ACADEMICIAN E. F. KARSKY AND HIS MEMBERSHIP IN ACADEMIC SOCIETIES (ON THE MATERIALS OF ST. PETERSBURG BRANCH OF THE ARCHIVES OF RAS)

Evfimiy Fedorovich Karsky (1860–1931), as defined by Academician B. M. Lyapunov as a linguist, ethnographer and paleographer [1, p. 179], and academicians representing E. F. Karsky to elect a full member of the Academy of Sciences as “the founder of the Belarusian Belarusian linguistics and philology” [2, c. 110], consisted of a number of scientific societies and was awarded their medals and prizes.

It should be noted that a fairly complete, though not exhaustive, description of this component of scientific activity E. F. Karsky contained in an essay written by an academician B. M. Lyapunov impression that, with an inscription to his wife S. N. Karskaya is stored among other materials Archive of scientist in the St. Petersburg branch of Academy of Sciences Archives (SPbF ARAS) [1].

Probably the first society whose members were elected to the scientist in December 1896, was recently founded Archeographic Commission of the Moscow Archaeological Society (MAO) [1, c. 169] (MAO itself was founded in 1864) and concerns itself primarily with the Church of Archaeology, Byzantine and ancient Russian art and literature.

After a year and a half (and a year after his election as ordinary professor of Warsaw University) in April 1898, E. F. Karsky became a corresponding member of the St. Petersburg Society of Lovers of ancient literature [1, c. 169], founded in 1877 and is engaged archaeographic and publishing activities, as well as research in the field of history, art and
architecture. The first chairman of this society was the Prince P. P. Vyazemsky (son of the poet P. A. Vyazemsky), and among the members — Academician N. P. Kondakov, professor of St. Petersburg Theological Academy, N. V. Pokrovsky.

Those elected were a tribute to the scientist in the study of ancient manuscripts originating from the western regions of the Russian Empire and scattered in the libraries of Vilnius, Moscow and St. Petersburg. This research was thesis [3], for which he received in 1896 a doctorate from Moscow University.

Imperial Academy of Sciences drew attention to the scientist already in 1898, presenting him in December of this year the gold medal Batyushkov. Three years later, the activities of E. F. Karsky again interested in academics. Minutes № 9 general meeting of the Imperial Academy of Sciences December 1, 1901 reported the establishment of the Commission to award prizes Lomonosov, and that was presented six works of the four applicants. Two works of an applicant postponed the 1903 “Once the issue of awarding any of the other three big competitors Lomonosov Prize in 1000 rubles had been resolved through secret balloting balls in the negative, the presiding [A. Veselovsky — L. B.] it was suggested that all four of the marked work at rewarding their small Lomonosov Prize, 500 rubles each. In the latter case, the greatest number of complimentary points connected in their favor, two Labour, among them 2) Professor of the Imperial University of Warsaw, E. F. Karsky: a) “Essay on St. Cyril of Slavic paleography. From lectures given at the Imperial University of Warsaw” (Warsaw, 1901), b) “Samples of Slavic Cyrillic letters X to XVIII century” (Warsaw, 1901) [4, p. 84 on.]. The same report contains data on the approval of elected offices on the corresponding members. Among them — Part II (later — Department of Russian Language and Literature (ORYAS)) — “Karski, Evfimy Fedorovich, ordinary professor of the Imperial University of Warsaw” [4, p. 85 vol.].

And after 15 years (October 8, 1916), he was elected academician of the ordinary ORYAS. Submission of the same E. F. Karsky to the election held six months earlier, at a meeting of the Division of Russian Language and Literature of April 2, 1916 (record number 5): “Selected Branch of the Commission consisting of all available members of the department [if present: A. A. Shakhmatov, N. P. Kondakov, A. I. Sobolewsky, V. M. Istrin, N.A. Kotlyarevsky, V.N. Peretz in the absence of two other members of the Division [5, c. 29] — L. B.] made the balloting scheduled candidates for the title of academician of the Office of ordinary Russian Language and Literature. Elected were: <...> Professor Emeritus of the Imperial University of Warsaw, E. F. Karski (izbirat.)” [5, p. 30].

