

Abstracts of Some Articles

Postnikov A. V. Alaska's Purchase, and International Telegraph Expedition. A History of Geographical Explorations during the Russian-British-American Expedition organized for planning and construction of the Telegraph Line across Alaska, part of Canada, the Bering Straits, and the North-East coast of Siberia. On base of studies in Russian and American archives and libraries, author shows that Expedition played some role in the American authorities' final decision to purchase the Russian American colonies. Besides, the Expedition, in scientific terms, had been the last exploring venture of the Russian period, and opened an American stage of Alaska's studies. American participants of the Expedition were the first to publish in English an outlines of many impressive results of Russian geographical explorations and mapping in continental Alaska.

Kolchinsky E. I. Dialektization of Biology (discussions and repressions in the 20s and in the beginning of 30s). In the discussions of 20s the basis was laid for the coming Lysenkoism. The biological community in general surrendered to the idea of «dialektization» and «proletarization» in biology just outwardly. Numerous societies and institutions created in the years of «the great change» to ideologically supervise biological researches did not get any mass support and were then dismissed. Deformations of biology in nazis Germany and in the Soviet Union took place in different social, cultural and political contexts.

Babkov V. V. Social and biological hierarchies: contexts of H. J. Muller's letter to I. V. Stalin. An afterword to the publication of the Muller's 1936 letter found in the Stalin's Files, this paper deals with questions of congeniality of Bolsheviks' and eugenicists' intentions, the stile of eugenics in Russia, strategies of the defenders of the scientific autonomy and strategies of the authorities in 1930ies, etc., and discusses them from the standpoint of the study of natural hierarchies.