HISTORY

Scientific-pedagogical and educational activities J. K. Paczoski

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Abstract. The article is devoted to the scientific and pedagogical and educational activities of Joseph Konradovich Paczoski as a famous naturalist, the author for over 400 papers on Floristic, systematics, Botanic geography, Phytosociology, ecology, entomology, ornithology, nature protection. The role of the researcher in building and development of such institutions as Kherson Provincial Agriculture Vocational School, Kherson Polytechnic Institute, Yurjevskyi Teachers Institute, Poznan University.

Keywords: J. K. Paczoski, scientific and pedagogical activities, educational activities, phytosociology, plants morphology, entomology.

Introduction. Reform of modern Ukrainian education is impossible without learning national and international experience. Today, at the systemic approach to study the history of the Ukrainian sectoral science development, the special attention shall be paid to the transformational processes that took place in the 2nd part of XIX century and the 1st part of XX century.

In should be noted that reconstruction of national and international pedagogical education of the described period will not be complete without specifying the role, the valuable achievements and contribution of its representatives, like Paczoski Joseph Konradovich (1864 – 1942), famous Ukrainian and Polish researcher-naturalist.

The scientific interest and research of J. Paczoski is quite extended and diverse: floristic, systematics, botanic geography, Phytosociology, ecology, entomology, ornithology, nature protection. In each of the field, the researcher had his vision of problems and left his unique contribution. Joseph Paczoski was the author of over 400 papers in botany, entomology, zoology, forestry and horticulture and nature protection. Besides, he is the author of the list in essays, references and overviews.

Among the researcher versatile talent the other features of his personality as a naturalistleft unexplored. In particular, his teaching and educational activities are not studied yet that confirms the relevance of current research.

Short overview of publications under the topic. The diverse activities of Joseph Paczoski was and is a subject of interests for a wide circle of researchers. Thus, his life path and scientific results were studied during his life time by the national (V. Lypsyky, O. Sapecin, O. Ksenzhopolskiy, O. Gauch, B. Hrynevetskiy, M. Kuznyetsov, I. Mamontov, Yu. Filipov, G. Shhyrayev, O. Yanata, M. Kotov, Ye. Lavrinenko, G. Poplavskava) as well as Polish (V. Slovinsky, A. Vodzichko) researchers [1]. The fundamental monograph devoted to the life and activities of Joseph Paczoski during the Soviet times was the publication of I. Puzanov and T. Gold “Joseph Paczoski as an outstanding naturalist” [7]. Among the publications of XX – XXI centuries the works of M. Boyko, B. Boreyko, G. Hrebinyk, K. Lyatovsky marked [1].

The aim of the article is to identify the educational and pedagogical heritage and educational activities of Joseph Paczoski.

Joseph Konradovich Paczoski was born on 26 November (old calendar) 1864 in the family of the Polish in Bilgorodka town, Zaslavsky county, Volyn province [4, p. 386]. He started his study at Rivny Vocational School and then at Uman Agriculture and Horticulture Vocational School, however he had not finished none of them and obtained a self-study education at the end. At the same time absence of the diploma did not prevent Joseph Paczoski to demonstrate his skills and to contribute to biology science and transfer his experience to other generations.

The resources analysis allows specifying the following components of Joseph Paczoski pedagogical activities: educational activities that include development of courses in phytosociology, morphology of plants, weed-field grass and practical classes on entomology for future professional in agriculture and botany; lecturing for wider audience from local self-governance; books and learning materials writing for educational institutions.

About the beginning of Joseph Paczoski teaching activities we learn from the content of “Exacting Record for vacation and reward for pedagogical staff, administration, specialists and workers of agricultural technical school for March 1921”, completion of it foreseen chronological boundaries of such activities, which was written by the teacher himself. 1888 is marked as a start of J. Paczoski pedagogical activity in this “Record” [11]. It could be assumed that his teaching career had started at the Kyiv University where he worked, however it was impossible to prove such fact.

Next stage of J. Paczoski pedagogical activity was linked with the faculty of botany at experimental botanic station and agriculture school in Dublyany and started in 1895, though his work at the position of the mentioned chair assistant was not long-term and lasted only for 2 years.

After eight years break J. Paczoski came back to his teaching activities in 1905 when he moved to Kherson. Staring from June 1905, every day he performed practical classes for 2nd course students of Kherson Provincial Agriculture Vocational School. During his entomology classes, which had become regular since then, Joseph Paczoski strived that his students learnt thoroughly and comprehensively the lecture materials [6, p.10]. He seemed to involve students into the science creation, acquainted them with famous research methods. From his expeditions he brought materials for the practical classes on entomology. J. Paczoski performed his lectures constantly at the courses for agronomists, agriculture field workers. Unfortunately, his achievements in this direction had been forgotten at all.
The researcher performed his educational and pedagogical activities at the nature and history museum as a head of it. Willing to help students, young researchers to learn the harmful insects J. Paczoski taught them the technique and methodology of the field research. The former head of the Polish Entomology Community Kostyantyn Vatslavovych Stravinsky worked with J. Paczoski at the Kherson Nature and History Museum when he was a pupil and then a student (1910 – 1916). He remembered that together with Joseph Paczoski they were often at the expeditions to collect insects and plants, and they often hunting.

