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THE INFLUENCE OF THE EUROPEAN EXPERTS' ACTIVITIES ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PHYSICAL AND SPORTS MOVEMENT IN YEKATERINOSLAV GOVERNORATE (FROM THE SECOND HALF OF THE 19TH UNTIL EARLY 20TH CENTURIES)

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Wpływ działalności ekspertów europejskich na rozwój ruchu fizycznego i sportowego w guberni jekaterynosławskiej (od drugiej połowy XIX do początku XX wieku)

Streszczenie

Po powstaniu Ukrainy jako niepodległego państwa znacznie wzrosło zainteresowanie badaniem historycznych aspektów rozwoju kultury fizycznej i sportu na Ukrainie. Ramy chronologiczne niniejszego opracowania obejmują okres od drugiej połowy XIX wieku do początku XX wieku, kiedy to w warunkach rozwoju przemysłowego i potencjału gospodarczego oraz napływu ekspertów zagranicznych powstały zręby kultury fizycznej i sportu w guberni jekaterynosławskiej, jednej z największych guberni południowo-wschodnich ziem Ukrainy.

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Artykuł określa specyfikę kultury fizycznej i ruchu sportowego w regionie, ukazuje rolę ekspertów zagranicznych (z Europy) w rozwoju wychowania fizycznego w placówkach oświatowych, w organizowaniu i prowadzeniu zajęć treningowych w systemie gimnastycznym „Sokoła”. Podkreślono wkład zagranicznych ekspertów w tworzenie pierwszych organizacji i klubów sportowych z określonych dyscyplin sportowych. Wspomniany został również szczególny wkład środowiska polskiego (i jego przedstawiciela – Ignacego Jasiukowicza) w rozwój akademickiego wioślarstwa w guberni jekaterynosławskiej.

Słowa kluczowe: eksperci zagraniczni, placówki oświatowe, Towarzystwo Gimnastyczne „Sokół”.

Abstract

After the establishment of Ukraine as an independent state, the interest in investigating historical aspects of the development of physical culture and sports both in Ukraine and in its several regions increased significantly. The chronological framework of this study covers the period from the second half of the 19th century until the beginning of the 20th century, when, in the conditions of the progress of the industrial and economic potential and the influx of foreign experts, the foundations of physical culture and sports were laid in the Yekaterinoslav Governorate, one of the largest provinces in the south-eastern lands of Ukraine.

The article identifies the peculiarities of the physical culture and sports movement in the region, reveals the role of foreign experts (from Europe) in the development of physical education in educational institutions, in organizing and conducting training classes within the Sokil Gymnastics system in gymnasiums and schools. The contribution of foreign experts in the creation of the first sports organizations and clubs from certain kinds of sports is highlighted. The special contribution of the Polish diaspora and its representative Ignacy Jasiukowicz into the development of academic rowing in the Yekaterinoslav Governorate is revealed.

Keywords: foreign experts, educational institutions, Sokil Gymnastics Society.

Introduction

The development of physical culture in certain territories of independent Ukraine has its own features which are determined by political and socio-economic preconditions, namely: abolition of serfdom (1861), activation of revolutionary democratic and bourgeois democratic movements, industrial growth, development of capitalism, development of science and culture, land, military, school and other reforms, development of the social movement for physical education of children and youth, as well as cultural traditions, geographical location and other factors.¹

In the second half of the 18th century, in the southeastern lands of Ukraine, the Yekaterinoslav Governorate, which was one of the largest administrative

¹ N. Ye. Panhelova, *Istoriia fizychnoi kultury: navchalnyi posibnyk*. Kyiv: «Osvita Ukrainy», 2007, pp. 155–176; I. Baldzhy, N. Dolbisheva, G. Salenko, *Factors in the development of athletics and the achievements of Olympic sports in the Dnieperpetrovsk Oblast of the USSR*, “Sport i Turystyka. Środkowoeuropejskie Czasopismo Naukowe” 2022, vol. 5, no. 2, pp. 29–43.

and territorial units, began to form. At the beginning of the 20th century, it was part of the Russian Empire. The city of Yekaterinoslav was founded in 1776. It became the largest city in the southeastern lands of Ukraine. The historical period from the second half of the 19th century until the beginning of the 20th century is the first stage of the development of the physical culture and sports movement in the Yekaterinoslav Governorate, since during this period the foundations of physical education in educational institutions were laid and certain types of sports developed. This period belongs to the little-known ones in the history of the development of physical culture and sports. And it is of great interest to specialists.²

The investigation of archival documents, local history literature and other materials will allow to supplement little-known pages of the history of the Yekaterinoslav Governorate, to determine the prerequisites and factors that influenced the emergence and development of physical culture and sports, to clarify the role of European experts in formation of the system of physical education in educational institutions and development of several sports in the Yekaterinoslav Governorate.

Research methods and problems

The study considered the problems of the development of physical culture and sports in the Yekaterinoslav Governorate from the second half of the 19th century until the beginning of the 20th century. In order to solve the problems of this research, we used literary sources that can be divided into three groups.

The first group consists of encyclopedic materials and reference books devoted to the historical aspects of the development of physical culture and sports in the Yekaterinoslav Governorate. The second group includes archival materials of a legal nature – decisions and resolutions of the regional committee on physical culture and sports. The third group consists of scientific and methodical literature, which characterizes the peculiarities of the development of physical culture and sports in the Yekaterinoslav Governorate, as well as periodical and local history literature.

