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CITIZENS OF SWEDEN, WHO CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE STUDIES OF THE HERITAGE OF THE NOBEL FAMILY IN RUSSIA

Tomas BERTELMAN.

Swedish diplomat and statesman. In 1988-1989 he initiated the work in Leningrad to study the historical and cultural heritage of the Nobel Family and install a commemorative memorial plaque. The organizer of the first special meeting on this subject at the residence of the Nobel Foundation in Stockholm in September 1989.

Dag Sebastian AHLANDER

Swedish diplomat. As the Consul General of Sweden in Leningrad in the early 1990's he made a significant contribution to the work program on the Nobel Movement as a social phenomenon of the 20th century. The author of books about Alfred Nobel and other prominent figures in Sweden.

Lars GYLLINSTEN.

President of the Nobel Foundation. With S. Ramelli and S. Nobel in the early 1990's he has visited St. Petersburg at the invitation of prof. A. Melua, participated in scientific symposia and the formation of works on the history of the Nobel Movement as a social phenomenon of the 20th century.

Stig RAMEL.

Executive director of the Nobel Foundation. The participant of the preparation and the jury session of the monument project to Alfred Nobel in Leningrad.

Sven NOBEL.

The representative of the Nobel Family. At the jury meeting in Leningrad in May 1990 he strongly supported the first vanguard design of the monument to Alfred Nobel.

Michael SOHLMAN.

Executive Director of the Nobel Foundation. Participant of the unveiling monument of Alfred Nobel in St. Petersburg in 1991. During the years 1991-2011 he made an outstanding contribution to scientific collaboration on the history of the Nobel Movement.

Svante LINDQVIST.

President of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. Marshal of Sweden. Outstanding scientist, statesman. The initiator of scientific symposia and exhibitions on of Alfred Nobel.

Olov AMELIN.

PhD. Director of the Museum of Alfred Nobel of the Nobel Foundation in Stockholm. The head of the historical and archival research in Sweden and other countries.

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Nikolay BASOV.

Academician of Russian Academy of Sciences. The Nobel Prize laureate in physics. Since 1991 he actively participated in establishing of the systematic studying of the Nobel Family heritage and achievements of Nobel Laureates in Russia.

Alexander NOZDRACHEV.

Academician of Russian Academy of Sciences. The outstanding physiologist and the historian of science. The follower of the scientific and clinical work of Nobel Prize laureate Ivan Pavlov. Together with Evgeny Polyakov and other colleagues he prepared and published a number of encyclopedic works on the history of the Nobel Movement.

Abram BLOCH.

Doctor of Geological and Mineralogical Sciences. Since the 1990's he has been working on the generalization and popularization of the achievements of Nobel Laureates. The author of books. He studied the archives of the Nobel Foundation in Stockholm. The collector of postage stamps dedicated to the Nobel Movement.

Vyacheslav TYUTYUNNIK.

Professor, Doctor of Technical Sciences. Since the 1980's he conducts the research on the scientific heritage of the Nobel Family and Nobel Laureates. The arranger of the Research and Information Center in this area in Tambov. He contributes greatly to the popularization of the achievements of Nobel Laureates.

Vladimir KHAVINSON.

The Corresponding Member of Russian Academy of Medical Sciences. The follower of the Nobel Laureate Ilya Mechnikov in the study of gerontology. The author of the fundamental works on peptides. President of the European Association of Gerontology. He published books about the experience of medical and clinical research conducted at the enterprises of the Association of the Nobel Brothers.

Vladimir OKREPILOV.

The Corresponding Member of Russian Academy of Sciences. The follower of Dmitri Mendeleev in the development of metrology and quality methodology. The author of books on cooperation of the Nobel Family with Dmitri Mendeleev and other Russian scientists and entrepreneurs.

Yaroslav GOLKO.

Ph.D. in economics. Outstanding organizer of production. The author of the scientific and production books and articles. The philanthropist. He made a great contribution to the preservation of historical and cultural monuments in Russia and other countries. He set the historical and scientific links between the energy projects of the Nobel Family and modern European energy programs.

Arkady MELUA.

Professor, Doctor of Philosophy. In 1970 when designing the long-term base on the moon he used patents by Alfred Nobel for the new ways of protection the lunar constructions by the method of the directed blast. Since 1989 he has headed research and publishing works on the history of the Nobel Movement as a social phenomenon of the 20th century. The author, the editor and the publisher of several hundreds of encyclopedias and monographs. He led the development and construction of the memorial sign to the memory of Alfred Nobel in St. Petersburg in 1991. The creator of the digital database for the Nobel theme, the organizer of exhibitions. He studies the life of Alfred Nobel, a prominent figure in modern European history.

FOREWORD

Some of the events in the second half of the 19th century had played a crucial role in the direction of social development. Despite the military conflicts in those years, the most significant achievements were made in the civil areas. These developments were based on emergence of new fundamental ethical and cultural values exercised by all citizens regardless of their ethnicity, nationality, or religion. Many family clans stood by such views. One of these families was the family of the Nobels, talented engineers. The family is originally from Sweden, they came to Russia through the territory of Finland in the middle of the XIX century. It was in Russia's socio-cultural environment that their talents developed and were put to good use by the Russian society. Besides the Nobels, the history has known the names of many other inventors and designers. However, the Nobel family is one of the very few whose innovative work became a global phenomenon, encompassing all classes of the population, almost all sectors of the economy, finance, industry, science, art and culture.

