

CONTENTS

GENERAL ASPECTS OF HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF MEDICINE

**Some positions of Galen's naturo-philosophical and ethical methods
in the context of his medical system**

A.P. Shcheglov5

ИСТОРИЯ МЕДИЦИНСКИХ СПЕЦИАЛЬНОСТЕЙ

Auxiliary medical staff on zemstvo county service

E.M. Smirnova15

FROM THE HISTORY OF HEALTHCARE: DEVOTED TO THE 140th ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH N.A. SEMASHKO

N.A. Semashko – theorist and organizer of public health

V.A. Reshetnikov, Yu.V. Nesvizhsky, N.A. Kasimovskaya24

**Topical issues concerning medical training: devoted to the 140th anniversary
of the birth N.A. Semashko**

O.A. Manerova, D.M. Drygin, P.K. Davydov30

**N.A. Semashko and his role in the development of the soviet system
for the protection of motherhood and infancy**

G.L. Mikirtichan38

**Health-care-system creation and the reform of pharmaceutical
education in 1918–1930**

M.S. Sergeeva54

Nikolai Semashko – social activist and health care organizer

O.A. Trefilova65

**N.A. Semashko – the first people's commissar of health: A new century –
new research horizons**

M.Y. Chernichenko73

FROM THE HISTORY OF RUSSIAN MEDICINE

Academician V.F. Zelenin: mysteries of the scientist's fate and of his beginnings

V.I. Borodulin, A.V. Topolyansky, K.A. Pashkov, O.R. Parenkova, S.V. Dronova82

**Russian and international scientific and educational contacts among
professors and teachers as a form of organization for scientific work
and the improvement of teaching and research skills (based on the
example of Tomsk State University)**

S.A. Nekrylov93

A doctor from Russia in Belgian Congo: Nikolai Denisov

V.K. Ronin101

SPECIFIC QUESTIONS IN THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE

The specifics of surgical education in Medieval Europe

Y.E. Berger112

SOURCE

**Galen and doctors of the Erasistratus school: clinical
and natural-philosophical facets of debate**

D.A. Balalykin119

Russian and international scientific and educational contacts among professors and teachers as a form of organization for scientific work and the improvement of teaching and research skills (based on the example of Tomsk State University)

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One form of organization for scientific work and the improvement of teaching and research training in universities of the Russian Empire (based on the example of Tomsk State University) is studied on the basis of archival and documentary sources, as well as data from periodicals. The organizational form involved scientists embarking on scientific missions within Russia and abroad, including scientific expeditions to states neighboring Siberia.

Keywords: *history of science, research and educational contacts in universities of the Russian Empire, Tomsk State University*

One of the methods of conducting scientific work and increasing teaching and scientific qualification at universities of the Russian Empire were the scientific excursions of professors, privat docents, professorial scholars and educational support personnel within Russia (mainly to St. Petersburg and Moscow) and abroad. This was primarily to the scientific and educational centers of Western Europe – Germany, France, England, Italy, Austro-Hungary, etc. They were intended for conducting archival and library research in large city clinics, institutes and laboratories.

In the first ten years of Tomsk University, trips to the European sector of the country were quite rare. There were few professors and teachers at that time. Professors were engaged in the administration of offices, departments and chairs. Representatives of the departments of nature (geologists, botanists, zoologists) participated in summer excursions across Siberia. Lack of railroad also prohibited frequent travel, particularly in winter.

In the following years, travel by professors and teachers of the medical faculty were usually short-term and were generally during in summer vacations. Therefore, they did not have the same impact as travels in the winter time or long (for

a year or two) excursions abroad. Moreover, a condition for the travel approval by the Ministry of National Education (MNE) was that teaching not be interrupted. In view of the low status of professors, this was not often possible. This explains the infrequency of scholarly excursions in the first years of existence of Tomsk University.

With the opening of law departments in 1898, the libraries and archives of large cities became one of necessary conditions of academic development for professors. By then, the railroad already connected Tomsk with the cities of European Russia, significantly influencing the number of excursions.

