

R.A. Galanova

Tomsk Polytechnic as a part of cultural life of Russia

The City of Tomsk is a historical place. Ages, styles and many events have mixed here. However, the city is young because every seventh citizen in it is a student. They say, Tomsk is a city of scientists and students. Tomsk is the first educational city in Siberia. The oldest universities are the State University (classical) and Polytechnic

October 9, 1900 the first technical school in Siberia has started its classes.

Monumental buildings of Tomsk Polytechnic (Main Building, Physical Building, and Chemical Building) were designed by Academician F. Marfeld. First professors and teachers, highly educated gifted people together with students have formed the science community.

Among professors and teachers of Tomsk Institute of Technology were architects and artists, alumni of St-Petersburg Academy of Arts and the Institute of Civil Engineers – K.K. Lygin, V.F. Orzheshko, P.F. Fedorovsky (designer of the Geological Building), A.D. Kryachkov, Z.A. Rokachevsky, and many others who has formed the architectural image of Tomsk-city of the early part of XXth century.

Today the historical area of the city of Tomsk is the unique place owing to Prof. Lygin's work. The House of Officers, Central Pharmacy, Okrug Court, City Hall, Art Museum, and other redbrick buildings designed by Lygin give our town the unique image. To his design also belong the shop 'House Goods', Wedding Palace, stone bridge across the Ushaika river. Among stone Lygin's buildings you find fantastic merchant houses with rich wooden carving.

The Library of Tomsk State University designed by Prof. A. Kryachkov from TIT makes an impression on everybody. A. Kryachkov and K. Lygin were founders of the Siberian School of Architects, who created architectural monuments in other Siberian cities – Krasnoyarsk, Novosibirsk, Irkutsk.

Our teachers have trained competent specialists. Prof. Lygin had worked at TIT for more than 30 years. I. Zagrivko, the author of the first city project for Novosibirsk, the participant

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University, which glorified «Siberian Athens».

From our University has began the second conquest of Siberia, not with the arms but with knowledge. The foundation and development of higher technical education in the East of Russia is connected with TPU, and also economic and cultural reclamation and development of both Tomsk-city and the vast territory of Asian Russia.

The XXth century was started with the scientific-and-technological advance. The shrine of science, erected in one of the high places of Tomsk has become a symbol of the new time. On

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of Turkestan-Siberia railroad, Kuznetsk Metallurgical Combine and some other construction sites was taught by Lygin.

Moscovites know well the name of architects Posokhins, father and his son Michael. The father was the chief architect of the city of Moscow, deputy chairman of the USSR Gosstroy, designer of the Kremlin Congress Palace, and others. Honoured architect, winner of Lenin Prize, Prof. Posokhin described the years of study at Tomsk Institute of Technology in his biography. His son M.M. Posokhin, Academician, Honoured architect of Russia is the Director of 'Mosproekt-2', the author of the restored Shrine of Christ, the Saviour delivered to our Museum valuable materials about his father.

N.V. Nikitin, now the winner of State and Lenin Prizes, has taken studies at Prof. N.I. Motovolov's school. He is the designer of teletower in Ostankino. In 1930 the Faculty of Construction Engineering served as a basis for Novosibirsk Institute for Construction Engineering, later the University.

Tomsk polytechnicians have built Moscow metropolitan, Lenin mausoleum, participated in erecting the monument 'Rodina-Mat' in Volgograd.

Artists Z. Rokachevsky, V. Orzheshko, TIT teachers, contributed much to the cultural life of Tomsk of the early part of XXth century. In 1909 TIT architects and painters took part in the organization of the art amateurs' community in Tomsk. Shutkov and Orzheshko were members of the Board. Z. Ronchevsky held painting tutorials. Olga Alexandrovna Zubasheva, the wife of the Director of TIT also was the member of that community. The first exhibition of G. Gurkin's pictures testified to the artistic life of Tomsk-city of that time. The reproduction of the picture painted by N.Gutovsky, Rector of TIT (1921-1930) is hanging in the University Museum.

The artistic traditions are preserved among our polytechnicians up to now. K. Sonchik who extols the beauty of Siberian nature has a number of individual exhibitions.

The tradition of sci-fi writing was laid by V.A. Obrutchev, the outstanding geologist and geographer, the author of 'Terra of Sannikov' and 'Plutonium'.

This journal has already acquainted the readers with the creative activities of writers A. Kazantsev, V. Kolupaev, who have become real professionals in this field. The names of our polytechnicians you may find in

music, poetry, and history of theatre life of the country. Our former student V. Massalitinov has become the actor and director of the Maly theatre.

In this number we will acquaint the reader with classical music spreading by polytechnicians.

Sport in Tomsk is also connected with our University. In 1913 our student B. Mazan won the chess tournament, first in Siberia. I.I. Zagrivko was French wrestling champion, the 1913-year graduate. Mechanical engineer D.V. Moravetsky was recognized a 'patriarch' of the Siberian sport. He was the organizer and Head of the PE Department at TPI for many years. Polytechnicians are winners of many sporting contests. Among Moravetsky's students there are many participants of world competitions on track and field events. Among them A. Kirushkina and V. Tarasova, winners of Russian and international competitions. Sporting traditions followed by our students and teachers continue to develop. Well-equipped sports centres and grounds are at our students' disposal.

Whichever bound of the cultural life of Tomsk or Siberia you touch, our professors, teachers, and students is the part of that life.

Currently, human trends in education and humanitarization of education and also teaching of foreign languages have become paramount aspects of the University. Some disciplines are connected with training specialists in the field of design and tourism, public relations. Today students acquainted with history of domestic and foreign culture and philosophy, associate with foreign peers. All this will promote humanization and harmonious forming of a personality and confirm TPU's status as the valued treasure of Russia.



Гуркин Г., «Хан-Алтай»
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