In the process of conducting the research, the following methods were used: analysis and generalization of scientific and methodical literature, archival documents and programmatic and normative materials, historical-descriptive method, historical-logical method, chronological method, comparative method and system analysis method.

² I.V. Baldzhy, *Istorychni ta orhanizatsiino-metodychni osnovy rozvytku olimpiiskoho rukhu na Dnieperpetrovshchyni vprodovzh XIX–XXI st.: dysertatsiia na zdobuttia naukovooho stupenia kandydatura nauk z fizychnoho vykhovannia ta sportu*. Dnieper, 2019, pp. 63–78.

Results and discussion

Yekaterinoslav, as the center of a new province in the south-east of modern Ukraine, was founded in 1776. At that time, it was a small provincial town with population of about 19,000 people. However, the administrative and territorial foundation of the Katerynoslav province was completed at the beginning of the 19th century. Pursuant to the order of Alexander I issued in 1806, the province included 8 county towns. The Katerynoslav district became the center of the province. It included Kamianske, Oleksandrivsk (now Zaporizhzhia), Nikopol, and others.³

The first mention of organized physical exercise classes is associated with the first educational institution - the Main National School, opened in April 1793. In addition to the main subjects (arithmetic, writing, sacred history, geography, foreign languages), children could also take lessons of dance music, etiquette and fencing for a fee if they wished.⁴

One of the prerequisites that contributed to the appearance of the first sports in the Yekaterinoslav Governorate in the second half of the 19th century was the economic development of the region, in which Alexander Pol, the first honorary citizen of Yekaterinoslav and Kryvyi Rih, played an important role. Huge deposits of iron, copper, manganese ores and hard coal were discovered with his participation. The intensive exploration of Kryvyi Rih's deposits as well as the construction of the railway and one of the largest double-decker bridges across the Dnieper River in Europe contributed to the development of the metallurgical industry in the region.

Starting from the 80s of the 19th century, the Yekaterinoslav Governorate became the center of economic life in the south of the country. The high rate of industrial development of the region contributed to the growth of the population (112,000 people in 1895; 212,000 people in 1903) and the inflow of capital from entrepreneurs and bankers. A large number of foreign experts, i.e. industrialists, engineers, metallurgists, etc., began to arrive in industrial Yekaterinoslav and other towns of the province. There were specialists from Germany, Poland, France, Belgium, Italy and other European countries.⁵

According to the population census of 1897, 71,560 foreigners lived in Yekaterinoslav and district towns, including 13,617 foreign citizens. At that time, the province occupied one of the leading places among the provinces of the European part of the Russian Empire in terms of the number of foreigners. Among

³ D.I., Yavornitskiy, *Istoriya goroda Ekaterinoslava*. Izd.: PromIn 1976, pp. 39–47.

⁴ V.I. Lazebnyk, *Neyzvestnaia Ekaterinoslavshchyna*. Naukovo-metodychne vydannia, vstupne slovo N. Kapustinoi. Dnieperpetrovsk 2012, pp. 28–39.

⁵ I.V. Baldzhy, *Istorychni ta orhanizatsiino-metodychni osnovy rozvytku olimpiiskoho rukhu na Dnieperpetrovshchyni vpravdovzh XIX – XXI st.: dysertatsiia na здobuttia naukovooho stupenia kandydata nauk z fizychnoho vykhovannia ta sportu*. Dnieper 2019, p. 66.

the foreign citizens who lived in Yekaterinoslav, the largest number of inhabitants were from Germany (8,204), Austro-Hungary (794), Belgium (576) and the Czech Republic (450). In addition, there were representatives of other European countries, namely France, Greece, Great Britain, Latvia, Italy, etc.

During this period, physical culture and sports in Europe developed at a fast pace. The scouting movement, which originated in England, flourished. The sports and Sokil Gymnastics system, which was founded in the Czech Republic, gained special popularity among the Slavic peoples. From the middle of the 19th century, international competitions in certain sports began to be held in European countries. The First Olympic Games took place in 1896. That is why the most active people from European countries initiated the creation of the first sports clubs on the territory of the Katerinoslav region.

The survey of the archival materials of the historical museum, the Dnieperpetrovsk regional state archive, and local literature showed that the birth of physical culture in the Katerinoslav region dates back to the second half of the 18th century and is related to physical education in educational institutions.

Economic and cultural development of the region contributed to the increase in the number of educational institutions. In the second half of the 19th century Yekaterinoslav hosted 32 educational institutions (gymnasiums, schools, private boarding houses, etc.). In connection with the reforms of 1863, physical education classes were introduced as an optional subject. One of the problems in the organization of physical education classes in educational institutions was the lack of qualified personnel. As a rule, these classes were conducted by teachers of other subjects.

Physical education of students began to develop at a faster pace at the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th centuries. The Higher Mining School was opened in 1899. At the beginning of the 20th century, the 1st and 2nd Real Schools, Oleksandrivsk Technical School (Zaporizhia), Mykola II Commercial School, etc. were opened and began to function. During this period, sports halls and summer sports grounds were organized in some educational institutions.⁶

Objective characteristics of physical culture in schools and gymnasiums of the Yekaterinoslav Governorate at the beginning of the 20th century were presented in the report for 1904 drawn by the Provincial Administration, where the public education section includes the following information, "Gymnastics and singing classes as additional subjects are present in all 13 schools." Gymnastics classes were conducted by class masters who did not have special training, and only 2 schools had special teachers.⁷

⁶ V.I. Lazebnyk, *Neyzvestnaia Ekaterynoslavshchyna*. Naukovo-metodychne vydannia, vstupne slovo N. Kapustinoi, Dnieperpetrovsk 2012, pp. 165–167.

