The issue is dedicated to Editor-in-Chief of Russian Chemical Reviews Academician OLEG M NEFEDOV on the occasion of his 80th birthday



November 25, 2011, was the 80th birthday of Academician Oleg M Nefedov, an outstanding chemical scientist, a prominent science organizer and the Editor-in-Chief of Russian Chemical Reviews. His fundamental works in the fields of organic and physical organic chemistry (8 monographs, 16 reviews, more than 700 scientific papers) are recognized all over the world.

The research staff headed by O M Nefedov, which is rightly recognized as one of the leading Russian schools of sciences, performed the pioneering works on low-temperature matrix stabilization and direct spectroscopic investigation of the structure and reactivity of carbenes and their analogues, radicals, highly labile compounds with a multiple bond at silicon, germanium or phosphorus atom. New approaches to the synthesis of unique strained cyclopropane compounds were developed, original commercial methods for the synthesis of pesticides, pharmaceutical drugs, monomers and special-purpose products were proposed, characteristic features of decomposition of aliphatic diazo compounds were established, and

their applications in fine organic synthesis were proposed. Many of these processes served as the basis for the commercial production of methyl cyclopropyl ketone, norbornadiene dimers and other important intermediates. O M Nefedov trained 70 PhDs and 7 Doctors of Science, one of them being Full Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

O M Nefedov's scientific achievements were marked by awarding him the USSR and RF State Prizes (1983, 1990, 2002); D I Mendeleev Gold Medal (1998); N D Zelinsky (1987), N N Semenov (1991) and A M Butlerov (2003) Prizes of the Academy; A P Karpinsky International Prize (1993); The 'Person of the Year 2002' national prize in the field of science; and numerous government awards.

Oleg M Nefedov devotes much effort and energy to science organization and teaching. From 1988 to 2001, he was Vice President of the RAS and did a lot to preserve and develop Russian chemical science throughout the hard 1990s. He is Editor-in-Chief of the journals Russian Chemical Bulletin, Mendeleev Communications and Russian Chemical Reviews, the latter having now the highest impact factor among Russian scientific journals. Also, Oleg M Nefedov is a member of the Editorial Boards of a number of international journals and Chairman of the National Committee of Russian Chemists. O M Nefedov is the organizer and the chairman of the Higher Chemical College of the RAS at the Mendeleev University of Chemical Technology of Russia and Head of a Chair and Professor of the M V Lomonosov Moscow State University. For the scientific and practical project 'Innovative Trends of Development of Higher Education on the Basis of Integration with Fundamental Science' and implementation of the continuous education system 'Chemical Lyceum – Higher Chemical College – Postgraduate Course', he was awarded the Education Prize of the Russian Federation Government (2006). During many years, O M Nefedov has been President of Mendeleev Congresses on General and Applied Chemistry and has been a member of the organizing committees of numerous Russian and international scientific conferences and symposia.

Oleg M Nefedov is well-kown not only in Russia but also abroad. He was a member of the Bureau and the Executive Committee of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC, 2000 – 2007) and is a honorary member of many foreign academies: Royal Chemical Society and Academia Europaea (UK), European Academy of Sciences and Art (Austria), Collegium Ramazzini (Italy), Asia Pacific Academy of Materials (India), Chinese Chemical Society. He is a foreign member of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and the Academy of Sciences of Georgia.

The Editorial Board and the editorial staff of the Russian Chemical Reviews journal heartily congratulate Oleg M Nefedov on his birthday and wish him good health, inexhaustible creative energy and success in all undertakings.

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