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THE DEVELOPMENT OF AMATEUR PERFORMANCES IN KHERSON REGION IN TIME OF «THAW»: BRIEF OVERVIEW

After the XX Congress CPSU party considerably strengthened attention to ideological education of the soviet people, especially to the younger generation. For this reason it was widely used all means of ideological and political influence on the mass: propaganda, agitation, press, radio and television, cultural and educational organizations and institutions, science, literature and art.

The audit of ideological and cultural work among young people, the state of rest and leisure was the all-USSR Festival of Youth, declared 1956. Central Committee L.Y.C.L.S.U. (Leninist Young Communist League of the Soviet Union), the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions, and the Ministry of Unions' Culture. XXI Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union was the beginning of a new period in the development of our country – the period of full-scale construction of communist society, showed ambitious program of powerful growth of the economy, science, culture and material welfare and spiritual level of the entire Soviet people. Evaluation of this congress was the role of amateur performances in educating workers in the communist spirit and determination of its ability to serve people at the high level along side with state concert organizations and entertainment companies which contributed the creation of new forms of individual amateur teams.

On the way of amateur art groups in further development, had been used pre-acquisition practices and creative research, were found new forms and methods of ideological and artistic activities among the population. That corresponded with the guidelines of the XX CPSU Congress and the USSR Council of Ministers Resolution from 11th November 1957 «On improvement of cultural and educational institutions in the village».

Organization of theaters of folk art, folk theaters, philharmonic societies and other mass forms of workers aesthetic education had created considerable artistic prestige of amateur art and contributed to its involvement the series of new refilling. In January 1, 1956 in Ukraine were 77,409 groups of amateur, which involved 1,132,717 people, at the end of 1960, had more than 117,000 groups in which there were about two million participants [1, p. 44].

The activity of these theaters was due to special regulations for display according definite plan to the wide audience (listeners) the best concerts and performances. Thus, the right to play in such theaters was given to winners of art contest for the best repertoire and excellent performance. In fact, in theaters of folk art were held constant existing local amateur performances that contributed the growth and improvement of the creative amateur teams, because for each new debut were prepared new program or new play, which were later discussed. The oldest drama group of the House of Culture of combine plant named after G. I. Petrovskyi was very popular in the Kherson region. Amateur actors successfully put Ukrainian and Russian classics plays, the best soviet playwrights. In their repertoire – works by Maxim Gorkyy, Alexander Ostrovskyy, Taras Shevchenko, Marko Kropivnitskyy, Boris Lavrenev, Oleksandr Korniyuchuk [2]. Talented amateur team awarded the title of People's Theatre. Its performances were always held in a crowded hall. People's Theatre often went to the village area. Significant sign of that time was the development of community foundations in the cultural construction as a sign of moral and political maturity of our people – builder of communism. That had affected many areas of cultural and educational activities, and in particular the mass musical work. Thousands of Soviet intellectuals – managers' of amateur performances teams in cities, villages, farms operated on a voluntary basis.

In regions of the republic were set up regional interagency councils of culture that helped the development of amateur. They were also operated on a voluntary basis. In Tsyurupynsk was well known cultural enthusiast volunteer Ivan Oleksiyovych Kravtsov. On his own initiative in the District House of Culture were conducted classical evenings of Russian and Ukrainian music and also evenings devoted to the works of contemporary Soviet and foreign composers. Musical works were recorded on the tapes of the advance-designed program. Lecturers-musicologists accompanied them by the brief explanation.

On the eve of the XXI Congress of the CPSU were originated universities as art community organizations which were designed to inculcate musical and aesthetic tastes in the mass audience. Significant role in them, particularly in the departments of music, played amateur music (choirs, orchestras, ensembles, soloists) which illustrated the musical lectures. The regional Philharmonic created musical lectures with the purpose of wide propaganda. In collaboration with the creative team of the musical-drama theater the artists of Philharmonic acted in workshops enterprises, on improvised scenes in the yards of large residential areas. Known in the Kherson region and far beyond vocal and choreographic young ensemble Philharmonic «Freckle» (1960) had in its repertoire national Ukrainian and Russian songs and dances, modern soviet, foreign and also classic and choreographic works [3, p. 57]. The team consisted mainly of amateur actors who later underwent great school of creativity.

Amateur of Soviet Ukraine had a repertoire of many works of classical heritage. It also was updated with the works of contemporary composers. Which were written not only by professionals but also by amateurs. Life showed them the themes, the labor enthusiasm of the people, their achievements. Works of amateur songwriters had found the recognition and are popular both among amateur and professional artistic groups. They were heard on the radio, recorded on gramophone disc, published in separate

collections or in special copyright issues. Success of amateur songwriters was strongly bonded with their lives. This thematic relevance had reflected in their works the heroic work or individual life events and the way of life of our society. Most are either themselves involved in those events that were described in their works or with their own eyes had seen labor feats of working people who live and work next to them.

