

Anniversary of Romanov's House in Tobolsk Government

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Abstract: The purpose of this article is the research devoted to celebration in the Tobolsk province of the tercentenary of Romanovs' house. Besides, participation and a contribution of inhabitants of this region in anniversary events at all-imperial level are noted. Assistance of the population of the Tobolsk province in preparation and carrying out actions of various character—from secular to religious and from regional to nation-wide is revealed. The contribution of the authorities of edge, his inhabitants is shown. The trip to St. Petersburg of archpriest Dimitry Smirnov with a gift of the Abalaksy icon for emperor Nikolay II from inhabitants of the Tobolsk province is also colourfully and brightly described, his personal moods and experiences are shown. At last, reflection is found and influence of this event in the general context of celebrations and value of anniversary for all estates of the Tobolsk province is in detail opened. Thus, in four years prior to falling of the imperial power in Russia, the nation was fastened by three eyelids of monarchic traditions. As experiment of Western Siberia shows, most fully it was shown in the provinces remoted from the center.

Key words: Anniversary • Romanovs' house • The Tobolsk province • The Abalaksy icon • The Tobolsk delegation • The siberian and Tobolsk diocese • An imperial family

INTRODUCTION

In public life late imperial Russia the events have come to occupy an important place dedicated to anniversaries and memorials of famous historical events.

Beginning of XX century was marked by a series of celebrations of various kinds and sizes. The researcher Cymbaev K.N. noted: "celebration of important dates is a feature of russian life of this period, when the society and the state is literally covered by the Jubilee fever" [1]. But on the other hand, one of the members of the imperial family, watching the celebration in 1913, recalled: "I got the impression that the anniversary of the Romanov's House passed without much enthusiasm... Of course, in the theater the invited audience shouted "Hurrah", the band played a hymn, but there was no mood.

Everything was state-owned, there was no feeling that everybody of Russia unanimously celebrates his dynasty" [2].

In celebration of the anniversary are there three major stages—the celebration in St. Petersburg in February 1913, "pilgrimage" of Nicholas II and his family to the historical places of the Romanov dynasty in the Volga cities in May 1913, staying in Moscow in late May 1913 [3].

The population of the province of Tobolsk participated in the preparation and within the festivities.

Of the three largest cities in the province of Tobolsk a special delegation was elected that was to directly represent the region at the celebration of the tercentenary of the Romanov dynasty. The structure of the head of the deputation entered the city: Tobolsk-S.M. Trusov,

Kurgan F.F. Shwetov and Tyumen P.I. Nikolsky [4]. On February 10, 1913 in St. Petersburg went delegation to participate in the celebrations and congratulations. Tobolsk delegation drove with them for presentation to the Sovereign Abalaksy icon of God's Mother, which was set up to collect donations for the entire province [5].

According to the memories of contemporaries in the morning the city is decorated with flags, in parish churches early Masses were served, Imperial manifesto read, pray for and to 10 hours with all the Churches processions to St. Sophia Cathedral moved, where the icon of the Abalak Mother of God was brought before. In the square lots of people crowded, which for lack of space of the cathedral could not get into it.

In the evening a solemn act was held in the People's audience. Chairman of the meeting Tobolsk Governor A. Stankevich, opening act, said feelingly speech and said that an hour ago, he and Bishop Alexis sent a telegram to Emperor, that from all the province sentences of rural societies and greeting telegrams are received.

The act consisted of three sections: in the first branch three times since the beginning of the national anthem was performed by all choirs and pupillary present, then high school teacher A.J. Wjalych read historical account of the Romanov dynasty, in conclusion choruses of all educational institutions performed cantata of M.A. Goltisona "Glory to the House of Romanovs".

The second and third branches sang choruses seminary, diocesan schools and gymnasiums. Four high school students in suits read "Feat of Susanin", a poem of K.F. Ryleeva.

The anniversary of the Romanov dynasty was celebrated in Tyumen according to the similar scenario. From early morning on February 21 Tyumen was decorated with national flags, according to witnesses, "... a rare house in the center was decorated with flags, on the outskirts of the city, in the barns, Zarechka, Zatyumenka and in new quarters-everywhere were waving flags, many banners were displayed, facade of the City Council was made with garlands of pine needles".

In Znamenskaya church, with a vast concourse of people, after the liturgy of the clergy all the local churches gathered with icons and went to the Royal Square, where a thanksgiving service was given. The area was packed with people. Solemn prayers were served after the liturgy in the all parishes.

People of other religious faiths were not outside, so in the local church, mosque and synagogue, prayers were served for the health of the king and the royal family.

In the evening the city was decorated luxuriously with illumination. According to the recollections of local residents, "no one remembers in Tyumen such illuminations"[6].

Tobolsk province was thoroughly decorated for the holiday. So, on the occasion of the 300th anniversary of the Romanov dynasty were decorated with flags three days 21, 22 and 23 February, in the evening bright lighting burnt daily.