⁷ *Otchet Ekaterynoslavskoi hubernskoi zemskoi upravli za 1904*. (Narodnoe obrazovanye), yzd. Ekaterynoslavskaiia typohrafiya hubernskoho zemstva, 1905. pp. 56–68.

Foreign experts who worked at Mykola II Commercial School and at the First Male Classical Gymnasium played an important role in the organization of classes. Thus, the Commercial School had a gymnasium with more than 100 pieces of gymnastic equipment. Classes were conducted under the guidance of a qualified teacher from Germany, E. E. Hoffman. A note to the school's timetable stated, "Physical exercises and games are held daily, from 11:15 till 11:55, in the open air, on the playground in front of the building." As noted in the report on the work of the Commercial School for 1903–1904, the game of "Small or Big Football" was particularly popular among students, which is the earliest mention of the game of football on the territory of the Katerinoslav region. Outdoor games called "War", "Fireman", and "Snow Battles" were also held. In the wintertime, the schoolchildren built an ice rink. The teacher E.E. Hoffman published the "Collection of Gymnastic Exercises and Outdoor Games", which was a methodical guide for class masters of other educational institutions who did not have special education. The physical education teacher of the First Men's Classical Gymnasium was a foreign specialist, Karl Knot, also a native of Germany.⁸

After the educational reform of 1912, compulsory classes were held in secondary schools according to the Sokil Gymnastics system, whose program, in addition to gymnastic exercises, included fencing, football, and outdoor games. Foreign experts K. Knot, E. Hoffman, K. Blomberg, J. Popel, J. Gikl, R. Keil played an important role in the introduction of classes according to the Sokil Gymnastics system.⁹

A special role in the birth of the physical culture and sports movement of the Yekaterinoslav Governorate was played by the Sokil sports and gymnastics society, founded at the 2nd Real School in 1908. The initiators of the association were foreign experts, teachers of Sokil Gymnastics, K. Blomberg and K. Knot. In the Sokil sports and gymnastics society, not only Sokil Gymnastics, but also athletics, football, and tennis found their place. In addition, the "sokils" of Kamianske had the opportunity to practice rowing, for which a pier was equipped in the area of the Kamianske's Yacht Club pier. Rowing pleasure boats were located there. Later, Sokil societies were created in Kamianske, Oleksandrivsk (now Zaporizhzhia), Nikopol and other cities.

Gymnastics festivals held at the Cathedral Square were very popular among the citizens of Yekaterinoslav. Up to 10,000 spectators gathered for the performances of the "sokils", and the best "sokils" of gymnasiums and schools took part in the demonstration performances. The performance program included exercises with flags, sticks, maces, scarves. There were special tricks on the trapeze, free exercises, jumps and pyramids were performed. The performances of

⁸ *Otchet o sostoianny Katerynoslavskoho kommercheskoho uchylshcha za 1903–1904.* Vydavnytstvo Katerynoslavskaia typohrafiia S.Y. Baranovskoho, 1904. p. 18.

⁹ *Spisok prepodavateley gimnastiki – Sokolov na territorii Rossii, Sokol 1913, no.2, pp. 30–31.*

the “sokils” lasted for 2–3 hours and impressed with their elegance and sophistication. The main organizer and screenwriter of these performances was K. Knot, the abovementioned teacher of Sokil Gymnastics. The Sokil movement gained a great popularity and support in the Yekaterinoslav society. It is evidenced by the fact that in 1912 the chairman of the City Duma, I. K. Sposobny, became head of the gymnastics association, and the director of the 1st Classical Gymnasium, a member of the City Duma, N. F. Shcherbinsky, as well as managing director of the Kateryninsk railway, M.V. Svida, became his deputies.¹⁰

Representatives of the Yekaterinoslav Sokil society took an active part in the activities of the All-Russian Sokol movement. K. Popel and K. Makarenko, board members of the Yekaterinoslav Sokil society took part in the first congress of the “Union of Russian Sokilstva”, at which K. Popel was elected to the board of the Union. K. Knot, teacher of Sokil Gymnastics of the First Men’s Classical Gymnasium, and K. Blomberg, board member of the Yekaterinoslav Sokil society, also took part in the activities of the Union.¹¹

During this period, the Yekaterinoslav Sokil society was actively involved in international competitive activities. At the VI Vsesokylski Zlyot in Prague in 1912, a team consisting of 72 participants (the largest delegation from 9 cities of Ukraine) performed in all types of gymnastic exercises, where they took 8 prize places, and V. Popovych became the gymnastic champion among the “sokils” of Ukraine. Yekaterinoslav “sokils” won 16 prizes in athletics competitions.¹² In 1913, the gymnasts of the Sokil society counting 55 sportspersons took part in the combined Sokil competition in the southwestern part of Russia, where they took 2nd place in their group, as well as in the demonstration performances of the gymnasts of the First Russian Olympiad in 1913, in Kyiv.¹³

Taking into account the fact that the majority of schools and gymnasiums in the Yekaterinoslav Governorate lacked trained teachers, the impact of the Sokil society on personnel training was of great importance for the physical culture and sports movement. The association organized theoretical and practical courses for leaders of elementary gymnastics according to the Sokil system and courses for leaders of outdoor games.¹⁴ According to the document referring to

¹⁰ V.I. Lazebnyk, *Neyzvestnaia Ekaterynoslavshchyna*. Naukovo-metodychne vydannia, vstupne slovo N. Kapustinoi, Dnieperpetrovsk 2012, pp. 147–154.

