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M. S. Lysenko

O. M. Beketov National University of Urban Economy in Kharkiv

THE AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATIONS IN KHARKIV PROVINCE: CREATION AND TRENDS OF THE ACTIVITY (1880-1914)

Стаття присвячена дослідженню сільськогосподарських товариств Харківської губернії. Автор вивчив динаміку їх розвитку, чисельність та види. Громадські об'єднання підрозділялися на губернські, повітові та місцеві. Вони охоплювали всі сфери аграрного виробництва краю. Діяльність Харківського товариства сільського господарства була найбільш ефективною і поширювало роботу на шість сусідніх губерній імперії. У аграрних товариствах співпрацювали представники різних соціальних і професійних верств: підприємці, земці, науковці, землевласники. Дані організації суттєво вплинули на аграрну галузь економіки і модернізацію суспільства регіону.

Ключові слова: Харківська губернія, сільськогосподарські товариства, модернізація, земство.

Статья посвящена исследованию сельскохозяйственных обществ Харьковской губернии. Автор изучил динамику их развития, численность и виды. Общественные объединения подразделялись на губернские, уездные и местные. Они охватывали все сферы аграрного производства края. Деятельность Харьковского общества сельского хозяйства была наиболее эффективной и осуществлялась в шести соседних губерниях империи. В аграрных обществах сотрудничали представители разных социальных и профессиональных групп: предприниматели, работники земств, ученые, землевладельцы. Данные организации оказали большое воздействие на аграрную сферу экономики и модернизацию общества региона.

Ключевые слова: Харьковская губерния, сельскохозяйственные общества, модернизация, земство.

The article deals with a research of an activity of agricultural societies in Kharkiv province. The author has studied their origin, development, types and quantity. There were province, uyezd and rural agricultural associations. They composed all spheres of agriculture of the region. Kharkiv Agricultural Society was the most effective one. Its work was extended for six neighbouring provinces of the Russian Empire. The representative of different social and professional groups, such as entrepreneurs, officials of zemstvo, scientists and landowners collaborated in the agricultural associations. These public associations had great influence on agricultural sphere of economy and the modernization of publicity in this region.

Keywords: Kharkiv province, agricultural associations, modernization, zemstvo.

In the second half of the XIX – the beginning of the XX centuries the Russian Empire occurred reform thus increasing the role of society. Russia was an agrarian state, so the role of the sector remained essentially important. All in all Ukrainian provinces varied, and it was primarily due to modernization.

The aim is to study the activity of agricultural communities of Kharkiv province, their impact on social and socio-economic development of the region.

The chronological boundaries the article is covering in the period 1880-1914, from the foundation of the first public company in Kharkiv province until the World War I.

The object is a public association, called agricultural society. The article examines only agricultural companies, which were the subject to the General Directorate of Agriculture and land arrangement by the Department of Agriculture. In addition, the Russian Empire still contained agricultural cooperative organizations, which were administered by the department of rural economy and agricultural statistics or Directorate for small loans.

Historiography of the problem. The study theme was a development in history. Bibliography of social and political subjects should be divided roughly into three phases: 1) before 1917; 2) the Soviet period;

3) modern. During all stages of publications were devoted to: a) development of the Russian Empire as a whole; b) history of the state; c) public organizations of the country, including the history of agriculture; d) Persons.

At the turn of the XIX–XX centuries, leading representatives of the public trying to understand the significance of the results of reforms of the 1860's. Therefore, at this time appeared literature on historical subjects [3, 4]. The authors submitted papers summarizing estimation of the changes that have occurred in the state. Works on restructuring the agricultural sector occupy a significant place in pre-revolutionary historiography. Some place in the structure of agriculture and more innovation occupied agricultural society. Their participants were businessmen, landowners, scientists, members of zemstvo. They were thinking about problems solved agrarian society and the ways of accelerating socio-economic and socio-political development [28]. Kharkiv Agricultural Society conducted a study sample descriptions and estates promoted their best practices in technology and relationships between owners and workers [16]. Terms of authors was extremely wide: landowners practices, agronomists, economists, zemstvo officials, scientists and others. The attention is drawn to genre diversity, magazines, reports, exhibitions, congresses materials landowners, memoirs, descriptions estates analysis of statistical surveys, etc.

