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O. M. Mastruk, Uman Pavlo Tychyna State Pedagogical University

**VASYL KARAZIN AND PHILOTECHNICAL SOCIETY
(1920s)**

Mastruk O. M.

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In the article was done retrospective analysis of the scientific-educational activity of V. N. Karazin concerning his membership in foundation of Philotechnical society. Was also founded some individual biographical facts from life and work of V. N. Karazin. Was defined the role and reasons of creation scientific-educational institution in the context of national education and science in the twentieth of the nineteenth century.

Key words: V. N. Karazin, scientific-educational activity, invention, Philotechnical society.

The scientific interest to the heritage of outstanding scientists has recently become more active, which is explained by many factors. In particular, the necessity of studying historical and pedagogic experience needs the observation and the explanation of ways to transform traditional ideas into unconventional ones. That is why, thanks to this interaction of ideas, we can analyze and characterize as deeply as possible the activity of enlighteners from the past. O. V. Sukhomlynska mentioned that, "...the handling of artistic biography is tradition and innovation at the same time because it enriches and diversifies our conception of historical and pedagogic process; it helps its new reading, and discover new verges, new content and new values of this process as the important components of scientific discourse" [1, p. 37].

Then many progressive ideas of scientists at the end of XVIII – the beginning of XIX century are still actual nowadays; among them the most significant is Vasyl Nazarovych Karazin (1773 – 1842) – social and enlightenment figure, pedagogue,

scientist and inventor who made a valuable contribution in the development of science and education.

Social and enlightened ideas of V. N. Karazin are represented in works of N. M. Berezyuk, M. V. Belyayev, A. G. Bolebrukh, Y. Y. Grachova, V. V. Kravchenko, S. M. Kudelko, V. V. Lapin, N. O. Nikolaenko, F. A. Petrov, L. V. Pirozhenko, O. A. Uzbek, A. V. Khridochkina etc.

The aim of this article is to make retrospective analysis of scientific and enlightened activity of V. Karazin, his direct participation in foundation of The Philotechnical Community, and also to define the role of scientific and educative institution in the development of national science and education during the twenties of XIX century.

Vasyl Nazarovych Karazin was born on January, 30, in Kruchyk village of Sloboda Ukraine Governorate. He spent his childhood in Kruchyk where he was educated.

In 1783 V. Karazin was studying at private boarding schools of Kremenchuk and Kharkiv. He gave up his education and went on the military service first in Sloboda Ukraine and then in St. Petersburg. V. Karazin was also regularly visiting “The Mountain Engineer Corps”, the best institution of higher education at that moment. Persistent and ambitious, Vasyl Nazarovych received deep knowledge of many sciences under the direction of professors. During his studies at “The Mountain Engineer Corps” he took interest in social life. So his personality was formed in best educational institutions of Russian Empire and afterwards, this fact played a big role in creative work of the enlightener.

It is important to mention, that the creative development of Vasyl Karazin was extremely difficult. He was living and creating in times of tsars changing from Catherine the Great to Nicholas I of Russia. Each of these periods was characterized by specific distinctions in different spheres of life that somehow influenced creative activity of V. Karazin.

It is important to mention that V. Karazin is a many-sided personality that is why he was involved into social, political, scientific and enlightened, public and journalistic activities. As Y. V. Abramov mentioned, “The personality who left behind the whole century with his ideas and scientific knowledge, the figure that made a valuable contribution into social life of the country, the example of enormous moral value, courage and straightness, the man who always told the truth” [2, p. 5].

During his intensive creative activity, at the time when Alexander I of Russia was in power, Vasyl Nazarovych realized many scientific and enlightened projects. Afterwards, his most significant achievements were the creation of “The Ministry of National Education, making a “Common Gymnasiums Plan”, “The Status of General Education” (1802) writing “The Preliminary Rules of National Education”(1803); the foundation of Kharkiv University(1805); the foundation of Philotechnical Community (1811), compiling of project about the foundation of special educational institution which is the girl school for inferior camp etc.