¹¹ O.O. Liakh-Porodko, *Sokolskyi himnastychnyi rukh u Rosiiskii imperii naprykintsi XIX – pochatku XX stolittia: dysertatsiia na zdobuttia naukovoho stupenia kandydata nauk z fizychnoho vykhovannia ta sportu*, Kyiv 2010, pp. 59–67.

¹² *Rezultaty sostyazaniy na I slete Soyuzu Slavyanskogo Sokolstva v Prage v 1912 g.* Sokol 1912, no. 1, pp. 15–16.

¹³ *Ibidem*.

¹⁴ E.F. Podoba-Nupryi, V.N. Nupryi, *Zachynately fizykulturnoho dvyzhenyia na Ekaterynoslavshchynе. Hosudarstvennyi arkhiv Dnepropetrovskoi oblasti*. F. 4548. Op. 1. D. 10, D.11, D. 12, D. 14-a, D. 20.

the completion of the courses, the training program for the leaders of gymnastic exercises included such subjects as:

1. Elementary hygiene of physical exercises and providing first aid in case of accidents.
2. Physical and moral development of a person according to the Sokil system.
3. The simplest drills.
4. Basic free exercises with flags, sticks and maces.
5. Different types of jumps.
6. Figure exercises.
7. The simplest shell exercises.¹⁵

It should be noted that 8 graduates of the Sokil courses became organizers of the physical culture and sports movement in the first years of Soviet power. The teacher of Sokil Gymnastics, Ya. Gikl, was appointed responsible for the organization of the first workers' sports clubs in Yeaterinoslav.¹⁶

One of the important factors that influenced the organization and conduct of classes in certain sports was the creation of the first and only (until 1928) Sokil stadium by the members of the society in 1911, which was located in the yard of the 2nd Real school (the intersection of Pushkin Ave., Savchenko St. and Starokozatska St.) (Figure 1).¹⁷



Figure 1. Sokil Stadium. Preparation for participation in demonstration performances

Source: Hosudarstvennyi arkhiv Dnepropetrovskoi oblasti. Fotohrafyi vistupleniy sportsmenov sportsoobshchestva «Sokol». F. 4548. Op. 1. D. 11, no pagination.

¹⁵ E.F. Podoba-Nupryi, V.N. Nupryi, *Zachynately fizykulturnoho dvyzheniya na Ekaterynoslavshchynе. Hosudarstvennyi arkhiv Dnepropetrovskoi oblasti*. F. 4548. Op. 1, D. 11. pp. 34–45.

¹⁶ *Otdel Vseobshcheho voennoho obucheniya /Vsevobuch/. Perepyska s razlychnimy uchrezhdeniyami po voprosam dopryzivnoi podhotovky y sportyvnyim meropriyatiyam*. F. 3649. Op. 2, D. 36, pp. 304–413.

¹⁷ Ibidem.

From the end of the 19th century until the beginning of the 20th century there was another direction in the development of the physical culture and sports movement of the Yekaterinoslav Governorate. It was the creation of sports groups and clubs for certain sports.

One of the first sports disciplines that began to develop at the end of the 19th century was academic rowing. It was the Polish diaspora that played the main role in the development of academic rowing. In the spring of 1887, in the village of Kamianske, Polish experts began the construction of the Warsaw Steel Works, the shares of which belonged to Belgian, Polish-German and French shareholders. The managing director of this factory was a talented organizer, a man of advanced progressive views, Ignacy Jasiukowicz (Figure 2), Polish by nationality. When he studied at the St. Petersburg Polytechnic Institute, he was fond of academic rowing.¹⁸



Figure 2. Ignacy Jasiukowicz (November 1, 1847 – August 26, 1914) was the founder of the “Katerinoslav Society of Rowing and Swimming in the village of Kamianske”

Source: *Belye pyatna istorii Kamenskogo-Dneprodzerzhinska*, 2020, p. 45.

Not only did he bring the Kamianske Metallurgical Plant to the first place in Europe but he also actually became the founder of the city of Kamianske. With his direct participation, educational institutions, hospitals, a church and other social facilities were built in Kamianske. I. Jasiukowicz lived 66 years, died in 1914, in the Polish city of Kutno. In 2012, a monument commemorating him as the founder of the city of Kamianske was erected on the square in front of the

¹⁸ A.O. Slonevskiy, O.M. Moroz, *Belye pyatna istorii Kamenskogo-Dneprodzerzhinska*, 2020, p. 45.

main office of the Dnieper Metallurgical Plant (Figure 3). His great-grandson was present at the opening of the monument.¹⁹



Figure 3. Monument to Ignacy Jasiukowicz, erected in the city of Kamianske in 2012.

Source: *Belye pyatna istorii Kamenskogo-Dneprodzerzhynska*, 2020, p. 57.

On the initiative of I. Jasiukowicz, in 1893, the “Yekaterinoslav Society of Rowing in the village of Kamianske” was officially registered. It was the first sports organization in the Yekaterinoslav Governorate. The chairman of the organization was a Pole, Wojciech Albert Sima, an honorary citizen of Kamianske, member of the plant management board. And the permanent honorary chairman of the society was the managing director of the South Russian Dnieper Metallurgical Society, I. Jasiukowicz. A Polish specialist, deputy director, chief technologist of the plant, Adolf Makomaski, was also an active member of the Kamianske club.²⁰

On the initiative of I. Jasiukowicz, one of the buildings of the former head office of the plant, which housed the Yacht Club after reconstruction, was given to the Rowing Society free of charge. The premises of the club contained an entrance hall with a porter’s room, a dining room with a buffet, a library, a large dance hall with “choirs for an orchestra”. On the first floor, there were two billiard rooms and a servant’s room. The building of the Yacht Club was maintained at the expense of

¹⁹ *Ibidem*, p. 57.

