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**SCIENTIFIC-ORGANIZATIONAL AND REPRESENTATIVE
ACTIVITIES OF THE POLTAVA OFFICE OF THE AGRICULTURAL
SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE OF UKRAINE IN 1922-1924**

The historical exploration is a continuation of the author's research on the history of formation and activity of the leading coordination and methodological center of agrarian science and research – Agricultural Scientific Committee of Ukraine (1918–1927). This time, the focus is on highlighting the activities of its Poltava Regional Office, established on May 30, 1922. It became the successor of the Poltava Society of Agriculture and Agricultural Industry, known in the 19th century. The researcher reveals the prerequisites for creating a Poltava branch. She also identified a range of core activities and research achievements. The author carried out the historical exploration using general scientific methods: analysis, synthesis, classification and historical methods: historical research, problem-chronological, comparative-historical, periodization and retrospective, as well as historiographic, source, archival analysis.

Keywords: *Agricultural Scientific Committee of Ukraine, Poltava Office, regional offices, Poltava Society of Agriculture and Agricultural Industry, K. Dybnyak, agricultural science, research case.*

**НАУКОВО-ОРГАНІЗАЦІЙНА ТА РЕПРЕЗЕНТАЦІЙНА ДІЯЛЬНІСТЬ
ПОЛТАВСЬКОЇ ФІЛІЇ СІЛЬСЬКОГОСПОДАРСЬКОГО НАУКОВОГО
КОМІТЕТУ УКРАЇНИ У 1922-1924 РР.**

Історична розвідка є продовженням авторських досліджень з історії становлення й діяльності провідного координаційного і методичного центру аграрної науки та дослідної справи – Сільськогосподарського наукового комітету України (1918–1927). Цього разу увага зосереджена на висвітленні

роботи його Полтавського регіонального представництва, заснованого 30 травня 1922 р. Він став правонаступником знаного в ХІХ столітті Полтавського товариства сільського господарства і сільськогосподарської промисловості. Розкриваються передумови створення Полтавської філії. Визначено коло основних напрямів діяльності та наукові здобутки. Дослідження виконувалося із застосуванням загальнонаукових: аналіз, синтез, класифікація та історичних методів: історико-науковий, проблемно-хронологічний, порівняльно-історичний, ретроспективний та періодизації, а також історіографічного, джерелознавчого, архівознавчого аналізу.

Ключові слова: *Сільськогосподарський науковий комітет України, Полтавська філія, регіональні представництва, Полтавське товариство сільського господарства і сільськогосподарської промисловості, К. Дубняк, аграрна наука, дослідна справа.*

НАУЧНО-ОРГАНИЗАЦИОННАЯ И РЕПРЕЗЕНТАЦИОННАЯ ДЕЯТЕЛЬНОСТЬ ПОЛТАВСКОГО ФИЛИАЛА СЕЛЬСКОХОЗЯЙСТВЕННОГО НАУЧНОГО КОМИТЕТА УКРАИНЫ В 1922-1924 ГГ.

Данное историческое исследование является продолжением авторских исследований по истории становления и деятельности ведущего координационного и методического центра аграрной науки и опытного дела – Сельскохозяйственного научного комитета Украины (1918–1927). В этот раз внимание сосредоточено на освещении работы его Полтавского регионального представительства, основанного 30 мая 1922 г. Оно стало правопреемником известного в ХІХ ст. Полтавского общества сельского хозяйства и сельскохозяйственной промышленности. Раскрываются предпосылки создания Полтавского филиала. Определен круг основных направлений деятельности и научные достижения. Исследование выполнялось с применением общенаучных: анализ, синтез, классификация и исторических методов: историко-научный, проблемно-хронологический, сравнительно-исторический, ретроспективный и периодизации, а также историографического, источниковедческого, архивоведческого анализа.

Ключевые слова: *Сельскохозяйственный научный комитет Украины, Полтавский филиал, региональные представительства, Полтавское общество сельского хозяйства и сельскохозяйственной промышленности, К. Дубняк, аграрная наука, опытное дело.*

The conducted historical exploration is a continuation of a series of authorial explorations on the functioning of the regional offices of a powerful coordination and scientific-methodical center of agrarian science and research case – the

Agricultural Scientific Committee of Ukraine in 1918–1927 [1–5]. This time the focus is on the Poltava branch. Previously, the author covered its activities in the context of the prerequisites of foundation [6].