In early XIX century scientific and enlightened activity of Vasyl Karazin had an innovative character. Nevertheless, his ideas were not only incomprehensible, but also they were ignored by the members of the government. As A. I. Herzen noticed, “The personality of a tireless worker, who worked for general good, who worked with exceptional energy, who tried to open every door and met obstacles everywhere and inability to realize something useful in this environment” [3, p. 40]. Only after his death in 1842, his ideas became more appreciated by the government and by scientific communities of Russian Empire. Since the end of XIX century his personality became well-known, thanks to intensive explorations of his biographers and historians.

So we will draw our attention to one of the most important aspects of scientific and enlightened activity of V. Karazin, which is the foundation of The Philotechnical Community in Sloboda Ukraine.

It is important to mention that his idea to found the Philotechnical community in noontide land (Sloboda Ukraine) became possible with the help of compiling and

writing projects, treatises, and letters about the issues of the Enlightenment that were published in leading magazines of Russian Empire.

V. Karazin was a deep thinking man, thus he convinced society that national scientific achievements should be of higher priority than the European ones. He felt all the problems of his motherland and in the letter to O. G. Troynytsky he wrote, “We live like Europeans, but we still get profits as in the Scythian age, we have nothing to offer them, they can flaunt their goods, vines and other dainties, nothing except ox’s leather...” [4, p. 563]. With this phrase, he pointed at inattentive attitude of the society to rational use of natural resources of the country and he continued to campaign for introduction of new technologies and agricultures.

It is his depth of outlook and constant thirst for scientific research that made V. Karazin learn exact sciences. At the same time V. Karazin was observing high interest to his own ideas in certain sections of society so he decided to make the next step to the prosperity of the noontide land. He tried to distribute the results of his studying among a big quantity of province’s landowners in order to save the nature by common efforts, to nationalize economy, to develop the industry. Some of these landowners paid their attention to advice and results of the research made by V. Karazin and used them in their economic activity.

In this area his main idea was to found a scientific community. The enlightener wrote about this, “The thought about foundation of the scientific community, especially in our noontide provinces can’t be a breakthrough. This idea appeared at the same time with the idea of Kharkiv University foundation that was the following development for Ukraine’s good” [5, p. 186]. In this way he wanted to make provincial environment work for personal and public benefit”

So then in order to research and check his ideas V. Karazin has built a laboratory which was equipped with modern chemical and physical devices and materials. It is necessary to mention that the majority of devices were engineered by Karazin himself.

Newly created devices had a simple construction and multifunctional using that created favorable conditions for successful scientific researches.

To our mind, the reasons to found this community were the development and efficient usage of Ukrainian natural resources, the unsuccessful attempts for 4 years to put into action new devices that were created with own forces for technical and chemical production with attraction of landowners in order to provide the prosperity of native land.

In order to solve these problems the enlightener decides to write and to spread the brochure “The Thoughts about Foundation of the Philotechnical Community” that was published in the beginning of January, 1811. The edition contained the regulations of Community that consisted of 24 paragraphs. According to the “Thoughts” Community had a little different character in agricultural and commercial directions of its activity. Pointing at the necessity of reforms in agriculture sector V. Karazin wrote, “It’s time to disturb our nice and usual tranquility. It is obvious that the profit, which is based on the economy of the ancestors, is not sufficient for satisfaction of our increasing expenditures” [6, p. 176]. So the main tasks of the community were spreading and improving of all spheres of entertainment and housekeeping, raising agriculture to the next cultural level, development and following processing of natural resources in Sloboda Ukraine.

The most remarkable thing is that Vasyl Karazin was honorary and actual member of scientific communities in Russia like “Moscow Community of Natural Inventors (since 1807)” “The Community of amateurs of Russian Language and Literature (since 1818)”, “The Community of Russian History and Monuments (since 1827)” etc. So his idea about foundation of the Philotechnical community based on a successful activity of the previously mentioned communities. The edition “Bulletin about Philotechnical community” attests it. It was published on March, 10, 1811. It was indicated there that “the community named as Philotechnical was regulated following the examples of similar communities” [5, p. 187].

