement rates at another major construction project of the Tenth Five-Year Plan, the Cheboksary hydroelectric station, were increased significantly. Considerable successes were achieved by the construction team on the Dnepr-Donbass canal.

A great input was made into the fulfillment and overfulfillment of the jubilee-year plans by the All-Union State Trusts for the Design and Execution of Excavation Works by Hydromechanization Methods (Gidromekhanizatsiya) and for Design and Installation of Hydraulic Structures and Equipment (Gidromontazh), the All-Union State Trust for Construction of Special Hydraulic Structures (Gidrospetsstroi) and other construction-assembly design, scientific-research, and maintenance organizations. The results of this enormous creative work by hydraulic and power-generation engineers, their experience and achievements, are reflected in the pages of our journal.

By the end of 1976 the editors had compiled a plan for publishing material devoted to the 60th anniversary of the Great October socialist revolution. In accordance with this plan, the editors organized a series of original papers. During 1977, the following material was published in the journal (the main papers were published under a special heading, "Meeting the 60th Anniversary of Soviet Power"):

a) Congratulations from comrade Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee (CC) of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU), Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR to the teams constructing the foremost projects: Tertert and Upper Khanbulanchai hydropower schemes (No. 2), Nurek hydroelectric station (No. 10), Ust-IIlim hydroelectric station (No. 12), Vazuza hydraulic engineering system (No. 12);

b) Socialist Competition. In addition to the leading article (No. 1) and socialist pledges made by undertakings and organizations of the Ministry of Power and Electrification (Minenergo) of the USSR (No. 5), the journal (No. 11) contained organized, very interesting material on new forms of socialist competition: "Workers relay race" and "Sayan collaboration," which were approved by the CC CPSU in its time and subsequently developed further. Reviews of the progress with socialist competition on construction projects, in undertakings and organizations of Minenergo, are prepared systematically and published in every issue of the journal under the heading "Socialist Competition in Action";

c) Jubilee Reviews and Articles on Successes Achieved and Unsolved Problems: "Hydropower of the USSR by the 60th Anniversary of Great October" (No. 9), "Hydropower in the Tenth Five-Year Plan and Protection of Water and Land Resources" (No. 8), "Development of Soviet Hydraulic-Turbine Manufacture" (No. 4), "Work of All-Union Scientific-Research Institute of Hydraulic Machinery (VNIIgidromash) in the Field of Investigation of Hydraulic Turbines" (No. 5), "Prerequisites for Establishing, and National-Economy Effectiveness of, Power-Generation Complexes" (No. 7), "Fifty-Year Jubilee of Firstling of Electrification in the USSR — the V. I. Lenin Volkhov Hydroelectric Station" (No. 1), "Forty-Year Annivarsary of the Moscow Canal" (No. 7), "The Dnepr Cascade of Hydroelectric Stations" (No. 6), "The Volga-Kama Cascade of Hydroelectric Stations" (No.10), et al;

d) Exchange of Experience and Introduction of New Arrangements and Work Production Technology, also Exchange of Experience in Operating Hydraulic Structures and Equipment. Material on this theme, concerning design, construction and assembly, was published; also,