

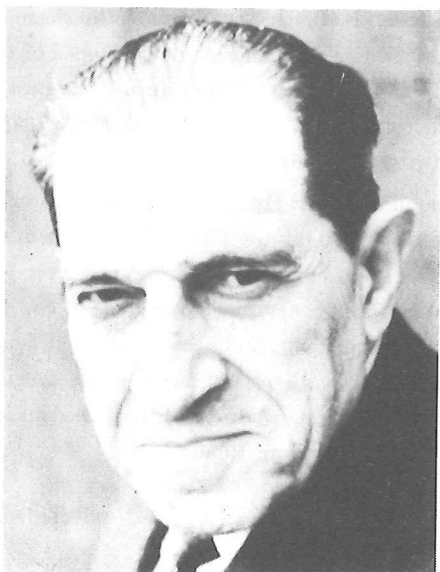
SARKIS SALTYKOV†

Sarkis Saltykov was born on August 15, 1905 in Rostov (South Russia) from Armenian parents who were notables in the local Armenian community.

In 1930 Saltykov graduated from the Polytechnic Institute in Novocherkask (near Rostov) and received the degree of Engineer in Metallurgy. He spent several years conducting research in metallurgical factories in Rostov. In 1943 he moved to Yerevan, Armenia, where he became the first Professor of Powder Metallurgy Engineering in Yerevan Polytechnic Institute. He occupied this chair until his death which followed on 29 June 1983. The chair now bears his name.

The work of Saltykov in the area of metallurgical engineering was a combination of engineering and scientific endeavours. He is the author of more than 100 scientific publications, including six monographs. We note his diffusion theory of graphitization via solid solution, which now is generally accepted. He was the first to introduce the methods of the stereometric analysis for estimation of the microstructure of metals and alloys. Actually this work included rediscovery of the basic mathematical principles of integral geometry. On this topic he published three monographs (in 1950, 1958, 1970). In 1974 he was awarded the State prize of the Armenian SSR on Sciences. This was also a time of broad international recognition. One can hardly overestimate the influence of the contribution of Saltykov on the present development of stereology, of which he is rightfully considered to be one of the founding fathers. Saltykov was a real connoisseur in a number of fields beyond his professional interests. He left a number of excellent oil paintings and a monograph (now in publication) on the history of Armenian stamps.

(R.V. Ambartzumian)



S.A. Saltykov