In Soviet historiography the agricultural societies of the Kharkiv province were not specifically studied. Some authors mentioned social work agricultural societies, but evaluated them negatively, limited bourgeois labels and ineffective [8, 23, 29, 17].

Since 1990's began the latest phase of the study of the Russian Empire in its national and regional dimensions. It became common approach to the development of the country through the prism of modernization. There are new research topics (patronage, zemstvo, agricultural research institutions). Scientists pay attention to regional aspects of the problem. Some thesis studied Kharkiv research institutions and agricultural (cooperative) associations in Ukrainian provinces [5, 20]. Some dissertations dedicated staff, members of Kharkiv Agricultural Society [7, 10]. Thus, public associations have received studying by modern Ukrainian historians. Most papers have a regional aspect and examine the topic about the perspective of the history of science and technology.

Among scientists near abroad B. A. Myronov productively engaged history of the Russian Empire, the period of modernization of society [18]. On the pages of his works he takes the original judgment of mental, social and psychological types certain groups. Launched by Russian historians discussion does not apply to Ukrainian provinces of the Russian Empire. Scientists abroad were not engaged the history of agricultural societies in Ukrainian provinces of the Russian Empire.

So, historiographical analysis of the literature on research showed that published works fragmented and poorly integrated reveal key aspects of agricultural societies. Researchers were neglected issues such as dynamics and types of agricultural societies of the region, the impact of public associations on the modernization of society, the relationship landowners, entrepreneurs, scientists, officials of zemstvo in public life of Kharkiv province.

The objectives: based on the study of sources and published materials to give a general description of Agricultural associations in Kharkiv province; show their practical value in the agricultural sector of the regional economy; investigate the role of leaders in agricultural societies of social and political life of the region.

Printed sources used by the author, can be classified by the following groups: legal documents [26]; statistical compilations [21]; journals and meeting reports agricultural societies [31, 32]; agricultural periodicals [30, 33, 34]. Researcher introduced into scientific use unpublished documents Kharkiv Regional State Archive (Fund 237 Kharkiv Society agriculture and agricultural industry, fund 304 Kharkiv province zemstvo) [35], the Central State Historical Archive of Ukraine, Kyiv (Fund 320 Kharkiv Society agriculture and agricultural industry, fund 442 Office of Kyiv, Volyn and Podolsky Governor-General, fund 1111 The agricultural organizations, fund 1191 State of the agriculture provinces of the Russian Empire, fund 2019 Anciferov Olexey Mykolayovich) [36], the personal collections of the Institute of Manuscripts of the National library of Ukraine named by V. I. Vernadsky (fund 192 Sokalsky Leonid Petrovich) [37].

One of the most effective measures contributed to the improvement of agriculture Ukrainian provinces of the Russian Empire, was the establishment and effective operation of agricultural societies. They were

founded to promote the development of the agricultural sector. In Kharkiv province first such society emerged in 1880 [27, p.4]. It was Kharkiv Society of agriculture and agricultural industry. Whereas the Kharkiv province was developed agricultural region of the Russian Empire, the founding was a bit later. Thus, Southern Imperial agricultural society in Odessa (1828) based on the first in the Ukrainian provinces of the Empire. Later, similar associations emerged in Poltava (1865), Kiev (1874) [9, p. 26]. Public association conducted its activities in six neighboring provinces (Kursk, Belgorod, Voronezh and others) [9, p. 28]. Number of companies, particularly local, constantly growing to 1914. Already existing company expanded its activities, experiencing significant changes in its forms – often almost lost their inherent nature of the early scientific societies and acquired in their studies more practical direction. The Russian government, realizing the important role of agricultural organizations in the case of modernization of society, has supported and encouraged their activities. To simplify the procedure of society, Ministry of Agriculture raised questions about the issue of «normal statute» for agricultural companies. Worked out by the same institution statute after discussing, Farm Council was adopted on the basis of approved 13.02.1898 position [2, p. I-VII]. From that time to open a company such powers belonged to the governor (before – Ministry of Agriculture).