Contemporaries noted that Tobolsk was in many places very beautiful with illumination especially city government stood out, prison, wine store and the building of the provincial administration, where a huge banner burned, hosted by the Exchequer [7]. In Tyumen, "especially luxurious with illumination were home at the Royal and Sadovaya street. Superiority in this respect, of course, belongs to the Land-Building Party (the house of Bryukhanov). On the balcony, decorated with carpets, green, electric lanterns-beautiful banners were burning in the windows that were put initials of all the Kings and Queens, a very elegant monogram on the balcony of the Shadrin's house burned luxurious, facade was decorated greenery and city council with lanterns, monograms were not bad on the building of Police and balcony of Prikazchichiy's club. If the houses on Sadovaya street were not abundant, there was the mass burning fires. Thousands of people were walking down the street, looking in Tyumen at unprecedented illumination" [8].

The involvement of other inhabitants of the province of Tobolsk in the celebration of the 300th anniversary of the Romanov dynasty-is the involving in the national events in the capital. Here, Archpriest Dimitry Smirnov took a direct representation from Tobolsk diocese too.

In January 1913, at the invitation of the Governor of Tobolsk A.A. Stankewich Bishops House in the presence of the bishop of Tobolsk and the Siberian Alexis was a meeting of representatives of all departments and agencies of Tobolsk to discuss the celebrations in Tobolsk anniversary of the 300th anniversary of the reign of the Romanov dynasty in Russia on February 21 and bring to participation by all segments of the population. At this meeting, the bishop was invited to bring from the Orthodox population of Tobolsk diocese to Emperor in the anniversary celebration Abalaksy icon of the Mother of God [9: 1]. All present agreed unanimously to the proposal Archbishop. And the archpriest D. Smirnov was elected as the representative of the diocese for presentation of icon.

The day after this Governor informed the bishop that there will not be the offering of congratulations to Emperor. Then His Eminence addressed by telegraph to the Procurator of the Holy Synod V.K. Sabler for permission to present Nicholas II icon in the anniversary of celebrations and to come to St. Petersburg for the archpriest Dmitry Smirnov. Before the receiving a response to the telegram order was suspended. After 8 days there was a positive response and the order of the icon was restored. Under the terms of order this icon was to be delivered to St. Petersburg on 15 February to the store the same firm after manufacture in Moscow. And in the morning on February 6, D. Smirnov went from Tobolsk and on the 12th arrived in the capital [9: 3].

Gently on the appointed day the firm sent the icon to St. Petersburg. The field and the background of the icon “were covered with silver gilt garment with matte color, the wreaths are on the Savior and the Mother of God of gold, over the crown of the Virgin crown is of fine lace work and in the tops of the crown there are five inserts of various Siberian stone inserts of little size, of the same size are on the crown” [9: 4]. The back of the icon was covered with a dark brocade forged antique and silver gilded plaque was attached with the inscription: “His Majesty Blessed All-Russian Autocrat Nicholas II on the day of the tercentenary of the Romanov dynasty in blessing from the Tobolsk’s church”. The icon was placed in a folding, upholstered in red silk. From the icon, according to the optional seminary rector, some pictures were made: 6 shots of icons and 6 shots in folding.

The next day, the archpriest Dmitry Smirnov visited the metropolit of St. Petersburg Vladimir and Procurator of the Holy Synod V.K. Sabler that were not against of the presentation of the icons to Emperor. In addition, V.K. Sabler recommended me to introduce the vice-director of his office of PI Ispolatova and to tell him my address for sending tickets to enter of the Kazan Cathedral and the Winter Palace. Smirnov received these tickets only on 20 February and only after intensified trouble with his hand.

About 9 o’clock on February 21 the priest went to the Kazan Cathedral in advance to get in it. On the way there was an interesting episode. The driver, drove the Archpriest, obviously touched by decoration of the capital and enjoying the sunny morning, said: “What a beautiful day, the Lord has given to holiday today. And not for nothing. Because we have to wait for three hundred years this festival!” [9: 5].

On the streets of St. Petersburg at the time was an unusual move “fun, festive mood of the crowd, rush to the Festival Centre-Kazan Cathedral and Nevsky Prospekt, on which the royal cortege will follow from Zimny Palace to Kazan Cathedral, to catch even a glimpse of their King. Troops moved on to music and arranged to destinations along the Nevsky Prospekt, forming a trellis along the way of Sovereign. Processions went to the ringing of bells. On Nevsky Prospect tram and car traffic was stopped in the morning. Only those cab drivers and crews were allowed who had special permits to travel to Kazan Cathedral tickets issued from the office of the mayor to the persons entitled to enter into it with a ticket. These tickets were attached to their hats” [10].

In the early 10th of a hour D. Smirnov arrived to Kazan Cathedral, filed a ticket and entered the temple through the west entrance of the Kazan street. Here on the west and south sides was arranged many temporary hangers, some of which were delivered to the lower military ranks to remove and to clean up clothes and posing labels. There were not many people in the Cathedral else. Now, the whole question was, where it is more convenient to be, to see everything and everyone. Some Archpriests and priests and members of deputations, including representatives from the Tobolsk diocese archpriest D. Smirnov, went to the altar of the left aisle of the cathedral and there have been allowed to become a sacristan solea of this chapel, which was located near the main southern entrance to the cathedral from the Nevsky Prospekt. Here, standing on a hill, you can see most of the cathedral and people in it and the proximity of the main entrance made it possible to see the Emperor and his family, grand dukes and duchesses, senior officials of the Empire, which also included by this cathedral entrance. The place was so profitable that the sacristan came and removed from solea others people once during the liturgy [9: 6].