²⁰ *Arkhivni materialy narodnoho muzeiu Dnieperdzerzhynskoho Metalurhiinoho Kombinatuu m. Kamianske. 1906*, pp. 25-27.

the factory and was intended for gatherings and entertainment of the society members, most of whom were Poles (officials and craftsmen) and workers of the factory, which was extremely rare for Yacht Clubs of that time.²¹

For training and competitions on the bank of the Dnieper, a summer pavilion consisting of a kitchen-dining room, a billiard room, a bathroom, dressing rooms and other rooms was equipped at the expense of the plant. On the Dnieper side, there were two verandas with ladders and floating platforms (bons), which housed racing boats and pleasure boats. A special mooring for boats of the Sokil Sports and Gymnastics Society was located at the pier. In the summer, it was one of the busiest places in Kamianske, with two wooden fenced baths for swimming also located there.²²

From the very beginning of the Kamianske Yacht Club, necessary conditions were created for the development of academic rowing as a sport. Considerable attention was paid not only to the organization of the training process, but also to the holding of competitions among society members coming from all walks of life. The competitions in question were held in sailing, academic and folk rowing.

During the summer season, academic rowing competitions, which aroused considerable interest among the residents of Kamianske, were held in the club. The residents had an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the competition programs, which indicated the composition of the teams in each of the boat classes, the start time, the length of the distance, and the composition of the judging board. One of such programs stored in Kamianske was preserved in the archival funds of the people's museum of the Dnieper Metallurgical Plant.²³

The main sporting event in Kamianske's life was the academic rowing competition dedicated to the 20th anniversary of the Yacht Club, which 78 of the most trained athletes took part in (Figure 4).²⁴

The program of the competition, which took place on June 7, 1913, included 22 races in different classes of vessels: singles, doubles and sixes, including women's crews in half-boats – singles and doubles with a coxswain at a distance of 1500 m. Since racing boats-outriggers and semi-outriggers were not numerous at that time, 2-3 boats took part in races. Races in six-outrigger boats with removable outriggers and movable seats at a distance of 3100 m were considered the most prestigious. The winners in this class of boats were awarded with gold tokens.²⁵

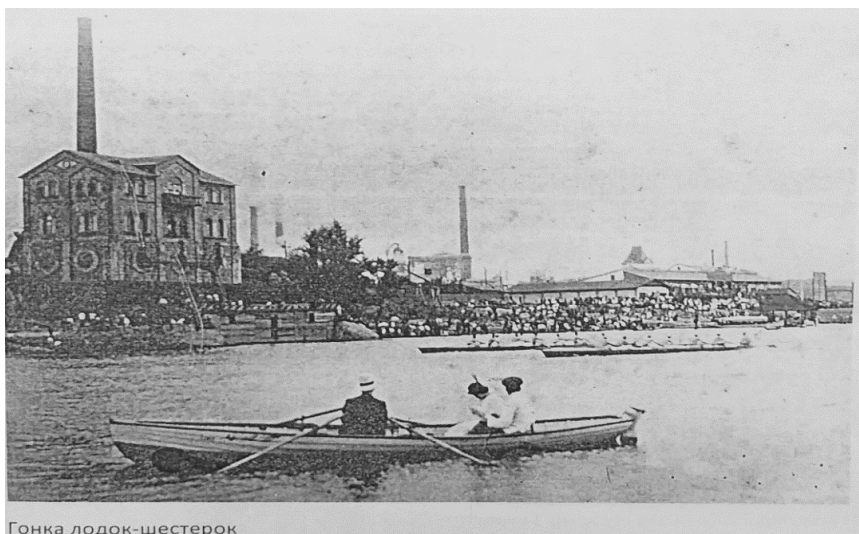
²¹ «*Opisanie Dneprovskogo zavoda ot 1908 g.*» Kniga sostavlena rabotnikami Narodnogo muzeya Kamenskogo metallurgicheskogo kombinata. 1908, pp. 18–21.

²² Arkhivni materialy narodnoho muzeiu Dnieperdzerzhynskoho Metalurhiinoho Kombinatuu m. Kamianske. 1906, pp. 5–18.

²³ Ibidem.

²⁴ Ibidem.

²⁵ Arkhivni materialy narodnoho muzeiu Dnieperdzerzhynskoho Metalurhiinoho Kombinatuu m. Kamianskeю 1906, pp. 33–35.



Гонка лодок-шестерок

Figure 4. Academic rowing competition dedicated to the 20th anniversary of the Kamianske Yacht Club

Source: Arkhivni materialy narodnoho muzeiu Dnieperdzerzhynskoho Metalurhiinoho Kombinatuu m. Kamianske, no pagination.