And at the next general meeting of the Imperial Academy of Sciences May 9, 1916 ORYAS chairman, Academician Shakhmatov was read performance on E. F. Karsky, published in the minutes of the general meeting of the Imperial Academy of Sciences as V Applications. This “Note on the writings of scientists, corresponding member of Academy of Sciences, Professor E. F. Karsky”, compiled by April 24, 1916, was signed by four academics: A. A. Shakhmatov, V. N. Peretz, A. I. Sobolewsky, and N. A. Kotlyarevsky. The scientists noted that the E. F. Karsky “has one of his first published works that appeared in 1886 <...> attracted the most sympathetic attention of professionals and took place among them as a connoisseur of the Belarusian language” [2, p. 106]. Pointing his scholarly works on the study of the Belarusian (written and oral) language [2, pp. 106–109], it could not speak specifically about his “fundamental work” “Belarus” [2, pp. 109–110], which at the time of submission of E. F. Karsky in academics published in two volumes (second volume in three parts) from 1903 to 1916 [6] (later issued another volume in two parts [7]) and affected all aspects of the “Belarusian adverbs”. 

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In the Belarusian language, the academics, the subject of study E. F. Karsky was always Russian philology in its entirety. This is evidenced not only by many of his reviews of works relating to the most diverse branches of science, but many of his independent work on language and paleography. As the great merits of the scientist “before the Russian philology and linguistics,” noted his work as a rector (from 1905), “Russian Philology Herald,” was published in Warsaw. Despite the meager resources at the disposal of the journal, E. F. Karsky was able to provide the right outlet for his books, as well as the participation of the members of the family Russian philologists and linguists. His friendly attitude, he supported the activities of many scientists and, incidentally, also the activities comprising the Office of the Russian language and literature dialectological commission, whose work has found a place in his journal [2, p. 110]. At that meeting it was agreed to elections E. F. Karsky delay in academics, and they held on 8 October 1916: “According produced ballot turned out that E. F. Karsky united in their favor 29 electoral votes to 4, indiscriminate, why, and found chosen” [8, p. 163].

After the election of academicians E. F. Karsky moved to Petrograd, and began work as a professor at the University. The Academy of Sciences, its activities were very rich: he was a member of the Board and the Bureau. 23 November 1927 at a meeting of the Presidium of the USSR the name E. F. Karsky mentioned specifically what documents SPbF ARAS survived notification dated 25 November 1927 in the form of an extract from the minutes of the meeting of the Presidium, which adopted a resolution expressing gratitude to E. F. Karsky for “long and voskopeleznoc participate in the works, as the Presidency, and his status conferences, and ask... not continue to refuse to report directly to the Bureau of the case on the subordinated... academic institutions” [9, pp. 10–10 vol.]. Under subordinate agency had in mind the Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography, whose director, E. F. Karsky was from 1921 to 1929 he was dismissed from his post after being hit in the disgrace of those in power, carrying out the academic mission to the Slavic lands (Bohemia, Poland, Yugoslavia) and presented to the Academy of Sciences report [10].

Even before the election to the academicians of the Imperial Academy of Sciences March 5, 1914 to elect an honorary member of the Historical-Philological Society at Novorossiysk University [1, p. 178], which was established in Odessa in 1889 and engaged in research activities in the field of Slavic, Byzantine studies, and classical antiquities.

In a letter dated August 10, 1918 Chairman and Secretary of the Belarusian scientific-cultural society in Moscow informed the academician of his election to honorary membership at a meeting of the General Meeting of Society July 14, 1918 — first meeting of the society created with the assistance of the Belarusian National Commissariat. The company planned a broad publishing activity, but, unfortunately, the majority of planned and it was not implemented, although the name of E. F. Karsky preserved in the publications of this society with the publication of Labour, to which was annexed map, compiled by these scientists [11].

In the early 1920’s E. F. Karsky was in correspondence with the initiator and first chairman of the Institute of Belarusian Culture (Inbelkult — the forerunner of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus) S. M. Nekrashevich. In his first letter dated January 5, 1922 S. M. Nekrashevich proposed E. F. Karsky to take over as director of the newly established Institute [12, p. 1]. This project was not implemented, and was appointed chairman Inbelkulta himself S. M. Nekrashevich. After two and a half years, August 18, 1924, S. M. Nekrashevich asked to assume the position full-time active member of the Institute.
of Belarusian Culture [12, pp. 4 vol.]. So E. F. Karsky became one of the first employees
inbelkulta.

May 24, 1925 as an honorary member of his chosen literary and scientific society of
lovers of Russian literature (OLRS) at the University of Moscow, among whom were active
members of I. S. Turgenev, A. A. Fet, F. M. Dostoevsky, I. A. Bunin, V. Bryusov and others.
December 15, 1927 E. F. Karsky became an honorary member of the Company's literature
and art in Leningrad [1, p. 178].