Lyrics were written not only by amateur composers-singers, but by some teams. From time to time were organized public records of amateur-singers, where they performed their own works of art previously discussed at the meetings in the Regional House of Folk Art. Repertoire of amateur regularly updated with new works of Ukrainian composers, with the best creative examples of people in our homeland and abroad. Great benefit in this regard brought «Repertory collection» that since 1950 had begun to issue every 2 months the magazine «Socialist culture» (Kyiv). It published the latest original works of various genres. Especially the great need for new repertoire appeared in the eve of outstanding artistic events. Central House of Folk Art along with the Union of Writers and the Union of Composers of Ukraine periodically announced competitions for the best repertoire for amateur.

In 1959 in Kherson was established a branch of the Union of Ukrainian Writers. In the regional center and in the areas worked dozens of literary associations and groups. As far as education, general rise of culture contributed broad disclosure abilities of each person. Hundreds and even thousands of people of different professions, ages tried their forces at literary work. Associations and groups, whose work was managed by branch of the Union of Writers, helped beginners in their work. Their pieces were often published in local regional and district newspapers, were transmitted on the radio and television. A lot of young writers already had their books.

Continued to develop traditional form of vocal and instrumental music – choir and ensemble of bandura players. Such genre of musical performances gained its popularity among women. Popular among Kherson citizens amateur Culture House of boat builders. On the professional level were held performances of that choir. For many years were singing in the chapel mechanic F. Afanasenko, technician L. Samotesova, technologists Drobnych V., N. Byallo. There were also a drama team of boat builders, which also had many talented amateur artists. Among them – turner B. Shepel, ship builder S. Arinshteyn, engineers and technical workers Kazachok B., S. Chudnovsky [4].

Prospects for the development of amateur and its role in the harmonious education of workers, especially the younger generation, with great depth specified in the Program of the CPSU adopted at XXII CPSU congress: In the transition to communism creative activity in all fields of culture become particularly fruitful and accessible for all members of society. Soviet literature, music, painting, film, theater, television, all kinds of arts would reach new heights in the development of the ideological content and artistic mastery. Widely would be spread national theaters, mass amateur, technical invention and other forms of folk art. The rise of artistic and creative activity of the mass would promote new talented writers, artists, musicians and actors. The development and enrichment of the artistic treasure of society is achieving through the combination of amateur mass and professional art.

Kherson State Musical College one of the oldest in Ukraine before revolution there were taught sons and daughters of the rich, the poor were not allowed even for the threshold. And the children of workers or peasants could not study there. Was it even possible for them to have at home piano, and to pay for the training? It was a lack of money for bread. Today here study for free 270 future teachers-musicians, and even get a scholarship. Many graduates of college now continue their education at the conservatory.

After the XXII Congress amateur got even more extensive development: supplemented and updated repertoire, thematically intended for increasing demands of mass listeners and the audience; expanded volunteers in amateur, appeared more and more amateur drama groups, choirs, orchestras, ensembles, which by their artistic level awarded the honorary title of «people's»; preserved and developed folk tradition of identifying talents that fill in the educational art establishments. 1964 was special for total progressive mankind. According to UNESCO was celebrated the 150th anniversary of the Ukrainian poet and democrat-revolutionary Taras Shevchenko.

In the republican review of the theaters plays on contemporary themes, which took place in January and February 1964, staff of the Kherson musical-drama theater was the winner. This was undoubtedly the great success of Kherson artists. Among the many events of celebration the anniversary one of the most significant was the Republican review-competition of village amateur, which was held from 18 to 24 December 1964. Survey showed the increase of mass village amateur according to the Regional House of Folk Art in regional surveys after the previous two selections (local, city, district) attended 56,000 people [5].

Prominent place in the performances of choirs, ensembles, soloist-singers took works of soviet composers, including Ukrainian, wonderful original songs and their arrangements, as well as the classics. Female ensemble Verhniorohachynskyy House of Culture in Kherson region (F. Savchuk) was noted for its high artistic results.

But not entirely satisfactory condition of the repertoire of folk and brass bands showed the lack of original orchestral works of Ukrainian composers. These teams used mainly not always of high art quality arrangements.

Mastered peaks of artistic culture, the collective village got on a level of artistic amateur as the city had in repertoire, in wealth of artistic genres and performance skills.

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