

UDC 069:549

ARCHIVE OF THE MINERALOGICAL MUSEUM: REPLENISHMENT OF COLLECTIONS IN 1909–1914

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Information on replenishment of Museum's collections in 1909 – 1914 based on the study of archival sources. 6 figures.

In 1906, the Peter the Great Geological Museum, under the initiative of F.N. Chernyshev, was divided into two branches – geological and mineralogical. Academician V.I. Vernadsky headed the mineralogical branch occupying only one hall with 8 showcases. He has invited V.I. Kryzhanovsky to work in the Museum as the acting as keeper, who already in the beginning of 1907 has plunged into restoration of old collections, creation of new forms of records and accounting and replenishment of collections by new materials.

For more successful work in this direction, Vernadsky in 1909 sent this young specialist abroad to get acquainted with mineralogical museums of Berlin, Bonn, Munich, Dresden, Vienna, Geneva, where he studied collections and accounting and documenting methods of museum collections. Simultaneously, Kryzhanovsky got also acquainted with the work of foreign mineralogical offices engaged in trading minerals.

Having returned to Saint Petersburg, he started correspondence with these offices and purchased at them minerals new to the Museum. Minerals were sent from abroad by mail in parcels containing 15 to 50 samples. Kryzhanovsky selected the most interesting samples from each sent parcel and returned the staying. Frequently, all sent material was accepted. In this case the price of samples was discounted by 10 %. The postage on delivery of minerals and sending back the residues was born by a mineralogical office. Some samples were selected directly in offices at abroad missions of Fersman, Kryzhanovsky and Vernadsky.

The first parcel was received by the Museum on April 17, 1909 from the firm Grebel, Wandler and Co in Geneva. It contained 25 samples, mainly minerals of gold and silver from deposits of Peru, Mexico, USA, etc. at total amount of 249 Swiss Francs. Closest contacts were maintained with this firm. From 1909 to 1914,

the Museum has received from Geneva 20 parcels with minerals of France, Spain, Portugal, Turkey, Hungary, Austria, Romania, Italy, Belgium, Norway, Greenland, USA, Australia, Madagascar, Turkey, Mexico and Brazil at the amount of 6,821 Swiss Francs.

Related to Vernadsky's interest to radioactive minerals and organization in 1912 of Radium Expedition of the Academy of Sciences, such minerals as uraninite, autunite, carnotite, uranothallite, torbernite, uranothorite, etc were actively purchased.

The firm of Dr. F. Krantz (Bonn), in 1909 – 1914 has sent 11 parcels at the amount of 4,031 DM.

The firm of Julius Břhm (Vienna) has sent 16 parcels at the amount of 7,429 Austrian Crones in 1911-1914.

Six parcels came from the Freiberg Mining Academy (since 1909 till 1914) at the amount of 1, 705 Marks.

A set of betafite samples from Madagascar pegmatites, collected by A.E. Fersman during his stay in Vienna, was sent by doctor L. Eger from the Institute of Natural History.

A big parcel of silver minerals and rocks describing the Cobalt deposit in Canada was supplied upon Vernadsky's request by the mine management (also not free-of-charge). In addition, the Museum has received a parcel from USA (Philadelphia) from the firm Foot Mineral Co, containing, in particular, native tantalum from Altai and minerals from Colorado and California (amazonite, spodumene, kunzite, tourmaline, etc.). Some parcels came from Prague, from the mineralogical firm of V.Frie and one parcel at the amount of 1,252 Marks from Hamburg, from the firm of Ernst Winter & Sohn, containing 25 diamond crystals selected by Fersman.

Unfortunately, the World War I begun in August 1914 has interrupted these contacts and purchase of minerals from abroad has stopped.