March 2, 1926 Chairman of the Russian Geographical Society, Admiral geographer
Yu. M. Shokolsky informed the scientist of his election as a full member of society "wanting
to enjoy your enlightened participation in the writings of their" [9, p. 4]. Already on March
13 this year, academician were paid membership dues for 1926 in the amount of 3 rubles
[9, l. 5] and the same day, the name of the scientist is among the participants of the Depart-
ment of Ethnography of the Russian Geographical Society in memory of P. Shane, as a
speaker on "Proceedings of the PV Shane on Belarusian ethnography" [9, p. 6].

Finally, in January 1929 by E. F. Karsky became a member of the Czech Royal Sci-
cific Society, as in the documents SPbF ARAS survived a notification letter on 9 February
1929, signed by the Chief Secretary of the society and the degree [13, pp. 9–10]. With this
election materials among SPbF ARAS has been very interesting from a historical point
of view document — "Charter and the rules of the Czech Royal Society" [14]. The Soci-
ety — the forerunner of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech republic — was founded in
1790, the Czech Royal Society provided E. F. Karsky this document, choosing him as his,
searching for an equivalent term of Russian reality, a foreign member. However, in its literal
meaning of the term should be translated differently.

The fact is that, as we learn from the Charter of the society, all of its members were
divided on the real, extraordinary, honorable, nonresident members and corresponding
members [14, p. 3]. The Charter explains what the status of membership can be assigned
to a particular scientist. Active and extraordinary members must live in Prague or the im-
mediate vicinity. As honorary members elected by scientists with scientific work or services
to the Company. Those who do not live in Prague or immediate surroundings, may acquire
the status of nonresident members or corresponding members. If a full member of society,
changing residence, leaving Prague and its immediate surroundings, he acquires the status
of a foreign term, if this happens with an extraordinary member, he became a correspond-
ing member. Conversely, if a foreign member or corresponding member moved to Prague
or its immediate surroundings, they become real and extraordinary member, respectively
[14, p. 4]. E. F. Karsky was elected a member of it from other cities (člen přespolní).

The method for selecting the real and non-resident boats were the same: two real ca-
noes from the appropriate level should have been nominated for membership at a general
meeting, bringing with it a very good reason. The elections were considered valid if 2/3
actual members present voted in favor. All other members shall be elected half the votes
[14, p. 4]. Voting, as in the Russian Academy of Sciences, took place by means of balls
[1914, p. 5].

Under the Charter, the full members could not be more than 30: 15 for each level (the
society was divided into two categories: level of philosophy, history and linguistics and the
level of mathematical and natural sciences, it was assumed that if necessary they can be
divided into sections according to areas of science). Of those elected Chairman, Deputy
Chairman, Chief Secretary, Secretary, two classes, treasurer, librarian and other positions

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in the Charter are not marked. The President and his deputy were to belong to different classes. All of the officials, except the librarian, received a term of office of three years [14, p. 5].

All major issues were resolved at a general meeting of members. For discharges also hold meetings, to discuss scientific issues. There could be present and extraordinary members, as well as lead to a guest [14, p. 6]. Exclusion from the society carried out on a fairly simple scheme: if within one year valid or extraordinary member has not been at any meeting, it was believed that he left the society [14, p. 7]. The main activities of the Company Charter refers to the publication of scientific works of its members and other authors of the Slavic languages, in German, Latin, French, Italian and English [14, p. 7].

Election to the Czech Royal Society was the last election and the latest expression of recognition of the scientist. After that “ill-fated trip” in the Slavic countries, baying, which was subjected E. F. Karsky, and removing him from his post as director of the Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography in 1929 by scientist could have to regain former position at the Academy of Sciences (these positions were so great that in 1926 he was made the offer to run for vice-president of the Academy) and, as noted in his article, and L. Rublevskaya and V. Skalaban, “if in 1931, Karsky, who was already 70 years old, not dead, but would have lived several more years, you can guess with high probability, what would be his fate” [10]. A number belorusstitov in 30’s XX century were repressed (the same S. M. Nekrashevich, his colleague, P. A. Buzuk were shot in 1937–1938). E. F. Karsky escaped this terrible fate that has allowed his wife S. N. Karskaya after the death of her husband safely maintain their positions in academia (and civil society).

Literatura

11. Курс белорусоведения. Лекции, читанные в Белорусском народном университете в Москве летом 1918 г. с библиографическим указателем по каждому вопросу и с приложением этнографического плана белорусского племени Е. Ф. Карского. М., 1918.