The races were attended by a large number of spectators who were cheering the participants from the banks of the Dnieper River along the distance and on the embankment of the summer pavilion of the Yacht Club, in the central part of which the management of the plant, the city nobility and the local intelligentsia, who gave special prestige to the competition, were seated. It was a great event in the life of provincial Kamianske (Figure 5).²⁶

Due to the revolutionary events of 1917, the Kamianske Yacht Club suspended its activities, but the experience in organizing the training process and conducting competitions, accumulated during its existence, was used in the organization of the academic rowing sections in the physical culture team of the Kamianske Dnieper Metallurgical Factory.²⁷

An outstanding person, a Pole named Henryk Kuskowski, continued the tradition of academic rowing development at the Kamianske Yacht Club. The historian of the city, A. Slonevskiy, wrote about him, “An athlete, a coach, a violinist, an artist, an inventor, a designer, a collector, a cook – that’s all he is. An outstanding personality”.²⁸ His whole life was connected with the city and the fac-

²⁶ Ibidem.

²⁷ I.V. Baldzhy, *Istorychni ta orhanizatsiino-metodychni osnovy rozvytku olimpiiskoho rukhu na Dnieperpetrovshchyni vprodovzh XIX - XXI st.: dysertatsiia na zdobuttia naukovoho stupenia kandydata nauk z fizychnoho vykhovannia ta sportu*. Dnieper 2019. pp. 138–145.

²⁸ Arkhivni materialy narodnoho muzeiu Dnieperdzerzhynskoho Metalurhiinoho Kombinatuu m. Kamianske. 1906, pp. 25–27.

tory. When, after the revolution of 1917, most Poles, including his sister, returned to Poland, G. Kuskowski remained in Kamianske. H. Kuskowski worked as a designer at the Dnieper Metallurgical Factory for 77 years. In 1943, his drawings served as a blueprint to restore the factory workshops, the building and the interior of the church. In the 1920s, he became a local celebrity as a well-known factory worker and a goalkeeper of the local Metalist football team. His greatest achievements were in academic rowing, to which he devoted 50 years of his life. In 1925, his pupils became champions of the 1st Championship of Ukraine in academic rowing. In 1936, he won a silver medal at the All-Union academic rowing competition. As a coach, he trained the USSR and world champion, A. Tkachuk, Ukrainian champions, A. Didenko, V. Lavrinenko, I. Kucher, and others (Figure 6).²⁹



Figure 5. Summer pavilion of the Kamianske Yacht Club (1913)

Source: Arkhivni materialy narodnoho muzeiu Dnieperdzerzhynskoho Metalurhiinoho Kombinatuu m. Kamianske, no pagination.

The Yekaterinoslav Yacht Club was founded in 1898 along with the Kamianske Rowing Society. On this occasion, on January 25, 1898, a note appeared in the third issue of the newspaper "PryDniepervia," "A yacht club is about to be opened in Yekaterinoslav. The charter has been drawn up. The number of founding members has already reached 20." An important role in organizing the work of the Yekaterinoslav Yacht Club and other sports organizations was played by

²⁹ Arkhivni materialy narodnoho muzeiu Dnieperdzerzhynskoho Metalurhiinoho Kombinatuu m. Kamianske. 1906, p. 5.

the noblemen's club called "English" and the merchants' "Commercial Club". The role of the Noblemen's Club in Yekaterinoslav society is reflected in the "Brief historical record of the 75th anniversary of the club 1838–1913. December 13", which was written by the foreman of the club, M. Luchak. The author determines that from the very first steps of its existence, the Yekaterinoslav club "... responded to all kinds of good deeds. The traditions of the club were healthy hobbies satisfying the cultural needs of not only the club members themselves and their families, but also meeting the requests of the local community."³⁰

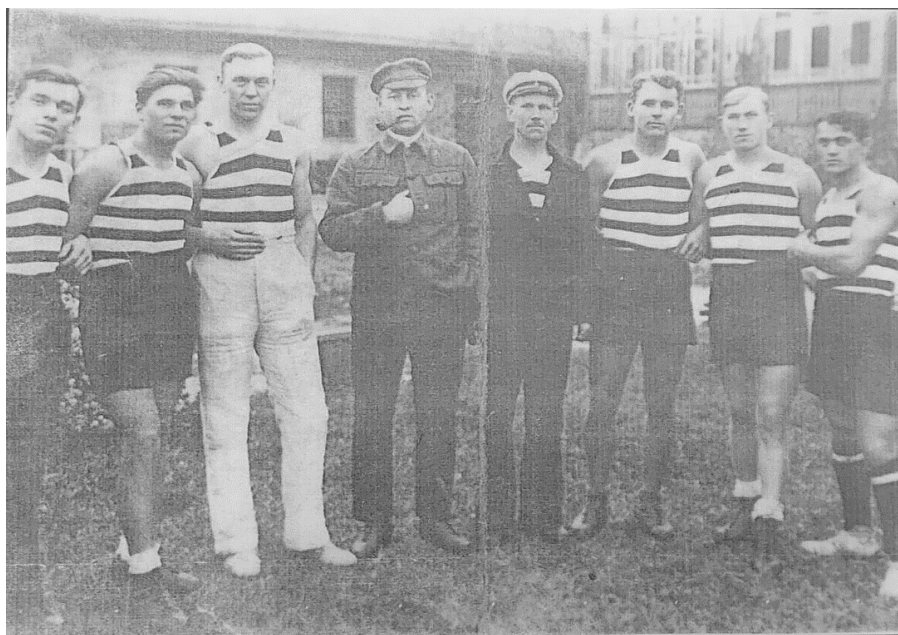


Figure 6. The winners of the 1st Ukrainian Academic Rowing Championship and their coach H. Kuzzkowski (3rd from the left)

Source: Arkhivni materialy narodnoho muzeiu Dnieperdzerzhynskoho Metalurhiinoho Kombinatuu m. Kamianske, no pagination.