The purpose of the newly established companies, the statute was «to assist in your area combined forces of its members and the improvement of agriculture and rural industry.» Ways to achieve this objective as defined in the statute examining the state of the various sectors of agriculture and identify business needs through joint discussion of relevant issues at meetings, conversations and conventions members of society, and during specially organized expeditions and excursions; dissemination of theoretical and practical knowledge of agriculture by arranging public hearings, publication and dissemination of works from various fields of agriculture, the foundation of periodicals, libraries, museums; determine the best methods of farming by studying different cultures adopted in other areas of the Russian Empire and abroad to spread some of them, which would be useful for local owners, and by arranging competitions agricultural tools and technology, creating experimental stations, fields, farms, orchards and breeding-ground and promote their development; making recommendations for the proper owners of their farms and mediation in the supply of farm owners needed items and in the marketing of products from their farms for Assisted Open this bureau, warehouses etc.; arranging of exhibitions and auctions, encouraging work and achievements in agricultural career awarding medals and honorary awards [31, p. 31].

A society consisted of honorary and full members, staff and correspondents. Honorary members – people who were known in the agricultural field or specially served the Society. They were chosen at the annual general meeting closed ballot. Also they owned businesses in Kharkiv Agricultural Society O. K. Alchevsky, E. I. Melgoze, landowners B. S. Shcherbatov, Y. L. Tarnovska, V.O. Kapnist, scientists L. S. Tsenkovskyy, P. V. Budrin, I. A. Stebut, A. E. Zaykevych and others. [35, f. 237, op.1, spr. 2, ark. 149; spr. 3, ark. 308]. The number of members of agricultural societies gradually increased. Thus, in 1890 the agricultural association counted 615 people, and in 1909 – 1819 people. [35, f. 237, op. 1, spr. 2, ark. 152]. On average, the number has more than tripled. The average number of members of agricultural organizations was 28 members in 1910 [36, f. 320, op. 1, spr. 10, ark. 18].

The agricultural associations covering its activities in all agrarian spheres and agricultural industry. Partnerships introduced in separate compartments for specific purposes : farming, livestock, poultry farming, handicrafts and so on. In Kharkiv province quantity by a small number compensated of large-scale societies of some of them. In the total number of industry associations, only one – Kharkiv Society agriculture and agricultural industry – were professional in their staff. It included teachers Kharkiv Imperial University, Polytechnic and Veterinary institutions, officials immediately took care of issues of agriculture (including rural), businessmen (M. Gelferyh , P. Kharitonenko) and employees of private estates that have received special education. In other societies specialists in Kharkiv province agriculture accounted for only a small percentage. It should be stressed that the agricultural societies of the region most of their personnel were Russian and Ukrainian [11, p. 22]. Poles determined in the agrarian societies on the Right Bank Ukraine, for comparison [14, p. 11].

Structural of Agricultural Societies Kharkiv province divided into provincial, uyezd and local (village). Kharkiv Society agriculture and agricultural industry related to the province. Once he had established uyezd Zmiivsky (1882), Kupjansk (1888), Ahtyrsk (1899) and Krasnokutske (1904). At 1908 the number of agricultural societies in Kharkiv province was 17, and in 1910-30 [6, p. 84]. Thus, 75 % of these companies appeared in the 1907-1910. All of them, except the uyezd Bohodukhiv and Valkovsky, were local.

By the time of agricultural society Kharkov province can be divided into two periods: 1) 1880-1905; 2) 1907-1914. This is due to the specifics of periodization. 332 Agricultural Society working together in Kharkiv, Poltava and Chernihiv provinces in 1911 [22, p. 56]. Before World War I their numbers increased.

As the number of companies Kharkiv province held 20th place among provinces of European Russia in 1908. In this respect, she was far from Livonia and Poltava regions. (This despite the fact, that Kharkiv province was a major industrial center, customer agricultural products). In the comparison of Livonia number of agricultural societies was eight times greater, and in Poltava – five than in Kharkiv province. But if we compare the situation in this case with the other provinces of the Southern, Kharkiv province slightly different from them and had even better results compared to Katerynoslav and Taurian province. The researcher A. O. Panteleymonenko suggests figure 53 agricultural societies in Kharkiv province [20, p. 14]. In our opinion, this number takes into account the cooperative and credit societies. Overall investigated associations accounted for more than half of agricultural organizations.