The eager activity and realization of own projects in this way lead to the invitation of rich people into Philotechnical community by V. Karazin. “I don’t hope that my thoughts will be approved immediately. Such big hope couldn’t be in my heart! But I will be very happy if you consider them as worthy of examination as soon as possible...” [6 p.178]. Particularly, in 17 January, 1811, at the meeting of the nobility, “the top priority act of the Philotechnical community” was approved. The next meeting was held on the 21st of January where elected members of community ratified two documents “The Rules of Philotechnical Community and The Economical Decrees.” V. Karazin was elected as a governor of the Community. Then as a result the governor of Sloboda Ukraine I.I.Bakhtin issued an order dated the 30th of March which said, “...that community and its rules are legitimate so that their efforts in the development of national industry and economy will be always welcome. Moreover, in order to get help from the government with each initiative of the community it is necessary to inform it from time to time about all actions and details”[5, p.194].

It should be marked that Philotechnical community operated since 1811. This new scientific institution had 48 members and full members from near provinces among them the Sloboda Ukraine province, The Poltava Province, The Chernigov Province, The Kursk Province, The Voronezh Province, The Ekaterinoslav Province, The Tavriya Province and Region of Don Cossacks. The responsibilities of full members were the management of its best institutions like The Saltpeter Plants, The Distillation Plants etc. In the community there were also some honorary members as well as landowners who could help with their special knowledge from different branches of science.

Vasyl Nazarovych was directing the community disinterestedly. The fact that the enlightener took active part in researching and inventing spheres of the community proves it. In this institution He was watching the order personally, he was making the tests, he was reporting back to the members and he was demonstrating the results of surveys, he was making and publishing the Journals.

In order to widen the range of activity of the Philotechnical community and attract landowners V. Karazin assumed the measures. First of all with the aim of expansion his edition, he made a distribution of brochure “News about Philotechnical community” among landowners and some of the governors at the rate of 600 copies. Vasyl Nazarovych appealed, “The generous nobles of 8 provinces! Unite for group practice for the good of our land, that was protected by your ancestors and that will be wealthy inheritance for your descendants. It is up to you to multiply its importance for Russia and to deserve the respect of the whole Europe” [5 p. 186]. These actions of V. Karazin ensured spreading the news about Community establishment.

Secondly, in order to popularize the tasks and goals of the community he published the monthly magazine “The announcements to the audience from the Philotechnical community” that introduced its activity to the reader. The distribution of the magazine was free.

Thirdly in order to demonstrate his reports in public the researcher sent them to publishers, and they were named “Vedomosti” (gazette) but since 1817 he was publishing them under the heading “Acts of Philotechnical Community”. Among the leading periodical of XIX century that published the works of V. N. Karazin, we can mark out the following “The Ukrainian Bulletin”, “The Ukrainian Journal”, “Son of the Motherland” etc. To our mind, publishing these works in the editions above meant big interest of readers in the activity of the enlightener, the activity of Philotechnical community that helped to a practical using of his researches.

Thereby, measures took by V. N. Karazin helped to conduct the first public meeting of Philotechnical community, where he made a speech “on the benefit of enlightenment in housekeeping or natural connection of it with other knowledge.” [7] His project was based on the history of human culture and its influence on increasing the knowledge about housekeeping. V. Karazin thought that the term “housekeeping” is the way of property management that helped to improve life of people. And at the same time

he indicated the improvement of relationship between peasants and landowners, that was a result of enlightenment of peasants in agriculture and industry.

It is important to mention that thoughts and ideas about the strengthening of housekeeping which he expressed during committee meetings of Philotechnical community, on January 13, 1813 in his speech about “The Actual Necessity of Strengthening Housekeeping”, “The nobility! Now you have more possibilities to act, take advantage of it in order to widen agriculture enlightenment in Russia” [8 p. 11]. Readers’ reaction and comments of admirers about V. N. Karazin’s research work were positive. The correspondence of the enlightener with members of scientific committees and members of the government proves it. Among the words of cheer about activity of V. Karazin we can mark out comments of literary figures such as O. O. Palitsyn and G. R. Derzhavin who explained his admiration in a letter, “your patriotism and enthusiasm to real common prosperity of our motherland deserve respect” [9, p. 482]. In his turn the Minister of The Interior, O. P. Kozodavlev, “Have to say that your efforts improved different subjects of housekeeping. I am glad to help with improving the activity of Philotechnical community and to report about it to His Imperial Majesty” [10, p. 200]. So all these approving words said about the enlightener, encouraged him on improvement of the inventions that he made before and gave him enthusiasm and new ideas in the sphere of housekeeping.