Representatives of the humanities, primarily lawyers and economists, found themselves in the most difficult situation. This was because they all continued researches on subjects and areas which they had chosen even before arriving to Tomsk. When they arrived in the remote Siberian city, they encountered difficulties caused primarily by a lack of sufficient resources and scientific literature. Therefore, they found it necessary to take excursions abroad and to the large cities of Russia. However, as previously noted, it was difficult to have research excursions approved. It required completing a set curriculum time period, the availability of replacement teachers or transferring lecture courses to other semester if the research excursion fell on school hours.

However, despite difficulties, the medical doctors and then the legal faculties supported close connections with the large scientific and educational centers of European Russia, including in the form of regular correspondence with colleagues working in other Russian universities and in the Petersburg Academy of Sciences system. They were particularly intensive with the botanists V. V. Sapozhnikov and P.N. Krylov, the zoologist M.D. Ruzsky, the physicist F.Ya. Kapustin, the histologist A.S. Dogel, the physiologist A.A. Kulyabko, the chemist P.P. Orlov, physicians M.G. Kurlov, D.I. Timofeevsky, lawyers N.N. Rozin, I.A. Malinovsky, N. Ya. Novombergsky and others. For example, P.P. Orlov corresponded with the academician V.I. Vernadsky.

Participation in the various All-Russian exhibitions at Tomsk became one of the forms of scientific communications. Tomsk scholars actively participated in the domestic scientific conferences and congresses. The conferences, with rare exception, were usually held in the university cities of Russia, and members of professorial university boards conducted the main scientific work, drafting reports and bulletins. The conferences were primarily arranged for representatives of the natural, physical and medical sciences (natural scientists and doctors, Pirogov, Mendeleev). However forums for representatives of the humanities (lawyers, historians) were not held. Representatives of historical and other social sciences were therefore deprived of the opportunity to directly exchange opinions on their concerns. In this regard, scientific conferences had subsections of meetings where, for example, lawyers and historians could participate. At archaeological conferences, ancient historical and public antiquities sectors were organized: primarily, historians participated and then lawyers. It should be noted that given the relative isolation of the Tomsk University from scientists of the scientific community of Russia, participation in various conferences became one of the most active forms of communications: scientists exchanged scientific information and shared the results of scientific activity.

Proof of the achievements of the Siberian scientists, within Russian science and society, is confirmed by numerous examples, including

the acceptance of Tomsk university professors into many Russian scientific organizations and the awards and scientific titles given to them. Professor V. V. Sapozhnikov was elected honorary member of the Russian botanical society, the Russian Geographical Society (RGS), a member of the Moscow society of natural sciences, ethnography, anthropology, and full member of the RGO, the Moscow society of testers of nature, the Moscow geographical society, etc. [1, page 84-86]. Professor N. A. Alexandrov was a full member of the chemistry office of the Russian physical and chemical society (1909). Professor E.S. Obratsov was elected the assistant chairman of the Russian syphilology and dermatological society named V.M. Tarnovsky. As members of different scientific organizations and institutions, many professors and teachers actively participated in their events.

The scientific works of professors of Tomsk University received different awards. The many studies of prof. G.M. Iosifov "Lymphatic system of persons with the symptoms of adenoids and lymph organ movements" (1914) were noted with the award named Academician P.A. Zagorski (1 thousand rubles) [2, page 8]. The technique for cultivating leukemic blood cells developed by prof. P.P. Avrorov and his student A.D. Timofeevsky, an advanced technique for obtaining films of leukocytes during centrifugation, numerous experiments on the cultivation of tissue from an organism were noted with the M.M. Rudnev award (1913). This brought the authors not just Russian, but world fame [3, page 63, 67; 4]. The research of Professor P. I. Tikhov on "Tuberculosis of joints and bones" [5], written by him in Tomsk and not having analogs in domestic surgical literature of that time, was awarded the I.F. Bush and Naval Academy awards (1912).