The purpose of this paper is a comprehensive study of the constitutive experience of the Agricultural Scientific Committee of Ukraine in the organization coordinating activities on the periphery of the example of scientific study of organizational issues of the regional office in Poltava. I have done this exploration using general scientific methods: analysis, synthesis, classification and historical methods: historical research, problem-chronological, comparative-historical, periodization and retrospective, as well as historiographic, source, archival analysis.

For the first time local branches officially defined in the «Statute of the Agricultural Scientific Committee of Ukraine» in Section IV «Organizing Committee». Initially, its Plenum approved this document on June 6, 1920, and then the Board of the People's Commissariat of Land Affairs of the Ukrainian SSR on November 25, 1920. In § 15 states that the Committee divided according to the objects of his scientific work, the Section Subsection Bureau and special research institutions (institutes, stations, laboratories, museums, etc.) and their local branches [7]. In particular, the Statute emphasized that the Committee could opened some scientific institutions on its regulations. Shortly thereafter, the Plenum of the Committee approved a special «Temporary Instruction of Organization of Local Branches of the Agricultural Scientific Committee of Ukraine» at its meeting on July 13, 1920 [8]. The document stated that any representative offices could established in different cities of Ukraine within the territory they serve, and they should perform tasks and functions similar to those of the Committee. The organizational building of the branches carried out on the model of the Agricultural Scientific Committee of Ukraine and consisted of relevant problem sections, bureaus, etc. with the consent of the structural units of the main coordinating institution.

During 1920–1921, the Committee’s regional offices covered almost all of the Right Bank of Ukraine – Volyn, Kyiv, Podil and Uman [9, c. 8]. The first branch in Vinnytsia (Podilsk), established in June 1920. All scientific agricultural institutions of Podillya passed to Vinnitsia branch with the consent of the Podilsk Provincial Land Department. The Committee’s first successful experience in organizing peripheral coordination activities has led to the emergence of new branches. On January 1, 1923, they were already operational in six cities of Ukraine: Vinnitsa, Kamianets-Podilskyi, Odessa, Uman, Zhytomyr and Poltava [10, c. 79].

In the early 20’s of the last century agrarian figures of Poltava region rallied around Poltava Agricultural Scientific Society, founded on December 19, 1920 – the successor of Poltava Society of Agriculture and Agricultural Industry. According to the Charter of the Society, its purpose was to unite all scientific and technical forces of Poltava region for the further development of economic and agricultural sciences and related branches of knowledge, as well as to help its members to use their scientific potential in the most productive and rational way [11]. The creative association united more than 130 members. On December 5, 1921, the Poltava Provincial Land Department handed over to it the premises, scientific supplies, property and bookshelf of its predecessor with a fund of more than 14,000 volumes of agricultural books and periodicals. In December 1921, the association entered into a federal association with the All-Ukrainian Agronomic Society, established cooperation with the Moscow Society of Agriculture and the Seminar of Agricultural Economics and Policy at the Petrovo-Rozumov Agricultural Academy.

The Resolution of the Board on May 30, 1922 determined that Poltava Agricultural Scientific Society, while remaining separate legal institution that exists under its Charter, took over the functions of the Poltava branch of the Agricultural Scientific Committee of Ukraine. It pledged to run errands last accordance with the Committee’s provisions and general instructions about the organization and activities including its branches. As this instruction was not

adapted to the charter of the company as a regional representation of the Committee, it drafted amendments to paragraphs 6–8 and submitted for approval to the Agricultural Scientific Committee of Ukraine.

The scientific and social activities of the society consisted mainly in reading and discussing at the general meeting of scientific reports. Among them are:

- ❖ S. Sakharov «Regionalization of Poltava region by natural features»;
«Sketch of trade and industrial districts of Poltava region»;
- ❖ G. Ogolovets «The situation of the field of medicinal herbs in Lubensk region»;
- ❖ M. Sambikin «On the issue of climate change»;
- ❖ V. Sazanov «Choice of crops and fruiting»;
- ❖ E. Tokarsky «The current situation of tobacco in Poltava region and its prospects» etc. [11].

Poltava Office was actively engaged in publishing. It organized its own well-appointed library and widely disseminated agricultural research case. Particular attention was paid to the study of weed fields, the survey of sowing and yielding grain of the main grain crops in Poltava region, the development of intensive crops, in particular tobacco, the development of agricultural cooperatives, etc. The Poltava local office had a terminological and bibliographic commission, which worked closely with the Terminological Bureau of the Agricultural Scientific Committee of Ukraine and expanded its activities mainly in the widest organization of collecting folk terminological material.

