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**SOVIET CARTOGRAPHY IN THE
SERVICE OF PUBLIC EDUCATION**

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One of the principle trends of the development of the soviet cartography gaining evermore scope is the production of the maps and atlases for the public education. The volume of their production totals more than two-thirds of the whole cartographic output in the USSR.

There is a great demand for these maps in our country. They contain a wide variety of information on the world and its population, about life in our native land and foreign countries. Educational maps help to educate and bring up our people.

Under present conditions the role of mass destination maps is extremely great. Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in his Report to the 25th Congress of the Communist Party noted that the mass media "information and propaganda impact on the development of the economy, science and culture and on the whole life of society has grown still more". These words completely define the role of the mass destination maps.

In pre-revolutionary Russia publication of educational maps was limited. The publication of educational maps and atlases for secondary schools, gymnasia and people's specialized schools was more or less satisfactory. Out of the pre-revolutionary publications "Educational Geografic Atlas" after E.Yu.Petry(published in 1914), containing 48 sheets of maps, was the best. Educational wall maps and also specialized maps for higher educational establishments were not published in old Russia at all. Production of demographic, ethnographic and administrative maps was very limited.

And although the development of educational cartography in Russia lasted before the Great October Socialist Revolution for more then 200 years and Russian maps had virtues of their own, provision of maps for people's education in pre-revolutionary Russia was too weak. Educational maps for gymnasia and people's schools were printed in small batches and almost all of them exclusivery in Russian. Numerous peoples of other na-

tionalities in tsarist Russia were almost deprived of educational maps in their mothertongues.

The Great October Socialist Revolution brought fundamental changes into people's education system. In accordance with the guidelines of Lenin the geography was made a compulsory school subject. V.I.Lenin personally proposed to publish educational atlases of Russia and the world.

The Soviet Union has considerable achievements in the production of educational maps. Thus within the 9th Five-Year Plan period 34 million copies of educational maps and 135 million ones of educational atlases were published. The present needs of schools in educational maps and atlases are fully satisfied.

The 6th Session of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR held in 1973 was of great significance for the educational cartography. The Session adopted the legislation¹⁾ of the Union of SSR and Union Republics on the people's education.

Educational maps and atlases, published in the USSR, are known for wide variety of subjects and high scientific-methodical level.

Educational atlas cartography of the USSR underwent several stages of development. Publication of wall maps and atlases for primary and secondary schools started in 1930th. Geographic atlases by Yu.M.Shokalsky (consisting of 16 and 32 tables) were published. 1940th saw the publication of geographic atlases for the 5th and 6th forms of school and of geographic atlas of the USSR. After the termination of the Great Patriotic War geographic atlases for the 8-9th forms were worked out. Their publication completed the production of educational atlases envisaged by the secondary school curricula on physical and economic geo-

1) "On the condition of people's education in the USSR and measures for its further improvement". Documents of the 6th Session of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR (of the 8th calling). Politisdat, 1973.

graphy of the USSR and the world.

The outstanding soviet geographer and specialist in educational methods N.N.Baransky considered it essential to publish differentiated, complete atlases in sufficient numbers. Today the soviet atlas cartography meets this requirements.

The secondary school of general education in the USSR is provided at present with the atlases on the following curricula: physical geography for the 5th form, geography of the parts of the world for the 6th form, physical geography of the USSR for the 7th form, economic geography of the USSR for the 8th form and the economic geography of foreign countries for the 9th form.

Educational atlases are periodically republished, renewed and supplemented with new subjects reflecting the most important events taking place in the USSR. For example maps on the Baikal-Amur Railway, on the non-black soil zone of the RSFSR, the subject maps on the world, the maps on the economic integration, the maps on the protection of nature and environment are inserted into the school atlases.

In the Soviet Union the educational wall maps are constantly renewed to correspond in content and in methodes to the atlases. At present there are about 200 kinds of educational wall subject maps covering all the parts of the school curriculum.

Variety of educational maps is very wide. It includes physical and economic maps of the territory of the USSR, some foreign countries, continents and the world (maps of mineral resources, of ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy, of mechanical engineering, of chemical and textile industries, of trade and economic relations).