After the end of the prayer service the emperor and his family kissed to St. cross, then to the main shrine of the Cathedral of the Kazan to Icon of the Mother of God and to the brought shrines-the image of the Savior from the house of Peter the Great and Pochaev Icon of Our Lady (Smirnov, 1913: 10). Then all went to the door of the cathedral [9: 10].

About half of the 10th in the morning on February 22 Dmitry Smirnov was on Jordan entrance of the Winter Palace, taking with the icon in a box. “On the stairs to the second floor the court lackeys stood and paired sentries were at the door. There were many people, all

housed in the Nicholas Hall and avant-hall. The clergy was invited to pass into the room and placed on the left side”.

With the icon as a gift to Emperor was only one Tobolsk archpriest, so she called the true interest: many came and asked what this icon, why the images of St. And St. Nicholas. Mary Magdalene, from whom brought near the icon, how much, etc [9: 11].

Soon the “Ceremonies were on the list and began to examine and set the deputation. I was entered in the queue after the deputation from the St. Petersburg church of One Hope. It was explained that anyone coming to the Sovereign, to do him a nod, saying nothing and then approach the Empress Maria Feodorovna (Empress Alexandra Feodorovna in the day was not at the reception), bowed to her, kiss her hand and go to the portrait gallery” [9: 11].

Finally, the doors opened to a nearby concert hall, where stood the Emperor and the Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna, a little behind them on a chair sitting heir to the crown prince, were daughters of the king, they were surrounded by dignitaries of the Empire and suites.

“It started bringing congratulations. Deputations unbroken chain moved into the concert hall. Anyone coming to the Emperor, stayed and did obeisance to him and the master of ceremonies on the list aloud called rank, title or position, name and surname, Sovereign also posted a bow, then everyone would go to the Empress Maria Feodorovna and acted as previously indicated” [9: 11].

When approaching a queue Tobolsk Fr he “felt an unusual peace joyful mood of happiness and some confusion with the excitement”. Master of Ceremonies reported: “Cathedral archpriest Smirnov from Tobolsk to Abalasky icon of the Mother of God of the population of Orthodox Tobolsk diocese.

- Consecrated icon?-Asks the Sovereign.
- Consecrated, Your Imperial Majesty,-I answer” [9: 11].

Then the head of the empire of the cross, kissed the icon and again asked from whom icon. After receiving an explanation, he turned to Archpriest Dimitry Smirnov, with the following words: “give my heartfelt thanks to all”. [9: 13].

Coming out of the palace, D. Smirnov immediately sent a telegram to the Archbishop of Tobolsk and the Siberian Alexis, sharing only past events [9: 14].

“In conclusion, I would like to share an experience that on me, though small, part in the celebrations which took place in St. Petersburg 300th anniversary of the Romanov dynasty on 21 and 22 February 1913.

Hours and minutes I spent in the Kazan Cathedral and the Winter Palace, will be the lightest and welcome in life and not be blotted out from the rest of my heart, though-maybe-and short life. They lifted my spirit revived several starts to weaken faith in the affinity with which a very young age, he considered holy to his heart, which he considered to be the very first moments of the conscious life of irrefutable axiom and ignited under piles of smoldering ash and the fire of love for their country, for their King and his family”.

RESULTS

Thus, the celebration of the 300th anniversary of the ruling House of Romanov held widely in a big way, not only in the heart of the Empire-St. Petersburg and central provinces, but also in the periphery, in the remote corners of the country (one year, due to the outbreak of World War II, it would hardly be possible.) Moreover, as numerous sources evidenced, the activities were really with the active participation of the people and society [11]. Though I must admit that the initiative of all kinds of celebrations come, however, from the top. However, this fact did not stop to meet adequately in 1913 across Russia as a significant event, which has not passed by the province of Tobolsk. Throughout the region-from the North to the southern border-put in order settlements (decorated buildings, cleaned streets), in the cultural sphere witnessed performances, masquerades and plays ball in the evening, in the religious life committed countless prayers, vigils, liturgies, processions etc. In St. Petersburg Home empire-wide celebrations were sent two delegations-from the province and diocese with very symbolic gift-a list of the icon of Abalasky Mother of God.

It is interesting to note that the preparation for the anniversary has already been since 1911! Of course, all this was done with the pomp and glamour-the inhabitants of the province and the authorities wanted to meet worthy the three centuries of dynasty, keeping up with the leading cities of the empire. Therefore, the source contains a lot of inspirational phrases. Hardly anyone could have predicted that before the end of the board, “adored by all the crowned famil” is just four-plus years and that this end will be no less bloody than its beginning.

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