For development of a method of supravital coloring of the nervous elements with methylene blue dye (Dogelya-Smirnova method, 1887), the Petersburg Academy of Sciences awarded prof. A.S. Dogel the full K.M. Rem prize of 1 thousand rubles [6]. In 1914 the same prize was awarded to the privat dozent of Tomsk university, P.N. Krylov, for the fundamental multivolume work "Flora of Altai and Tomsk Province" (7 releases with a total amount of 1,815 pages) [7, page 26].

It should be noted that the K.M. Rem prize was awarded only for particularly outstanding research. Among those who received it were the great Russian scientists I.I. Mechnikov, A.O. Kowalewski, V. M. Bekhterev, V.L. Komarov, etc. Of the professors from Tomsk University this award was also given to Professor M.D. Ruzsky (during the period of his activities in Kazan).

In 1894 A.S. Dogel was elected a corresponding member by the department of biology, physics and mathematics of the Imperial St. Petersburg Academy of Sciences (since 1917 – the Russian Academy of Sciences). He became this Academy's first elected corresponding member from the Asian sector of Russia.

Professors from law department also received awards, primarily for works on historical subjects. The Academy of Sciences often noted Professor N. Ya. Novombergsky, for his work on the history of medicine and veterinary science in Russia. The first four volumes of his capital research "Materials on the History of Medicine in Russia" (with the publication of documents) were awarded the full count A.S. Uvarov large prize, the fifth volume was awarded the small count A.S. Uvarov prize. The study "Medical Structure in Pre-Petrine Russia" was awarded the full count A.S. Uvanov large prize in 1908; the monograph "Experience of Russian Veterinary Pharmacopoeia in the first half of the XVIII Century" was awarded the small count A.S. Uvanov prize¹ in 1912.

Although the scientists of Tomsk University had sharply reduced international contacts during World War I, trips to the European part of Russia increased. Therefore, in 1915 the greatest number of conference trips (32) were to central Russia. It was in relation to this that professors, privat docents and the staff of medical faculty were sent "to the theaters of military activity" where they treated wounded and at the same time gathered material for future researches.

In 1888-1917, scientists of Tomsk University carried out a total of 174 conference trips to European Russia, most of them (160) were between 1899 and 1917.

Because of the remoteness of Tomsk University from the centers of European science and education, its scientists had no opportunity to

maintain regular personal contacts and exchange scientific information with foreign researchers. Therefore, they were greatly interested in foreign conference trips, particularly long ones. While professors and teachers were studying the structure of educational matters abroad, they became acquainted with the organization of scientific research at universities and institutes of countries in Western Europe, worked with archives and libraries, spoke at conferences and the congresses. Additionally, when abroad, professors bought (often using their own money), foreign literature, instruments and exhibits which they brought to Tomsk, filling up libraries, and equipping offices, laboratories and museums of university.

One of the most important features provided by academic travel was to establish teaching replacements in the curriculum or transfer of lecture courses to other semester. In practice, this condition was often difficult to meet because of the small number of departmental staff. Trustees of the educational district and MNP dealt with this reluctantly. Quite often, requests for conference trips, even if they were from the University Council, were rejected and therefore, professors had to make the majority of the trips on vacation time.

However conference trips required not only time free from studies, but also considerable material resources. Unlike representatives of the departments of natural sciences engaged in the study of Siberia and having a regular sum of 3 thousand rubles per year for conducting researches and publishing the results of their work, for professors of law departments, the vast majority of whom did not have scientific interests connected with Siberia, such opportunity was not available. With rare exception, they had to spend personal savings for scholarly conference trips (we will note that for the period of trips to professors the salary remained). These conference trips abroad were awarded not only to professors, but to privat docents and educational support personnel of Tomsk University.

Foreign business trips provided a tremendous benefit to young scientists, graduates of the medical faculty of Tomsk University who could not train abroad while working on their doctoral dissertations, because for a long time the University did not have professional stipends.

¹ see: <http://oblastnichestvo.lib.tomsk.ru/files2/68.pdf> (circulation date 20. 05.2014).