Table number of agricultural communities in the provinces of the Russian Empire in 1908

Province	Together agricultural associations	including common
Livonia	136	107
Poltava	85	83
Kurlyandia	62	44
Estlyandia	25	21
Kursk	17	16
Khakiv	17	13
Kherson	17	6
Taurian	15	5
Katerynoslav	10	5

Table is completed according to 36, f. 320, op. 1, spr. 47, ark. 96; spr. 129, ark. 354, f. 1111, op. 1, spr. 39, ark. 17.

As the table shows, agricultural companies were common and special. The latter belonged to the Society of horticulture, hop, sheep, viticulture, forestry, etc. In addition, Kharkiv province worked affiliates central Russian agricultural companies. Among them beekeeping from 1888, amateur fishing and fishing from 1891, acclimatization from 1895, gardening from 1902 and others. [1, p. 40].

Sizes membership fees were not the same. They ranged from 25 kop. per year (Zakotyanske society) to 3 rub. per year (Kupjansk). The average size of membership fees for Agricultural associations of province was 1 rub. [36, f. 1111, op. 2, spr. 26, ark. 34]. Fees for lifelong members did not constitute a significant share of the budgets of companies. Budgets agricultural societies of the region consisted of grants of the Ministry of Agriculture, zemstvo (provincial and local), membership dues and private assistance. Separately funds provided for certain activities (exhibitions, purchase of machinery, etc.). In 1910 average budget of local (rural) society was 1160 rub. per year, the uyezd – 3858 rub.[36, f. 1111, op. 2, spr. 26, ark. 38]. The greatest assistance received Kharkiv Agricultural Society. However, due to not always correct accounting and reporting systems, especially the rural agricultural organizations to conduct systematic calculations not it is possible.

The initiative of local agricultural societies often belonged intellectuals (agriculturists, teachers, doctors) and landowners. Participation of rural agriculturists in establishing agricultural societies was also significant. Often agronomist came to the village to some of the local intellectuals or «progressive» farmers. He talked about agricultural society, and the need to open them in this uyezd or village. He went on given leaders the statute, recommendations and practical example an application of appeal to the governor. Enthusiasts drove it through, so became the founders of agricultural societies. For example, in

1908 Kharkiv province initiated the establishment of agricultural societies were 8 peasants, 6 nobles, 1 tradesman, 1 priest and 1 foreigner [35, f. 304, op. 1, spr. 339, ark. 16].

Farmers all intellectuals, including agronomists treated with suspicion, as a master. The conservatism and inertia of thinking prevented them. They did not want to change the traditional type of cultivation, agricultural implement a long time. Farmers do not always understand why they need these public associations. For comparison, it must be said about their attitude to lending (credit) institutions. Everything was simple: the farmer took the money in debt and had them back with percentages. Agricultural societies were a new and strange phenomenon for him. What's telling educated people? Why should he change management system settled for centuries? These questions remain open for him.

Gradually, however, farmers became interested in agricultural machinery, which was previously unavailable to them. Crucial little acquaintance with the newest experience in technologically advanced economies (for example, firms in L. E. Keniga estates, I. K. Gryschenko), read records of «Khlaborob», «Nuzhdy derevni» Farmers find it useful to themselves [33, 1911. – № 13/14. – P. 6].

The activities of agricultural societies in Kharkiv province had comprehensive character. Such versatility was explained by novelty of the case and a large number of tasks that primarily had to be done. The types of agricultural societies should include: distribution of agricultural machinery and new methods of cultivation, establishment of demonstration plots and fields, discoveries and other consumer shops. Contemporaries noted the following deficiencies of work, lack of funds and qualified specialists [36, f. 2019, op. 1, spr. 59, ark. 2]. Indeed, agricultural companies, as agricultural societies existed from membership fees, grants, state and private assistance. These tools are not enough, but small resources able to do significant business. Number of specialists in the study period gradually increased.

In the early XX century promotion of improved methods of management through the establishment of pilot demonstration fields in Kharkiv province was a new thing. However it had significant social phenomenon. «You could hear such phrases from peasants: If our sloboda won't see the new methods by own eyes, we can't think about chetyrechpol'e. They became work than will understand benefits of economy» [33, 1913. – № 2. – C. 5].

