

## **HEREDITARY HYGIENE' - RACE, NATION AND PSYCHIATRY IN LATVIA 1937-1944**

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Until today eugenics in Latvia before World War Two have not been investigated yet. The paper will illuminate this issue for the first time giving an overview to practical eugenics and its supporters in Latvia under the authoritarian Ulmanis regime and the continuation under Nazi occupation from 1937 to 1944. In 1937 the "Eugenic Commission" was installed to decide over cases of abortion and sterilization. The declared aim was to reduce the "inferior" and "improve" the Latvian nation. Further the state-run "Institute for the research of the vivid strength of the people" was founded giving Latvian eugenics a "scientific" basis. Analyzing practical and theoretical eugenics the paper will show how actors on different fields as social politics, hygiene, race-anthropology and psychiatry formed a national science. The Latvian eugenic project is an example for ethno-nationalism and the biological definition of Nation in the Eastern European region. But even under Nazi occupation the eugenic measures had more in common with the pre-war policies of Latvian "Hereditary Hygiene" than with National-socialist Race-hygiene and were seemed to "preserve" the Latvian Nation. The paper will put the Latvian project in the context of the different eugenic discourses in Europe at that time and show the common and the peculiar of the specific eugenic project.

## **DEVELOPMENT OF OPHTHALMOLOGY IN UKRAINE AND LATVIA IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF XX CENTURY: PARALLELS AND INTERSECTIONS**

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According to historical data Michael A. Levitski and Janis Fridrihs Julijs Ruberts were the same age, they were also representatives of the same ophthalmology school in the University of St. Vladimir (Kyiv) as well as active participants of development of this scientific branch in Ukraine and Latvia.

M.A. Levitski graduated Medical Faculty of Kyiv University in 1897, J.F.J. Ruberts finished similar faculty of Dorpat University in 1899. Under the direction of A.V. Khodin Levitski made and defended a thesis for a Doctor's degree in Kyiv University in 1910. His work was devoted to changes of visual system of students during studying. Ruberts prepared and defended a thesis for a Doctor's degree in Dorpat University under the direction of E. Relmanis in 1903. The subject of his work was pathology of eyes during lepra.

According to I. Makarenko, Levitski was elected by professor of Ophthalmology Chair in Kyiv Woman's Medical Institute. As it is shown by A. Viksna (2007), Ruberts was invited for a job in Kiev province, in 1915 he took a position of senior doctor in Clinic of Eye Diseases and assistant at the Chair of Ophthalmology in Kiev University under the direction of professor A.F. Shimanovski.

During about 5 years Ruberts adopted traditions of Kyiv ophthalmology school. In 1919-1921 Ruberts was a professor, head of Ophthalmology Chair, and director of Clinic of Eye Diseases at University.

After amalgamation of Woman's Medical Institute and Medical Faculty of Kyiv University into united Medical Institute, two "lectureships" functioned in Ophthalmology Chair: Ukrainian (by professor Levitski) and Russian (by professor Ruberts). On the invitation of Latvian Higher School Ruberts returned to Riga in 1922. He was elected by professor of ophthalmology of Medical Faculty and by director of University's Clinic of Eye Diseases.

## **PHARMACY STUDENTS FROM THE BALTIC PROVINCES (ESTONIA, LIVONIA, KURLAND) AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TARTU IN 1892-1905**

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The period under discussion was turning point in the history of University of Tartu (UT), it turned from German language Dorpat into Russian language Jurjew. In the present work the electronic database of UT pharmacists, studied in 1892-1905, was made. According to the archival 1329 pharmacy students were registered at that period. The following information was established: their age at the time they were matriculated, territorial and social origin, confessional belonging.

The analysis of the database showed that in the observable period 95 pharmacists a year were matriculated at the UT on average. All the pharmacy students were men. The average age of the students attending UT was 26. The majority of the students were descendants of bourgeois (37%). Relatively many were descendants of peasants (14%) and merchants (12%); 4% were sons of pharmacists. The analysis of confessional belonging shows that Lutherans (39%) and Judaism (36%) predominated. Most of the pharmacists were from local province Livonia (21%). In the observable period the students from outside of the Baltic provinces predominated (62% of students). 509 students or 38% were born in Baltic governments.

Separately, we tried to determine nationalities of students from Livonia. Analysis showed that the dominant nationality was German (ca 47%), but comparing with the previous periods, the number of Germans decreased as a result of the russification of the university - there were relatively many Estonians and Latvians from Livonia (ca 23% and 20% respectively). Studying conditions and very short learning made possible to study at the university also the representatives of local people. In the present work process short biographies of 70 Estonian and 93 Latvian pharmacists, studied in UT in 1892-1905, were composed and supplemented.