The privat docent and then the professor for the department of children's diseases S. M. Timashev made the first short-term foreign conference trip in the summer of 1897, after they had received their academic doctor of medicine degrees [8, 9]. Their aim was to become acquainted with Western university children's clinics, specializing in clinical practice for students. During one trip, he visited the children's clinics and hospitals of Warsaw, Breslavlya (Wroclaw), Berlin and Leipzig. This was particularly necessary for S. M. Timashev. The lack of a professor in the department of children's diseases meant he had to single handedly establish the structure of the children's clinic at Tomsk University.

In addition to conference trips, scientists went on expeditions to the states adjacent to Siberia. This is a unique type of foreign interaction and is different from the international communication in its classical understanding. Foreign expeditions, according to L.B. Us, should be viewed as a type of impersonal or mediated foreign communications where the researcher does not come into direct contact with the scientific institutions of other countries or foreign scientists [10, page 113–114]. However thanks to such forms of contacts, the Siberian scientists carried out important geographical, geological, botanical and other research in the territories adjacent to Russia. This, undoubtedly, enriched world science with new discoveries.

Similar expeditions were undertaken in the border areas with Mongolia and China. They were made to develop a complete idea of the natural processes occurring in these territories and to compare this with what was observed in Siberia. So, having studied the Russian Altai, prof. V.V. Sapozhnikov began research in the Mongolian Altai. As a result, he established an extremely important physiographic fact. The orographic integrity of the Russian and Mongolian Altai [1, page 43].

One exception was the first foreign scientific expedition made by scientists of Tomsk University. In 1892, at the request of the RGO, P.N. Krylov undertook a trip for botanical collections in the Uryankhaysky lands, which was at that time under the power of Manchurian governors. It is also worth mentioning the 1910 Siberian expedition to Mongolia, organized by the Tomsk

society of professors from the legal department, M.I. Bogolepov and M. N. Sobolev. Its purpose was to study trade terms with this country [11–13].

Personal friendly contacts of scholars of different countries emphasized, above all, the international character of science. A striking example of such relations was the invitation for foreign scientists to participate in scientific expeditions across Siberia. In 1891, excavations were conducted of the ancient fortification "Toyanov village", the burial cemetery mounds at the village of Chernilshchikova, and the barrows at the village of Spassky. The librarian of Tomsk University, S.K. Kuznetsov and the Swedish archeologist, traveler and doctor of philosophy Martin participated in the expedition [14, 15]. A two-story sepulcher was found in the dug-up barrows. On the top there was a burning area, below there were entire skeletons. In 1898, S.K. Kuznetsov, the French archeologist, and baron Zh. de-Bai took part in excavations of "Toyanov village" [16].

In 1902, a member of the Hamburg Geographical society, geography privat dozent of the Goettingen university, doctor M. Fridrikhsen took part in the expedition of V.V. Sapozhnikov to Semirechye (Zailiysky and Dzhungarsky Ala-Tau and the Central Tien Shan). Sapozhnikov conducted an exploratory survey route shooting and shooting with a Gildebrandt theodolite within the Central Tien Shan – from Przhevalsk to Oxhotnichevo and in the Dzungarian Ala Tau – from Dzharkent to Lepsinsk. During this expedition, M. Fridrikhsen took about 500 pictures of the then little-known district [17, page 42]. In 1904, M. Fridrikhsen, using these shootings of Sapozhnikov, drafted the map of Tien Shan (the basin of the Sarydzhas and Dzhungarsky Ala-Tau), which became a valuable annex to V. V. Sapozhnikov's monograph "Sketches of Semirechya. Part I. Dzhungarsky steppes, Balkhash, Issyk Kul, Central Tyan-Shan" [18].

One of the ways that the scholars of Tomsk University maintained contacts was by participating in different conferences and congresses where scientists exchanged scientific information and shared the results of their work. Sometimes, the delegations of scientists from Tomsk University who went to

the Russian conferences of the times, were very well represented. In 1899, Tomsk University submitted an announcement to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the XIII International medical congress which was going to Paris in 1900 under the chairmanship of prof. Lannelonga. The French government had asked for delegates to be appointed [19, l. 39]. Professors F.A. Erofeyev, N.A. Rogovich, I.N. Grammatikati, M. N. Popov, A.A. Vvedensky, M. G. Kurlov, A.P. Korkunov, F.K. Kruger, the privat dozent S.M. Timashev, the laboratory assistant I.M. Levashov were all part of the delegation from Tomsk University [20–22].

