

“Do not separate me from the steppe...”. Tselina by Evdokiya Zaychukova

February 1954. The count of glorious years of the virgin land starts from that date. The word “Tselina” (“virgin land”) is, indeed, the synonym of the word “bread”. Since that time, the heroes were mainly grain growers, ploughmen, who came to the state farms of virgin lands from throughout the country of Soviets. Previously, they narrated about the courage of the first comers to the virgin lands, their steadiness and devotion to the land, as about a certain antiquity, natural characteristics, the same as the ability to speak, think, breathe ... In March 1954 after February-March plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party with its decree “On further increase of the grain production in the country and on the development of virgin and fallow lands”, 500 th. volunteers were sent to the virgin lands on the Komsomol basis. The state put the orders for the virgin lands under the control, and they were accomplished first of all. Heavyweight machinery, building materials, equipment, and transportation means were sent there. The same year in the northern parts of Kazakhstan and Siberia 450 state farms of the virgin lands were formed. In one Kazakhstan in a year over 600 th. volunteers worked. And the same year in the autumn, for the first time in the history, Kazakhstan poured about 250 mln. puds of grain into the grain-bins of the Motherland– for 150 mln. more than in the most favorable years.

In L.I. Brezhnev’s book “Tselina” it is written, “In old dictionaries you will find the word “tselina”, but you will not find the word “tselinnik”. It was born in 50s, the same as in the years of collectivization the word “kolkhoznik” emerged. ... Tselinnik – a historical figure, defining by themselves the heroic time. By that word the special character due to the need of time” (Recollections, M., 1982).

Among them was Evdokiya Andreevna Zaychukova (she was born on 14 March 1908) – one of the first women who came to develop virgin lands, creator and head of two wonderful state farms-agrocities of the Akmola area. Before Zaychukova's arrival the state farm was lagged behind, no less than five directors were changed in the office. But, for a short time she could forward Izhevsky, Vishnevsky district as it is till the present time.

Everything changed with the appearance of the new director Evdokiya Andreevna Zaychukova. New school, new culture center, new street emerged. During those years in Izhevsky there was a tradition: on the first of September in all classes the first lesson was conducted in the culture center. The theme of the lesson: "Tselina", and it was taught by the director of the state farm Evdokiya Zaychukova.

Evdokiya devoted 17 years to her loved land. And when she was dying, she asked her friends who came to the hospital about one thing:

"Do not put any fence on my grave, do not separate me from the steppe... ."

Such people are the golden fund, pride of the party and nation. And we care for them much. Without the knowledge of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan no one had the right to move in the service the heads of the state farms, and, moreover, to dismiss them from work.

Great bread attracted attention to tselina. Earlier, for instance, was such tradition in Tselinograd (present – Astana), and in all regional cities of the virgin lands of Kazakhstan. Each year on festive Day of workers of agriculture based on the results of agriculture year on the central square the rally was held. The entire city was going there. The brass bands, accordions were played, flags were waved. Once, at the culmination point of the holiday the column of newest tractors K-701

– “steppe ships” entered. On the door there was a plate with the inscription “For Best Mechanizer of Kazakhstan”. Through the loudspeaker to the whole square with the broadcast on the national television the names of the best performers were announced. And for the most honored grain growers the keys to the new tractors “Kirovets” were given in... .It was and forever will stay in the folk’s memory.

Unfortunately, there is no such vocation of glorious labour of grain growers, there is no Honour Board at the central squares as if bread ceased being the staff of life.

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