In addition, Joseph Paczoski took active part in the establishment of teaching and research activities at the Kher- son Polytechnic Institute. During 1918 – 1919 the researcher had worked as a professor and taught the many natural science disciplines. In 1918 at the agronomy faculty of the Institute, J. Paczoski lectured the course on phytosociology and was the first in the world [12].

Absence of the students’ books in morphology of plants made J. Paczoski to develop learning materials. The 1st edition of “Plants Morphology” (coursed at Kherson Polytechnic Institute) was published in 1919, followed by another edition in 1920. Yu. Kuznetsov, a professor at Yuryivskyi University evaluated this book as a high quality. He highlighted “…it is not a descriptive morphology or organography, which we met in many books and guidelines, it is a philosophically well-thought course of morphology, where one can follow the evolution of the planet organisms from the beginning and up to the end” [3, p. 37].

In view that botany was taught at different faculties at the same time at different fields of knowledge, the researcher had to integrate the course of morphology for agronomists and a general course on botany for other faculties. He managed it via representation of knowledge in plants’ forms development in correlation with their vital revelations.

Teaching role of “Plants Morphology” shall be highly evaluated. The book is comprehensive for young botanists. The plants’ morphology basics are specified shortly but clearly. Terminologies, describing the plants, are defined. Detailed description of each plant is interesting even for nowadays.

Understanding of J. Paczoski as a teacher shall be learnt from his students’ memories. We see the image of a researcher and teacher who had an objective to be useful and helpful to his students with his skills and experience. He considered teaching as a key path to this objective.

Students regularly attended Joseph Paczoski’s classes, listened to them from the beginning and up to the end. The lectures were very interesting and content wise. His students always were convinced that he had deep knowledge of botany, entomology, phytosociology. All who listened to Joseph Paczoski highlighted that he spoke simple but definitely. It was easy and pleasant to listen to his lectures.

In 1921 the students committee of the agricultural technical school edited the book of their teacher Joseph Paczoski “The basics of Phytosociology” (the lecture course of agriculture faculty of the former Kherson Polytechnic Institute in 1919 – 1920). It is clear that Joseph Paczoski had started writing this book not by chance but due to the fact that it was extremely needed. This book was a bibliographic rarity and testified that at those times Joseph Paczoski had a systematic view on learning subjects and other years he only polished and added new data, adjusted approaches, modernized teaching methodologies. To confirm that demand for the mentioned book was a petition: “The Council of Agriculture Faculty of Kherson Agricultural Technical School informs you that Joseph Paczoski’s course “Plants’ Phytosociology”, partly published by the Students Committee of this faculty, are really on demand by 200 students” [9].

“The Basics of Phytosociology” was highly evaluated by the public and researchers. Our acquaintance with the book verified that it is a sample of highly-professional and logical book for students. From O. Oksner’s point of view Joseph Paczoski’s book included many interesting parts. Outstanding new facts from the author’s personal observation over flora, mixed with everlasting classical examples in ecology that was taken mostly from far countries [5, p. 73].

The next publication for the students of the specialized educational institutions was “Lectures on Weed-field Plants” (1922). This course was published firstly in 1922 in Kherson as a popular brochure (for intelligent proprietor) under the title: “Combatting the weeds” and included the references for new literature. The book was written in a comprehensive way and has a conspectus character for easy reading. Contemporaries of Joseph Paczoski characterized it positively. The negative part was only a small edition of publications of 500 units that made it a bibliographical rarity [2, p. 131]. It is important to mention that literate approach to the learning materials using scientific and pedagogical achievements of that period stated the high psychological and pedagogical erudition of Joseph Paczo-

In parallel to Kherson Agricultural Vocational School Joseph Paczoski lectured at the Institute of People’s Education [8]. In “Exacting Record for vacation and reward for pedagogical staff, administration, specialists and workers of agricultural technical school for March 1921” it was specified that Joseph Paczoski was a teacher of botany at pedagogical institute, was a manager of the botanic cabinet [8]. In “Exacting Record for five years awarding for teachers of Yuryivskyi teachers institute in August 1919” it was stated: “11. Paczoski for 5 lessons. Key wages is 166,66 (freelanc-
er teacher)” [10].

Joseph Paczoski continued teaching when moved to Poland in 1923.

In 1925 Joseph Paczoski worked as a head of chair for systematics and plants’geography, as a professor of systematics and sociology of plants at Poznan University of mathematic-nature faculty (combining work at Bilovezhskaja pushcha). On 25 June 1926 for his outstanding scientific achievements Joseph Paczoski was awarded a researcher title of “doktora filozofii honoris causa” [13].

On August 3, 1931 the rescript of the Minister WROJ the sanation government fired the professor from the head of the chair position “based on so called Brest manifest, motivating that he broke the age limit (he was 66 years old)”. The chair was closed and its personnel was included into the chair of botany. The researcher stayed at the chair as a senior specialist: performed classes for students and researching [14].

In 1938 after support of university staff, especially A.Wodziczko, Joseph Paczoski had entitles the pension and was awarded a professor emeritus status of Poznan University.

Conclusions: As a matter of fact, one shall state that scientific and pedagogical interests of Joseph Paczoski were wide and diverse. After his death (February 14, 1942)


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