



Title 62

The Russian ice-breaker *Lenin* was the title picture on the cover of *Discovery*, exactly 12 months after the launch of this atomic powered 16 000 ton vessel – surely a scoop for a monthly scientific journal. The author of the 6-page article, J.H.M. Sykes, was able to draw his material and his technical illustrations from the publications of the Second UN Conference on Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy.

[See also Title 92.]

As it proudly proclaimed on its masthead each month, *THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS* had its origin in 1920 and was then owned and published by the respected publishers Benn Brothers. When I was editing it, there was a complete set of all its past issues in the editorial office, but I do not know if they still exist, perhaps in Norwich in the office of Mr Jarrold's son and successor.

In 1930 the Copyright of the Journal was purchased by Cambridge University Press, but when the War situation became serious, and Cambridge, near the East Coast of England, feared a possible German invasion, the Press Syndicate of the University decided to close it down and suspend its publication in March 1940. The Editor at the time was C.P. Snow (1905-1980) later Lord Snow, the well-known Cambridge physicist and novelist (*The Two Cultures and the Scientific Revolution*, 1959) and later government administrator. He wrote a moving Editorial message in the last issue to be published from Cambridge, and hoped it would be resurrected in better times.

This is exactly what John Jarrold did in January 1943, before the end of the war, as he felt that a "Magazine of Scientific Progress" would be urgently needed in the post-war years to help Britain to regain its once eminent scientific position, lost during the war. Mr Jarrold was the owner of a very large and prestigious colour printing works in Norwich, East Anglia. Being a Quaker, he was not very interested in any financial profits of the Journal, and when it lost some income from decreasing advertisements, as happened from time to time, he may well have subsidised it privately. He appointed Bill Dick B.Sc. as Editor in 1945, after David S. Evans.

In a Publisher's announcement of my appointment as Editor, it stated that "Dick's many years of devoted work have made *Discovery* the Journal it is today". Its distinctive yellow cover could be found in the science laboratories of most British schools, in the homes of many scientists the world over, when a world wide distribution could again be arranged after the war, and of course in all scientific libraries of distinction. Its circulation was around 15000. As a monthly journal with only an Editor and a secretary in London, a great deal of copy editing and the complete lay-out had to be carried out in Norwich by some of the printer's staff. Dick had placed much emphasis on its pictorial excellence, a tradition I was happy to follow, and one or two pages of each issue carried full-page pictures. My task was to find interesting articles and authors who could write well, two desiderata which by no means always coincided. Once the typescripts and illustrations had been received and after their editing in my office, they were forwarded to Norwich for printing.

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