In order to conduct rowing classes, it was necessary to build the summer premises of the Yacht Club, but it was difficult to find a suitable plot of land on the bank of the Dnieper at that time. The issue of the construction of the Yacht Club summer premises was resolved thanks to the support of the members of the Noble Club and its chairman, patron N. P. Urusov, whose plot of land on the bank of the lower part of the Potiomkin's Garden was granted to the Club on preferential terms. In the spring of 1898, harbors for parking boats, pavilions,

³⁰ M.M. Luchnyk, *Kratkaia ystorycheskaia zapyska k 75-ty letnemu yubyleiu Ekaterynoslavskoho kluba. 1838–1913 hh.* 13 dekabria. Broshiura. Yzd-vo «Novosty Dnepra» 2018, pp. 24–25.

a workshop for their repair, boathouses for storage and other premises were built on this site (Figure. 7).³¹



Figure 7. Pier of the Yekaterinoslav Yacht Club (Potiomkin Park)

Source: Arkhivni materialy narodnoho muzeiu Dnieperdzerzhynskoho Metalurhiinoho Kombinatuu m. Kamianske, no pagination.

Unlike the Kamianske Yacht Club, which was also open to representatives of the working environment, the members of the Yekaterinoslav Club were mostly representatives of the nobility, merchants, bank employees of the Kateryn's Railway, government officials, student youth, and representatives of the clergy. The yacht club was one of the popular and attractive places not only for rowing enthusiasts, but also for other inhabitants who came there to relax. An important part of the Yacht Club mission was the organization and holding of competitions, the most popular of which were the annual Public Races.

Unfortunately, history has not preserved for us the names of the first champions and prize-winners of the competition. Yet, in 1930, one of the "patriarchs" of rowing and sailing sports in the Dnieperpetrovsk region, P. I. Lagdyshuk wrote, "In 1910, a young, very capable and promising Polish rower, Wasyl Leszczyński, became a member of the Yacht Club and one of the most famous rowers in Yekaterinoslav, successfully competing in Russian championships and international competitions."³² Until 1916, W. Leszczyński was a member of the club's

³¹ Arkhivni materialy narodnoho muzeiu Dnieperdzerzhynskoho Metalurhiinoho Kombinatuu m. Kamianske. 1906.

³² A.H. Boliebruk, *Istoriia mista Dnieperpetrovsk*. Dnieperpetrovsk: Vyd-vo Hrani 2006, pp. 16–17.

board, the only rower who had his own outrigger racing boat (Figure 8).³³ In 1912 and 1913, he was the winner of the long-distance sailing competition, the champion of the Public Races of the Yekaterinoslav Yacht Club.



Figure 8. W. Leszczyński is a well-known sportsman of the Yekaterinoslav Yacht Club.

Source: Arkhivni materialy Dnieperpetrovskoho oblasnoho dobrovilnoho sportyvnoho tovarystva «Lokomatyv». 1925, no pagination.

After the revolution, W.K. Leszczyński played an important role in the development of academic rowing in the Yekaterinoslav – Dnieperpetrovsk region. In 1920, he was appointed senior instructor (coach) in water sports. In fact, he was the only specialist in the organization and implementation of the educational and training process in the first years of Soviet power. An interesting fact of his biography testifies to his contribution into the functioning of the Yacht Club after the revolution. In April 1920, he and his wife were arrested by the repressive bodies of the Emergency Commission. On this occasion, the Military Commissar

³³ Arkhivni materialy Dnieperpetrovskoho oblasnoho dobrovilnoho sportyvnoho tovarystva «Lokomatyv». 1925.

of the Yekaterinoslav Governorate wrote a report with a request for his release, in which he noted, "W.K. Leszczyński, an honest citizen and a wonderful worker, is extremely necessary for the work of the Yacht Club." After that, he was released, which happened very rarely. In the 1920s, he was one of the famous Yekaterinoslav coaches who trained the champions of the 1928 All-Union Spartakiad in academic rowing among men in eight-clinker (boat class).

One of the most popular sports disciplines that began to develop with the participation of Europeans at the beginning of the 20th century was football. The first mentions of football competitions organized by the Sokil society date back to 1911, and in 1914 the first official tournament was held, with 6 participating teams: "First Yeaterinoslav Team", national team of Yekaterinoslav "Triton", "Sparta", "Orlyatko", "Victoria", "Gladiator".³⁴

The strongest team in the city was "First Yekaterinoslav Team", which included mainly Germans: Heinrich, Vogel, Wutske, Hertel, Seget, Tanus and team captain Olbrich. The crew of "Sparta", which included the best players, members of the English and Commercial clubs, was quite strong too.

Due to the growing popularity of football and the number of teams that participated in tournaments, in 1916, the Yekaterinoslav Football League was formed, uniting 18 teams, the strongest of which were "Alcor", "Triton", "Sparta" and "Orlyatko". In the same year, the Yekaterinoslav Football League was accepted into the All-Russian Football League.³⁵ Football was also one of the most popular sports among student youth. At the beginning of the 20th century, in Yekaterinoslav, there were more than 10 student teams created by students of gymnasiums and schools. In 1916, the Student Football League was formed. In addition, football was played in the Jewish Sports Society "Maccabi".

