CONFERENCE OF JOURNAL READERS RESIDING IN THE AREA OF THE BALTIC

M. F. Skladnev

A conference on plans directed toward preparation of the 50th anniversary of the journal Gidrotekhnichesko Stroiteli'stvo was held on May 21, 1980, in Kaunas for readers of this journal. Specialists attending the scientific and technical seminar "Design and construction of unified type pumped-storage power plants for European Russia" and a seminar on the exchange of work experience gained by the hydraulic sections of the administrations of the Scientific and Technical Society of the Power-Engineering and Electrotechnical Industries (STSPEEI), which were being held here, as well as local scientists, construction engineers, operating personnel employed in the field of power engineering and power construction took part in the conference. In all, more than 100 persons were in attendance.

Chairman of the hydraulic-engineering section of the Central Administration of the STSPEEI, dean of the hydraulic-engineering faculty of the M. I. Kalinin Leningrad Polytechnic Institute, Professor G. V. Simakov conducted the conference under the auspices of the Lithuanian Republican Administration of the STSPEEI. Chairman of the Central Administration of the STSPEEI, member-corrrespondent of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, N. N. Kovalev, and members of the editorial staff T. P. Dot'osenko, M. F. Krasil'nikov, and D. S. Shchavelev participated in the work of the conference.

Deputy chief editor of the journal M. F. Skladnev presented a paper on behalf of its editorial staff.

In connection with the upcoming 50th anniversary of the journal in October 1980, Mr. Skladnev discussed the basic trends in the activity of the journal and its editorial staff over the last 50 years. Among other things, he stated that the journal was created in the years of the First Five-Year Plan, when a hard line was being taken on the country's industrialization and, in part, on water conservation in connection with Lenin's instructions in the first years of Soviet rule — on further planned utilization of the country's abundant water resources. In this connection, the need arose to unite scientists, researchers, builders, and assemblers, requiring the coordination of efforts, the broad exchange of experience, and discussion of real problems by the engineering community. These problems were placed before the editorial office of the newly created journal, and from its very inception, it became a printed broad-profile water-power and water-conservation organ. The most prominent specialists — scientists, designers, builders, operating personnel, and production people — have always been among the members of its editorial staff and authors. As a result of the active participation of a broad group of authors and critics, public organizations, and, primarily, the Scientific and Technical Society of the Power-Engineering and Electrotechnical Industries, the journal has realized high authority among Soviet specialists and has acquired great recognition abroad. It is among the few scientific and technical journals that are fully reissued in the United States.

In the journal, the readers are exposed to the most frequently encountered problems associated with the implementation of resolutions adopted by the Communist Party and Soviet government on the development of power and the exploitation of water resources, and problems associated with the design, investigation, and construction of basic hydraulic structures and equipment based on leading domestic and foreign experience, and the implementation of progressive methods of the construction of hydro projects. The systematic exposure of progress in socialist competition at construction sites and establishments in the field is a positive service offered by the journal. The highly international position of the journal, which is expressed in systematic propaganda on the development of hydraulic and water-power engineering in the country's union and autonomous republics, information on the achievements of internationally recognized collectives of celebrated hydraulic builders, and in intimate communication between the editorial office and journals of socialist countries that are related in subject matter; the section "Foreign experience and techniques" in which the readers find information

Translated from Gidrotekhnichesko Stroiteli'stvo, No. 8, pp. 60-61, August, 1980.
on the most interesting foreign and scientific technical advancements has been a part of the journal for many years. Works of international scientific and technical societies are brought to light systematically, and thematic issues of the journal which are devoted to congresses of the International Association of Hydraulic Research and the International Committee on Large Dams are published.

Considering the desires of the readership, which were expressed at previous readership conferences and in responses to special questionnaires distributed by the editorial office, the editorial staff focuses major attention on the dissemination of publication of materials devoted to problems of improvements of the operation of structures at hydroelectric plants and their equipment; on the complex utilization of water resources and protection of the water environment from pollution, and the conservation of natural resources in creating large-scale reservoirs; the publication of discussion material and the exposure of leading experience of the construction of large-scale hydraulic and water-power projects. The editorial staff has taken measures to expand the network of correspondent offices and to increase the activity of their operations.

In conclusion, Mr. Skladnev indicated that at the present time, the editorial staff is working on the organization of a publication of special issues of the journal, devoted to the 60th anniversary of the plan of the State Commission for the Electrification of Russia and the 50th anniversary of the journal, to the progress of work on priority projects of the Tenth Five-Year Plan, and on the expansion of prospects for the development of water power in the Eleventh and Twelfth five-year periods, including the problem of accelerating construction of large-scale pumped-storage plants in European Russia. The first issue of the 1981 journal will contain material devoted to the imminent Twenty-Sixth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, and to discussion of its directives in the field of power development. He called on the conference participants and readers of the journal to take an active part in preparing corresponding papers, and in the discussion of these problems in the pages of the journal. The scientific and technical community and power-engineering specialists are disturbed by the lag that has been noted in the development of domestic water power, and by the unjustified delay in the design, investigations, construction, and development of equipment for a number of high-priority hydroelectric plants in Siberia and pumped-storage plants in the European portion of the USSR. The rapid solution of the critical problem on proper grounds and with the achievement of high technicoeconomic indicators for newly constructed water-power projects will make it possible not only to provide a saving in organic fuel and the rational utilization of natural and labor resources, but also to increase the operating reliability of power systems, and improve the quality of power production and power consumption.

In their own addresses, the conference participants noted the popularity of the journal and the real nature of material published in the journal for specialists, and approved the course that it has taken and the work of the editorial staff and office. A number of critical remarks and desires were also expressed.

Director of the Kaunas hydroelectric plant M. V. Mankyavichus spoke out on the expansion of publications and papers associated with the exposure of leading experience in the operation of hydroelectric plants and, particularly, water-power and electrotechnical equipment.

Professor G. A. Radchenko (Leningrad Polytechnic Institute) proposed that more material be published on principal problems associated with progressive technology and the organization of work in the construction of water-power projects; he spoke of the need to increase the journal's volume.

Director of the Siberian Branch of the All-Union Scientific-Research Institute of Hydraulic Engineering (Krasnoyarsk) A. P. Epifanov supported G. A. Radchenko's address and focused special attention on the need to increase publications devoted to experience with the design, investigation, and construction of hydraulic structures under conditions of the Extreme North and Siberia; he stressed the need to reduce the time required for examination of papers presented for publication, and also the expansion of publication of discussion material.

Director of the Dubossary hydroelectric plant V. S. Kurasov expressed the desire to increase the number of publications associated with discussion of technical-operation regula-