In the second half of 1922, the activity of the Poltava branch was marked by some decline of its activity [12, c. 60]. It has lost several active members and funding has deteriorated. Even scientific and organizational work was declining, which still had excellent results six months ago. The best things were collecting and processing materials. Unfortunately, there was not systematic exchange of the scientific opinion, meetings or scientific reports.

However, the Poltava branch participated in interesting professional meetings from time to time. Among them are the Poltava Provincial Agronomic Meeting on October 13–14, 1922. The initiators of its holding were Poltava Scientific Society of Agriculture and Agronomic Bureau of the Provincial Land Department. The event was held on the eve of the Second All-Ukrainian Agronomy Congress, so delegates who were going to a meeting in Kharkiv via Poltava and Poltava agronomists attended the meeting. The members of the Poltava branch presented seven scientific reports:

1) V. Voloshin «Agronomic bases, agro points, sample fields, farms, parishes, their organization, interconnection and local agronomic work on agricultural restoration»;

2) O. Cherednik «Seed funds, parish's barns, seed wedges, their role and significance in the work of land bodies of Poltava region»;

3) V. Sazanov «The place of the experimental field in the general system of agronomic work (departments of application, their modern tasks and organization)»;

4) B. Anastesevich «Measures for mass dissemination of agricultural knowledge»;

5) N. Isaev «The place of agricultural school in the system of agronomic work and desirable types of agricultural damage in modern conditions»;

6) P. Pluyko «The importance of different forms of land use and the choice of appropriate to modern conditions»;

7) M. Sambikin «On agricultural credit».

All of these topics corresponded to the program of the II All-Ukrainian Agronomy Congress. They were developed by local forces in order, first, to organize delegate opinion in matters that directly related to Poltava as future participants of the large-scale assembly. The main goal of the Poltava society was achieved, because the delegates were going to the congress, already having an opinion that agrees with the views of the agronomic Poltava community, their views on the issues raised [12].

Unfortunately, Poltava Provincial Land Department reluctantly cooperated with the regional office of the Agricultural Scientific Committee of Ukraine. This was reflected in the department's poor publishing practices that was not long due to the difficult financial situation and lack of qualified specialists. An eloquent example is the «Revival of Agriculture in Poltava Region». The magazine was forced to cease its activities in the first issue. The leading scientist-bibliographer K. Dubniak thought, that this happened because it was published only by the Provincial Land Department and the Agricultural Commission at the Provincial Economic Meeting without the participation of the Poltava Scientific Agricultural Society that is a branch of the Agricultural Scientific Committee of Ukraine. Certainly, the Committee's Poltava Office would find among its members the necessary editorial forces that could give the magazine some form, scientific content, at least from the series of interesting reports that are in the its portfolio. In addition, the scientist emphasized that the participation of the Poltava branch of the Agricultural Scientific Committee of Ukraine in the publication of the periodical would guarantee the latter literacy, correct scientific terminology [13].

In 1924, Poltava Office of the Agricultural Scientific Committee of Ukraine has initiated the creation of Scientific Committee at the Poltava Agronomic-Cooperative Technical College. Its tasks included:

- 1) to study and assist the development of economic agricultural sciences and cooperatives and related branches of knowledge;
- 2) theoretical development of various measures to assist the comprehensive development of the cooperative and agricultural industry;
- 3) studying the issues of rationalization of work and rational construction of administrative and technical apparatus of various economic and cooperative organizations;
- 4) assistance to young active forces (students) at a specific practical work to become acquainted with scientific methods of work.

This committee consisted of five sections: economic, agricultural, labor rationalization, cooperative, statistical and bibliographic. It conducted a planned

study of the Poltava region and the whole of Ukraine in natural, economic, agricultural terms, and worked on the development of questions on the use of natural resources of the Poltava region. It worked closely with the Agricultural Scientific Committee of Ukraine, General Directorate of Vocational Education, All-Ukrainian Economic Council etc. [14].

The results of the study proved, there are reasons to say that the Poltava branch has made a significant contribution to the development of the region in the natural history direction. This was achieved through the wide involvement of prominent agrarian figures and indifferent personalities. Their achievements have been repeatedly presented at the regional and national levels. The Branch's scientific and organizational activities testified to a high level of professionalism in conducting fundamental explorations and establishing cooperation with national central scientific units under the coordination and methodological start of the Agricultural Scientific Committee of Ukraine.

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