How difficult were the changes can be illustrated by establishing consumer shops. Martovskoy prosperous agricultural society was against the opening of the consumer shops. They left the company and even a campaign against the case [34, 1907. – № 3. – February 2. – P. 8].

There were positive cases. «Shop was prepared as for holiday. Big crowd of people, peasants and workers, went to the church. The trade was start, and business to be in full swing. Volunteers helped for the employees, but didn't have time to service the persons interested» [33, 1911. – № 4. – C. 2]. In addition, agrarian society Kharkov province in collaboration with the technique zemstvos ordered directly from the factory M. Gelferyh, E. I. Melgoze [36, f. 1191, op.1, spr. 26, ark. 8; 30, 1913. – № 2. – C. 10].

Overall agricultural companies, whose activities cover almost all the important aspects of economic life in region. They not afraid to raise issues which affected the immediate needs of farmers (both landlords and peasants) in Kharkiv province. Their representatives participated in the many government, rural and community (public) organizations.

Among the regular painful problems of the region, which have drawn attention figures societies were poor roads. Kharkiv Agricultural Society amounted to zemstvo memorandum, which was fed a plan to build roads in the region [35, f. 237, op. 1, spr. 25, ark. 10]. It raised and reclamation issues. Many landowners interested in how to get a loan for reclamation of [35, f. 304, op. 1, spr. 2489, ark. 14]. Much attention was given to the streamlining trade. Kharkiv Agricultural Society had the contacts with foreign businessmen, including Americans, Germans, British [36, f. 320, op. 1, spr. 37, ark. 40]. Representatives of agricultural societies participated in various congresses, conferences, meetings and committees, both local and general. For example, the meetings to discuss new Russian-German trade agreement, a meeting of landowners, businessmen of the certain sectors of the agricultural industry etc.

After Russia's entry into World War I, agricultural companies have not stopped their activities. During this period, despite the extremely difficult conditions (labor shortages, agricultural machinery and implements, fertilizers and seeds, closure of foreign markets, problems with rail, restrictions credits), agricultural societies working, bearing in mind that such a stop could bring in future irreversible loss and

delay the progress of all social, cultural and research. It was decided to continue further fruitful work. The main objectives announced preservation of all departments and agencies and make the most of their use, support local agriculture and national defense case [36, f. 1191, op. 1, spr. 28, ark. 2].

Participation agricultural societies of Kharkiv province of the Civil Defense expressed in promoting orderly supply of army food consumption. In particular, chemical laboratory and Seed Control Station pledged to conduct research free agricultural products that were purchased for the army [35, f. 237, op. 1, spr. 76, ark. 31]. Local company owners have tried to help in the harvest. Due to the shortage of workers in agriculture created a special commission, which was to seek workers in other regions. In addition, Kharkiv Agricultural Society to make efforts in the Department of Agriculture of bringing prisoners of war to agricultural work (awarded advantage Galicians) [35, f. 237, op. 1, spr. 74, ark. 16].

One of the major tasks of agricultural societies during the war was to preserve «valuable material mass cultural region» – cattle breeding, seed, agricultural machinery and so on. Together with local boards Kharkiv zemstvo took evacuated from the Western Ukrainian provinces breeding cattle, machinery, seeds and more. In case of the economic crisis has developed a system of measures that included support for local agricultural sector. It pertained granting deferrals of conscription as many contingent of people who worked in agriculture; providing farm workers and various specialists from among the prisoners of war; purchasing equipment; increasing the number of veterinary surgeons; the home delivery of the necessary tools; temporary assistance for the distribution and retention of the evacuated property, livestock, equipment owners of Kharkov province; the need to assist the Government and the Ministry of Agriculture in the fight against requisitions, etc. [33, f. 237, op.1, spr. 74, ark. 22].

Thus, agricultural societies were an important component of social and economic development of the region. Their versatile activity significantly influenced the changes associated with modernization Ukrainian provinces of the Russian Empire. Positive results have been achieved through the efforts of different social and professional backgrounds – leaders of public organizations. Active work was carried out in all areas of agricultural production, concentrated in the region. Fruitful work is not stopped during World War I. The results of the agricultural societies have proved the correctness of the chosen path of reform and efficiency measures in the agricultural sector in the region.

Referencies

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