The secondary technical education, vocational education, extra-mural and part-time education are widely developed in our country. Students of these educational establishments study course of geography and history of the USSR in the volume corresponding to the curriculum of the secondary school of general education. When studying geography one has to use the maps and atlases published for the ordinary schools of general education. However, it seems necessary to publish the special maps and atlases for technical schools and vocational schools, taking in

consideration the specific nature of these educational establishments. The USSR is a multinational state. In the soviet schools the teaching is conducted in native languages. That is why maps and atlases are published both in Russian and in mother-tongues of peoples of all the Union Republics.

Elaboration of maps and atlases for school of general education on the history of the USSR and foreign countries gained a wide development in the USSR. They are based on the Marxist - Leninist theory. Reflected historical events and phenomena of domestic and world history are given in accordance with the requirements of acting programmes and text-books.

On the history curriculum for the secondary school of general education in the USSR the next atlases are published: the History of Ancient World (for the 5th form), the History of the Middle Ages (for the 6th form), the History of the USSR (for the 7th and 8th forms), the Modern History (for 8th-9th forms), the History of the USSR (for 9th-10th forms) and the Recent History of Foreign Countries (for 9th-10th forms).

Exept for the atlases about 100 kinds of wall maps covering all the most significant periods of the world history and the history of the USSR are published in our country.

The production of special maps for higher educational establishments is a final link of cartographic provision of people's education at its highest level on the stade of training highly skilled personell for the national economy, science and socio-cultural construction. Preparation and publication of these maps in the USSR were started in 1950-57. The production of the first batches of special maps for the higher school marked the beginning of the new development of educational cartography. This trend is aimed at ensuring, on the level of higher educational establishment, the training in geographie, historie and other subjects, utilizing maps as the means of demonstration of the territorial peculiarities, the phenomena and processes and simultaneously as the method of their cognition and digestion. Therefore that is natural that many of the first maps for students of higher school have been extremely valuable scientific-cartographic summaries and generalizations of vast facts of general scientific nature. A part of them, for example, geomorphological map of the world, map of soils of the USSR, map of vegetation of the USSR and ot-

hers were of great interest for the specialists of the respective sciences, so as they allowed to make the necessary scientific and general theoretic generalizations and conclusions.

Thus already the first batches of maps for the higher educational establishments, being first of all training facilities by intention, became from the very beginning an important instrument, needed for the scientific researches and economic activity.

By the present time, however, the first batches of maps for the higher school became consiclerably obsolete as in contents, so in the means of representation and models of publication. Nearly all the copies have been lost, and again there is a strongly felt need in the similar fundamental cartographic works. Due to this the Ministry of Higher and Specialized Secondary Education of the USSR jointly with the General Department of Geodesy and Cartography under the Counsil of Ministers of the USSR in accordance with the directives of the CC of the CPSU and the Counsil of Ministers of the USSR on the further development of the higher education started since 1975 to compile the new batches of the cartographic facilities for the higher educational establishments.

Study of the higher school needs in general geographic and subject maps conducted by the Problem Laboratory of the Complex Cartography and Atlases under the Moscow State University showed that the higher educational establishments of the USSR need hundreds of items of maps of different contents, of different degree of area coverage, of different scales and applications. There is a need to produce the complex system of cartographic facilities: wall maps and slide maps for general and special courses of training, table maps and atlases for the laboratory lessona and independent educational and scientific work, educational sets of maps for the practical assignments.

Solving the task of publication of the cartographic appliances it is necessary to produce first of all the batches of the wall maps of the world and the Soviet Union. Special methods instructions are being worked out for this purpose. Work is in progress on the number of the maps of the USSR: cryolittological (frozen ground map), hydrologic (drainage and river conditions), physical-geographic and soil division into dist-

dicts ones. The preparatory work for the population distribution map which is planned to be produced on the basis of the materials of the future census of the population of the USSR in 1979 has started. Elaboration on the map of the nature protection of the USSR is very urgent, so as this is the first one in the new group of the estimation and prognostic maps which is strongly needed for teaching the basic principles of the environment protection, the problem of great social and state importance.

The batch of the world map for the higher school, which included in the first edition only a hypsographical and two climatic maps, comprises now a wide complex of maps with the clearly defined subject and methodics requirements.