Thereby the soviet historian of technique V. V. Danilevski marked the role of V. Karazin and members of the community. He wrote, “The development of these beginnings led to the foundation of Russian Technical Community, The Community of Technologists, The Polytechnic Community, The Community of Civil Engineers, The Electro-Technical Community and many others that were founded in the second half of XIX century and that were directed by leading Russian figures of technique science” [11, p. 481]. To our mind, this scientist highly noted the activity of V. N. Karazin in the foundation of Philotechnical community that characterizes the personality of the enlightener in Soviet times from positive side.

The activity of V. Karazin indicates the range of his scientific research. Particularly in the Philotechnical community there were some valuable achievements like the foundation and the modernization of the best institutions like The Plant of Saltpeter, The Distillation Plants, The Plants of Leather Preparation, developing of steam heating, which was introduced to heat houses, the idea of using atmospheric electricity which was developed by M. V. Lomonosov and J. V. Rikhman, the introduction of idea that Russia needs to organize a branched network of weather stations and weather observations that could cause new wave of development as exact science in future.

In 1820 the Philotechnical community and V. Karazin weren't going well. The researcher M.I. Tykhyy noted, "The fall and ruin of "The Philotechnical Community of Housekeeping" in 1819 was a result of the carelessness of people who was the object of this idea where V. Karazin was a prominent exception" [12, p. 198 – 199]. It is explained with his inability to make mission for the community and obsolescence of methods of landowners in housekeeping as well as in rejection of his innovative ideas in natural spheres of his activity. As a result The Philotechnical Community that had been operating for 10 years in fact became extinct.

Thereby, scientific and enlightened activity of V. Karazin had a multiple character. One of the ways of his activity was the organization of The Philotechnical Community in Kruchy in Sloboda Ukraine province. As a result his ideas and scientific and enlightened projects which were realized in practice caused the foundation of many other scientific communities and the following development of many different scientific branches in Russia.

So the attitudes that are reflected in this article don't reflect all the problems. We believe that researches of V. N. Karazin's heritage will be the subject of further scientific research in historical and pedagogic science.

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Майструк О. М.

Василь Каразін і Філотехнічне товариство (20-ті роки ХІХ ст.)

У статті здійснено ретроспективний аналіз науково-просвітницької діяльності В. Н. Каразіна, зокрема безпосередньої участі просвітника у заснуванні Філотехнічного товариства. Встановлено окремі біографічні відомості з життя і діяльності В. Н. Каразіна. Визначено причини створення та роль науково-освітньої установи у контексті розвитку вітчизняної освіти й науки у період 20-х рр. ХІХ ст.

Ключові слова: В. Н. Каразін, науково-просвітницька діяльність, винахідництво, Філотехнічне товариство.

Майструк О. Н.

Василий Каразин и Филотехническое общество (20-е гг. ХІХ в.)

В статье сделан ретроспективный анализ научно-просветительской деятельности В. Н. Каразина, а именно непосредственное участие просветителя в учреждении Филотехнического общества. Охарактеризовано источники, что дало

возможность установить отдельные биографические сведения из жизни и деятельности В. Н. Каразина. Определены причины создания и роль научно-образовательного учреждения в контексте развития отечественного образования и науки в период 20-х гг. XIX в.

Ключевые слова: В. Н. Каразин, научно-просветительская деятельность, изобретательство, Филотехническое общество.

Information about the author

Olha Mykolayivna Maistruk – post graduate, lecturer of Preschool Pedagogics and Psychology Department of Uman Pavlo Tychyna State Pedagogical University. The sphere of scientific interest includes the issues of scientific and educational activity of V. N. Karazin.

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