

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

RADIATION LABORATORY
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

May 15, 1946

Dr. V. Veksler
Lebedev Physical Institute of the Academy of Sciences
Moscow, U. S. S. R.

Dear Dr. Veksler:

I would like to explain the circumstances surrounding the publication of my letter on the "Synchrotron", in order to clear up an unfortunate impression that it seems to have produced. During 1944 and most of 1945, the journals in which your work was published were not easily available to me; I did not see them, nor did anyone with whom I was in contact. Therefore, I was entirely unaware of your work when I sent in my letter to the September issue of the Physical Review. It was not until the end of October that someone at another institution saw your last article in the Journal of Physics of the U. S. S. R., and sent me a photostatic copy. I learned about your earlier papers in the Doklady first from your letter in the March Physical Review.

It seems to me that this is another case of a phenomenon that has occurred before in science --the nearly simultaneous appearance of an idea in several parts of the world, when the development of the science concerned has reached such a point that the idea is needed for its further progress.

I wish to assure you again that my apparent disregard of your work was unintentional, and that I have been very careful since learning about it to point out that your discovery preceded mine.

With very best wishes for
the success of your machine,

Edwin M. McMillan
Edwin M. McMillan

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