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ACTIVITY OF THE ROSTOV GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Prof I. D. Sedletskiy Pres, Rostov Geolog Soc K. N. Negodayev-Nikonov Acad Sec

From the beginning of its organization on 16 April 1947 the Rostov Geological Society has conducted its work systematically.

On 15 May 1947 a conference took place at which D. F. Vlasov reported on "The Struggle on the Theoretical Front in Geology." The speaker put particular emphasis on the struggle of the idealistic, mechanistic and materialistic trends, gave a thorough criticism of them, and threw light on the subject of accumulated factual material in geology from the standpoint of dialectical materialism. The report aroused great interest and started a lively discussion.

On 15 June 1947 a meeting took place, dedicated to the metallogenesis of the Central Caucasus. A report was made by Docent G. M. Yefremov of the Movocharkassk Industrial Instituto. Yefremov introduced new facts concerning matallogenesis in the Caucasus.

On 25 October 1947, the session of the Geological Society was dedicated to the memory of Academician P. I. Stepanov, an outstanding coal geologist. A report on the basic facts of the life and adjentific activity of ?. I. Stepanov was made by A. I. Tegorov, a docent of the Novocherkassk Industrial Institute.

A report on the subject "Academician P. I. Stepanov and the Great Donbass" was given by S. P. Krivokhatskiy, head geologist of the Azov-Black Sea Geological Administration.

Recollections of their collaboration with P. I. Stepanow were given by the following: L. F. Korotkiy, head of the Azov-Black Sea Geological Administration; V. I. Burov, head of the Rostovuglerazvedra Trust (Rostov Coal Prospecting Truct); A. Ya. Dubinskiy, head geologist to the Trust; Comrades Tomkovich, Kichapry, and others, seclogists of the Azov-Black Sea Geological Administration,

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Professor I. D. Sedletskiy, Docent K. N. Negodayev-Nikonov, and others from the Rostov State University also spoke. All speakers emphasized the great services rendered by P. I. Stepanov in Soviet science and for our people.

The assembly issued the following resolution: 1 (1) to name the coal beds in the Nesvetayevo Shakk y areas of the Donbass i, 1, i, 2, i, 2 "Stepanov"; (2) to request the Minister of Geology of the USSR to adopt the name Academician F. I. Stepanov for the Novocherkasek Mining Technical School; and (3) to publish a collection of geological works dedicated to the memory of P. I. Stepanov.

On 27 November 1947, the conference of the Geological Society was dedicated to the 30th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

Professor I. D. Sedletskiy reported on the subject "Progress of the Geological Mineralogical Sciences in 30 Years of Soviet Rule."

From 24-28 December 1947, members of the Geological Society gave reports at the scientific conference of the Don and Northern Caucasus. A total of 22 reports were made on various subjects. Among those who spoke were: Professor I. D. Sedletskiy on "Mineralogical Classification of Clays"; Professor M. D. Sedletskiy, Docent K. N. Negodayev-Nikonov and Docent I. A. Shampay on "Refractory Clays of the Rostov Area"; Candidate of Eliences, P. S. Samodurov on "Refractory Clays of the Northern Caucasus"; Docent I. Ya. Baranov on "Geology of the Permian Red Conglomerates of the Northern Caucasus"; Docent Miroshnikovin "Disintegration of Paleogene Deposits of the Lower Don"; S. P. Krivokhatskiy on "Geological Study of the Area-Black Sea Area"; Janding Colences, L. P. Kharchuk on "Geological Study of the Northern Caucasus" and "Baryta Veins of the Northern Caucasus"; Professor B. P. Zhizhchenko on "New Methods of Paleogeographical and Stratigraphic Surveys"; Professor I. D. Sedletskiy on "The Priority of the Russian Scientist"; V. M. Severgin in the "Study of Paragenesis of Minerals"; A. S. Tomkovich on "Results of Operations in the Eastern Sector of the Donuass"; V. A. Mel'uikov and other geologists of the Don and the Northern Caucasus.

On 15 January 1948, the society held a ression on the utilization of the mineral raw materials of Rostov oblast in the national economy. The speakers were: S. P. Krivokhatskiy, head geologist of the Azov-Black Sea Geological Aministration; V. A. Demyanenko, superintendent of the southern division of the Geolstromtrest (Geological Construction Trust); S. M. Shotenberg, head associate scientist of the Institute of Local Industry; Professor N. S. Bogdanov of the Rostov Engineering and Construction Institute, and others.

The meeting was attended by representatives of local industry. A resolution was adopted to further the study and utilization of local mineral raw materials: clay, clay gypsum, marl, sand, and others.

On 26 February 1948, the meeting was dedicated to the problem, "Principles of Coal Formation and the Paleogeographic Distribution of Coal." The report by Docent A. I. Yegorov, thoroughly explaining this problem, was based on actual surveys of material gathered over a period of 15 years. Belts and zones of coal accumulation and the migration of areas of coal formation are being determined.

The following sections of the Geological Society are organized and operational:
(1) mineralogical-petrographical (supervisor Prof. I. D. Schistskiy);
(2) geological-stratigraphical (supervisors Professor S. A. Gatuyev and Yu. N. Rodzyanko); (3) engineering geology and hydrogeology (supervisor, A. K. Lapionov); and (4) mineral resources (supervisor S. P. Krivokhatskiy).

At meetings of the mineralogical-petrographical section the following reports were discussed: (1) "New Specifications of Clay Minerals" (2) "Studies of Minerals by Means of the Electron Microscope"; and (3) "Rules for Naming Minerals According to Their Chemical Composition Proposed by Professor D. P. Grigor'yev," and others. The section approved Professor D. P. Grigor'yev's

- 2 -

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proposal concerning a rational system for naming minerals, which appeared in the periodical <u>Notes of the All-Union Mineralogical Society</u>.

The department of mineralogy and petrography of the Rostov State University which is doing research on colloid-dispersed minerals under the supervision of Professor I. D. Sedletskiy was directed to work out a system for the classification of colloid dispersed minerals.

The section of engineering geology discussed results obtained by Rostov geologists concerning the problem of losss, its composition, characteristics and genesis.

Scientific instruction is being given by society members to the population. Lectures were given on mineral resources in the Rostov area by Docent K. N. Negodayav-Mikonov: on surveys and prospecting for mineral raw material by S. P. Krivokhatskiy: on development of life on the earth by Docent E. N. Semikhetov and Docent P. V. Miroshnikov.

The mineralogical museum is open and being equipped under the supervision of Professor I. D. Sedletskiy. The geological museum is open and being equipped under the supervision of Professor K. N. Negodayev-Nikonov. Its regional departments are: Donbass geology, Caucasian geology, geology of the Rostov area, general geology, historical geology, and others.

Under the supervision of B. S. Tsigler the organization of the Office of Consultations was started in 1948. The Rostov Geological Society opened two branches: the North Caucasian branch in Essentuki and the Novocherkassk branch in Hovocherkassk where work on problems of mineralogy, lithology, metallogenesis and geology is in progress.

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- 3

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