Proof of worldwide scientific and public of achievements of the Siberian scientists include: acceptance of Tomsk University professors into foreign scientific organizations, international prizes and awards given to them, invitations to celebrate the anniversaries of the oldest institutions of higher education of Europe. According to L.B. Us, this form of contact had a peculiar character, "external" in relation to others, but nevertheless testifying to the recognition of the growing Siberian science [10, page 108].

Professors and teachers of Tomsk University were not only widely knowledgeable experts within their fields, but they also possessed extensive knowledge of different areas of science. Professor of physiology A.A. Kulyabko, besides world discoveries in physiology, improved his knowledge of foreign languages (he was fluent in 17 languages). A.A. Kulyabko went abroad 13 times. He spent a total of nearly four years abroad, frequently representing Russian science at various European universities. In 1909, the representative of Council of Tomsk University, professor A.A. Kulyabko, as part of a delegation of Russian universities, was present at the celebration of the 500-year anniversary of Leipzig university [23, l. 23, 24–24 about., 25, 41] and in 1912, at the 200-year anniversary of the medical faculty of Dublin university [24, l. 10, 20, 21, 28, 35, 37]. On behalf of Tomsk University, he made the commencement address in Latin. At the request of I.P. Pavlov, who could not go to Dublin because of illness, A.A. Kulyabko also delivered the address prepared by Institute of experimental medicine [25, page 52–54]. In addition to anniversary activities, A.A. Kulyabko participated

in meetings with the British scientific association in Dandy (Scotland).

The interactions between Tomsk University and the representatives of European science was also reflected by the awards they granted to become honorary members of the university. Awarding such titles to outstanding representatives of science and other spheres of activities is a centuries-old tradition of universities of the world. According to the charter of 1884, "Universities have the right, upon approval from the minister of national education, to award titles of honorary membership to persons known to have made contributions to sciences or are famous for talents and merits, and to issue them diplomas with this title" [26, page 88]. In 1804, the oldest Russian university, Moscow, used such a right.

In 1905, the German expert in the field of private law, G. Dernburg, became the first foreigner awarded the title of honorary member of the Imperial Tomsk University. His classical work "Pandects", according to contemporaries, "marked a new era in the history of literature of the new Roman law". In Russia "Pandects" was translated into Russian and was the manual for students of the legal department. In 1900 Dernburg was elected honorary member of the Petersburg, Moscow and Kiev Universities [27, page 27]. G. Dernburg's election as honorary member of Tomsk university was for "the outstanding merits rendered to Russian science and in connection with the 50 anniversary of its fruitful professorial activity" [28, l. 2].

For the scientists of Tomsk University, there were also personal contacts with future honorary members of Tomsk University. Professor P.M. Bogayevsky, while working on the monograph "The Red Cross in the Development of International Law" [29, 30] often met with G. Muanye, one of the founders of the International Committee of the Red Cross, and received valuable advice from him. Then, in May, 1910 upon the request of the legal department, the founders of the International Committee of the Red Cross and Swiss citizens, G. Muanye and A. Dunand were elected honorary members of Tomsk University "for outstanding merits before the world community". A. Dunand is also known as the first Nobel Peace Prize laureate for contributions to the peaceful cooperation

of people. He divided the prize with the French pacifist F. Passi [27, page 38-39, 40-41]. The king of Belgium, Albert I ranks among those who during World War I was awarded honorary member of Tomsk University. Tomsk scientists conducted 246 foreign scientific conference trips to different European countries, and most (211 trips) were between 1899 and 1914.

Thus, with the opening of Tomsk University as the scientific learning center, Siberia began

to take on a more organized character, to regularly hold meetings in its museums and offices related to materials from excursions and expeditions. Imperial Tomsk University had extensive communications not only with Russian representatives, but with foreign representatives of science as well. This promoted the advancement of scientific development of its scholars and strengthened scientific communications with representatives of world science.

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