Today the work is in progress on the original orographic map revealing the types of the orographic structure of the world, on the soil map whose content is coordinated with the course of soil geography of the Moscow University, on the map of the world water balance, on the map of the anthropogenic landscapes of the world, on the map of the arable lands of the world etc.

The maps for the higher school especially those pertaining to the regions that are insufficiently provided with the scientific reference maps will be able also to satisfy many needs of the specialists of the people's economy, those rising from the necessity of the estimation of the natural resources and their utilization, of the solution of the tasks of the environment protection, of the estimation of the economic conditions and special geographic situation, of the economic resources and productive forces, of the development of the questions of the people's economy planning etc.

These maps must help to decrease the present gap between the school primary level of the mass maps (especially of subject ones) and the high contemporary demands of the science and practice to the cartographic information (detailed nature, accuracy and necessary substantiation). Like the first batches of maps for the higher school the new ones must provide the geographers and the specialists in the other sciences, using the cartographic method of cognition with the wide opportunities for the systematization, scientific analysis and generalization of knowledge.

The system of production of maps for the higher school presupposes also a high level of their intercoordination, ensuring the accurate exposition of the space regularities of the reflected natural and social economic phenomena and processes in their interconnection, casual conditionality and development. This point as well as the above mentioned necessity to considerable increase of the number of the cartographic appliances for the higher school demands the high level of the scientific organization of work in the production of maps for the higher educational establishments. To this end the Scientific Methodics Council on maps for the higher school was founded under the Ministry of higher and Specialized Secondary Education. The scientific methodics and organizational work on this maps is concentrated in Moscow University. The first higher educational establishments joined conference on maps for the higher school was conducted in 1975. The scientific and productional establishments of the General Department of Geodesy and Cartography, a number of the higher educational and scientific establishments of our country joined the work on this maps. The plan of the map production for the higher school for the years 1976-1980 and for more distant perspective has been worked out.

Development of the new cycle of operations on the production of maps for the higher school, rich experience of scientific reference and educational cartography in the Soviet Union bring about confidence in the further successes of the soviet cartography.

Maps worked out especially for training the cartographers of the geographic profile are utilized in the economic, agricultural, trade financial higher educational establishments as well as for training the cartography engineers (Moscow Institute of Geodesy, Air Survey and Cartography Engineers, Central Research Institute of Geodesy, Air Survey and Cartography).

Significant place in the Soviet cartography is held by the publication of the political and administrative maps of the Soviet Union, its republics, districts, territories and regions. In connection with growth of economic and cultural relations with foreign countries a lot of popularity among the population is gained by reference, so-called "folding" maps, everyone of

which is accompanied by text supplying the charts with the information on the natural conditions, population, economy and culture of the country in question. Actually this is a brief encyclopaedia, separate edition of which cover by nowadays all the countries of the world.

Highly developed in the USSR is the production of tourist and local maps. Development of the mass tourist in the country raised the demand for the production of the necessary cartographic facilities. In connection with this the USSR publishes more than 200 types of the tourist maps and diagrams, covering all the most important routes and districts of the Soviet Union. More than 300 of the republican, territorial and regional local lore maps and more than 30 reference local lore atlases, used as by the students so by the public at large, have been published.

Within the recent years the agitation propaganda maps visually reflecting the successes in the economic and cultural construction are produced in our country. This is a new successfully developing trend of the subject cartography. Agitation propaganda maps are to be found in the following atlases: Development of the Economy and Culture in the USSR, Education and Development of the USSR, History of the CPSU, etc. The new type of the social economic map, reflecting all the phenomena in the historical aspect and dynamics, has been created.

The decisions of the 25th Congress of the CPSU point out the necessity for the further improvement of the general educational system as a whole and the secondary school in the first turn. The further development of the cartographic education must be aimed at the all-round improvement of the contents and methods of production of all types of mass destination maps, production of the new types of maps, first of all resources, estimation-prognostic, nature and environment protection, sphere of public attendances maps, at the utilization of the materials of the Space survey for the production of maps, at the provision of the educational process with the slide maps, at the detection of means of automatization and utilization of computers, when making and using the maps.