Not only in Russia but also in other countries the Nobel Family became known due to the work of Alfred Nobel, who created dynamite and its production technology, whose will to establish the Nobel Foundation was executed fully. The results of the Nobel family activities generally have received insufficient coverage, even in Russia and Sweden. The basis for the expanding look at the legacy of the Nobel family is the public value of their results. The reality of this work is confirmed by tens of thousands of documents, which have not been systematized yet, but kept in Russia and in other countries. They are stored in government and public collections, in archives, libraries, in many families - whose ancestors have worked for companies of the Nobels.

By the end of the 19th century there were about 100 people related to the Nobel family through their historical and genealogical roots. Working in various industries in different countries, they collaborated on many projects, making their family a historical phenomenon and carrier of high moral principles. Some of them obtained the Russian citizenship, while others eventually went to live in Finland, France and other countries. It was that atmosphere that helped shape the views of Alfred Nobel.

Today, when, in the words of Academician Vladimir Vernadsky, "ideas became planetary phenomena, and the human mind became a geological force," and the noosphere emerged, moral evaluation of outstanding technological achievements gained vital importance. All inventors must comprehend the role of their inventions in society, and their place in preserving and developing humankind. This struggle often takes place inside the human mind, in the person's conscience and soul. Alfred Nobel went along a difficult moral

path of internal struggle: the inventor of the most powerful explosive of that time decided to fight against the forces that could use his invention against humanity. He bequeathed his capital not to development of the technology of explosives but to reward work for peace and science. After nearly 100 years, at the end of the twentieth century, another talented inventor, the creator of an even more destructive kind of weapons - Andrey Sakharov – made a conscious decision to fight against his own invention, the atomic bomb.

This kind of ideological understanding of the historical path of the Nobels complemented the challenges facing researchers due to the need for more complete coverage of the history of society.

Beginning with the 1990's in Russia in many cities action teams of researchers of the legacy of the Nobel family were formed. The work done in St. Petersburg proved to be most productive due to cooperation with Nobel scientific institutions, which were set up in accordance with the agreements between Swedish and Soviet diplomats, and were subsequently developed by leading scholars and researchers of Nobel institutions.

This was the first attempt to summarize various data coming from more than 40 cities of Russia in the archives and industrial funds. The research found that the fate of the Nobel family had been intertwined with Russian industry and biographies of major Russian entrepreneurs throughout the second half of the 19th century. Ludwig Nobel worked tirelessly on improving Russian industry (as is obvious from the published documents of the Nobel family), and anyone who reads these documents will undoubtedly conclude that this Swedish businessman was a true patriot of Russia. The scope and ambition of his plans is still impressive even in the early 21st century. The methodological approaches he suggested are still valid today. His son, Emanuel Lyudvigovich Nobel, a prominent Russian industrialist of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, worked closely with leading politicians and scientists from Russia, Finland, Sweden and other countries.

There was a true galaxy of famous families who in St. Petersburg and Moscow at that time. Nobel, Mendeleev, Oldenburg, Dostoevsky, Tillander, Tolstoy, Witte, Bolin, Mechnikov, Stolypin, Pavlov, Pirogov, Diaghilev, Melnikov, Struve, Putilov, Faberge, Krylov, and many others have remained in our time and our memory today as creators in various fields of everlasting value. On the one hand, our goal was to systematize the results of the work done by the Nobels. The exhibition provides a conceptual classification of these results. On the other hand, we wanted at least to outline the circle of friends of the Nobels family at the time. The exhibition discusses several hundred people in the close circle of the Nobels. It is clear why Alfred Nobel's library contained books by Leo Tolstoy. The exhibition provides a new look at correspondence between Leo Tolstoy and Bertha Suttner. The Nobels worked on setting up libraries for their workers in industrial towns, and their motives and principles in this area commands respect. Their inventions were surprising and witty. However, their most significant contributions were in large part due to the cultural environment of their innovative activities. It is in that sphere that engineers were motivated not to create weapons of war but work to protect life, progress and peace.

They not only held abstract ideas of European unity and cooperation. In co-operation of specialists of different countries, in free movement of machinery and designs, they implemented the principle of European cooperation. The Nobels were the first to create a network of petroleum product transportation, which today is one of the components in the European energy program.

As we organized the first Nobel Family in Russia exhibition, we did not seek to answer all the questions on their activities. In our understanding, the exhibition's main goal was to

show the breadth of their interests, the noble nature of their ideas, and the importance of their research even today. The exhibition is a way for us to introduce less known or unknown documents on life and work of the Nobels.

Professor A.I. Melua
Curator of the exhibition

A. Melua
J. Golko
H. Lahelma
A. Makela

Behalf of the Council of the JSC "Humanistica" we greet the visitors of the exhibition "The Nobel Family in Russia". The exhibition includes copies of documents and information, mostly before 1917.

The exhibition is devoted to comprehensive talents of the Nobel Family, as well as many working in partnership with professionals and scientists. This is an important part of our overall history - the history of Russia, Finland and Sweden. It is also an important part of the history of Europe.

This is the first attempt to generalize the exhibition of a large amount of information about the Nobel Family in Russia. We hope that with your help we will continue the research on this topic.