Football competitions were held on the only summer playground in the city, i.e. "Sokil". Despite the fact that the admission to the playground was paid, a large number of fans and spectators gathered for each competition. According to the research of the local historian, V. Lazebnyk, the local press not only covered the matches in detail, but also offered comments emphasizing the popularity of football. Thus, after the match between "Sparta" and "Triton" teams, the newspaper "Gubernskie vedomosti" noted, "By the size of the audience gathered at this moment, it can be said that sports, and football among them, are of interest to many and are presented as a spectacular, elegant and grandiose spectacle".³⁶

³⁴ V.I. Lazebnyk, *Nezvestnaia Ekaterinoslavshchyna*. Naukovo-metodychne vydannia, vstupne slova N. Kapustinoi. Dnieperpetrovsk 2012, pp. 157–158; K. Mykolaichyk, *Byohrafiya futbolu*. Hazeta «Prapor yunosti», Dnieperpetrovsk 16 sichnia 1967, p. 2.

³⁵ D.V. Moskalenko, *Ot «Alkora» do «Dnepra». Ystoriya futbolu v Dnepropetrovske*. [Kn. I: 1911–1961 hh.]. Dnepropetrovsk: Herda 2011, pp. 113–115.

³⁶ Ibidem, p. 124.

Foreign specialists also made a significant contribution to the development of athletics, which developed quite successfully in the Yekaterinoslav Sokil Gymnastics Society. The association's track and field athletes took part in Sokil meetings and achieved very good results.

Such types of athletics competitions as short-distance running, jumping, and shot put developed most successfully. The winners and prize-winners of the 'Vsesokylski Zlyot' in Prague in 1912 were: K. Blomberg – 100 m run (11.4 s), high jump (130 cm), long jump from a standing position (2.75 m); I. Thisen – high jump (150 cm), long jump (4.69 m), long jump from a standing position (2.72 m); O. Dukhinsky – pole vault (220 cm), long jump from the run-up with a bridge (478 cm), 100 m run (12 s); V. Pavlov – pole vault (200 cm); Ya. Voyshvilo – shot put (8.22 m), long jump from a run with a bridge (506 cm), long jump from a standing position (2.72 cm); V. Popovych – 300 m run (45.2 s), 100 m run (12 s), shot put (8.55 m); V. Goyer – discus throw (28.8 m), 100 m run (12.3 s).³⁷

Thus, at the beginning of the 20th century, foreign experts took an active part in the development of physical education in educational institutions, in the organization and conduct of training classes in the Sokil Gymnastics system in gymnasiums and schools. They also took an active part in the creation of the first sports organizations and clubs for certain sports.

Conclusions

The birth of the physical culture and sports movement in the Yekaterinoslav Governorate region began in the second half of the 19th century and is connected with the emergence of physical education in educational institutions and the creation of physical culture and sports organizations for the development of certain types of sports.

In the absence of qualified specialists, an important role in the implementation of physical education classes in gymnasiums and schools was played by foreign specialists, representatives of European countries, the most famous of whom were K. Knot, E. Hoffman, K. Blomberg, J. Popel, J. Gikl, and R. Keil.

The participation of representatives of the European diaspora in the creation of the Sokil Sports and Gymnastics Society, which at that time became the center of youth development of the Yekaterinoslav Governorate, was of great importance for the development of the physical culture and sports movement of the Yekaterinoslav Governorate at the beginning of the 20th century.

The sports-gymnastic society held educational and training sessions, as well as competitions in gymnastics, athletics, rowing, fencing, tennis, and football.

³⁷ O.O. Liakh-Porodko, *Sokolskyi himnastychnyi rukh u Rosiiskii imperii naprykintsi XIX – pochatku XX stolittia: dysertatsiia na zdobuttia naukovooho stupenia kandydata nauk z fizychnoho vykhovannia ta sportu*. Kyiv 2010, pp. 136–138.

The best Sokil athletes took part in competitions both in Ukraine and in international competitions in Prague, where they won prizes in gymnastics and athletics. The annual demonstration performances of the "sokils" were particularly popular among the city's residents.

One of the important activity areas of Sokil management was the organization of special courses for the training of instructors of Sokol gymnastics and movement games. Graduates of these courses were the first specialists in physical education in the Yekaterinoslav Governorate. Representatives of the European diaspora played an important role in the development of certain sports. With their participation, sports circles, clubs and teams were created for water sports, athletics, football, etc.

A special role in the birth and development of academic rowing, one of the most successful sports in the Yekaterinoslav Governorate, was played by the managing director of the metallurgical plant, a Pole by origin, I. Jasiukowicz. Thanks to his initiative and financial support, one of the best clubs on the territory of Ukraine, "Yekaterinoslav Society of Rowing in the village of Kamianske", was created in the city of Kamianske.

Most of the Kamianske Yacht Club members who took part in the organization and conduct of the training process and competitive activities were representatives of the Polish diaspora, the most active of whom were Wojciech Sima, Adolf Makamaski, and Henryk Kuzkowski. A significant role in the development of academic rowing in the Yekaterinoslav Governorate was also played by one of the best athletes, a board member of the Yekaterinoslav Yacht Club, one of the first rowing coaches in Soviet times, the Pole Wasyl Leszczyński.

Thus, one of the most important factors that contributed to the birth and development of physical culture and sports in Yekaterinoslav Governorate in the second half of the 19th century and at the beginning of the 20th century was the activity of foreign specialists from European countries who lived on the territory of the Yekaterinoslav Governorate.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICTING INTERESTS

The authors declared no potential conflicts of interests with respect to the research, authorship, and/or publication of the article *The Influence of the European Experts' Activities on the Development of the Physical and Sports Movement in Yekaterinoslav Governorate (from the Second Half of the 19th until Early 20th Centuries)*.

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