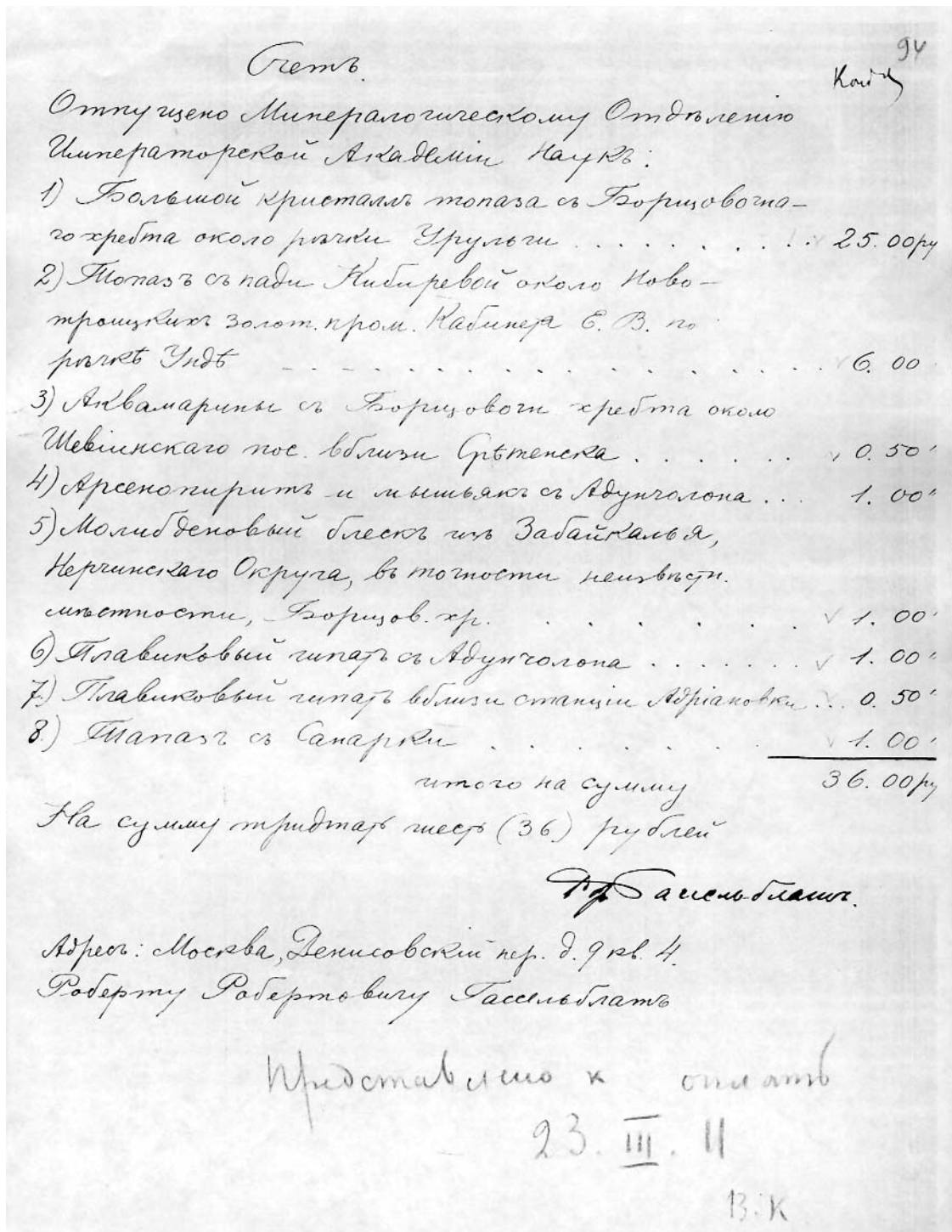


Fig. 1. The invoice (for 36 Rbl) drawn by Moscow collector R.R. Gassel'blat to the Museum for 8 samples with V.I. Kryzhanovskiy's note on the disbursement

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Wien, 19

MINERALIEN-COMPTOIR
JULIUS BÖHM
WIEN
I., Lobkowitzplatz Nr. 11, Stock
Telephon Nr. 1150/1151 nach VIII
Postparassonische Nr. 89936

2. Blatt	Uebertrag Kron. 387.-	
✓ Uranit	Cornwall	K. 36.-
✓ Uranothallit	Joachimstal	" 25.-
✓ Walpurgin	Schneeberg	" 20.-
✓ Zeunerit	ditto	" 40.-
✓ Eliasit	Johanngeorgenst.	" 20.-
+ Autunit	Redruth	" 36.-
✓ Johannit ect.	Joachimstal	" 26.-
+ Carnotit	Colorado	" 5.-
✓ Ullmannit	Masaloni	" 120.-
Zusammen Kronen östr. Wrg.		715.-

Взято на 202 Крон

Annotacio 9. XI. 117.
B. K.

Fig. 2. The invoice of Austrian mineralogical office of Julius Böhm with V.I. Kryzhanovsky's note «Paid on November 9, 1911, V.K.»

The Museum was more intensively replenished by Russian minerals. So, in 1909, after long negotiations, the collection of Urals mining enterpriser K.A. Shishkovsky (100 samples for 4, 000 roubles) was purchased. At that time the Museum had enough of funds for this purpose. In addition to proceeds allocated annually by the Academy of Sciences, the Museum had in its account 200, 000 Rbl bequeathed by the deceased V.I. Vorob'ev for the Museum's development and purchase of minerals. The Shishkovsky collection was bought out of interest from this sum.

Additional funds were allocated to the Museum in 1912, when the Peter the Great Geological Museum was renamed into the Peter the Great Geological and Mineralogical Museum. The staff of the Museum was also increased. Fersman became the Senior Scientific Keeper of the Mineralogical Museum. The same year the Museum has acquired in Vienna the collection of P.A. Kochubei of about 2, 600 samples, including 300 unique pieces. The czarist gov-

ernment has allocated 169, 869 Rbl for this purpose.

Among many mineralogical firms of Russia, the Museum most closely cooperated with the Urals Mineralogical Office of L.I. Kryzhanovsky in Ekaterinburg. Since 1911 through 1917 this office has directed to the Museum about one hundred boxes (about 6000 kg) at the amount of 4, 527 Rbl.

The Urals Society of Naturalists in the same time has sent 8 boxes at the amount of 246 Rbl. Small purchases (at 30-40 Rbl) were made at other firms and individual collectors: A. Vyacheslov and Co (Saint Petersburg), R.R. Gasel'blat (Moscow), M.I. Rings (Perm), etc.

A large material came to the Museum as a result of own expeditions (A.E. Fersman and V.I. Kryzhanovsky missions to Middle and Southern Urals). So, L.I. Kryzhanovsky in the letter to the Museum dated September 27, 1912 wrote that «one of sent boxes in weight of

Wien, August 12 1912

Mineralien-Comptoir
Julius Böhm
WIEN
I. Lobkowitzplatz Nr. 11, Stock

Nota

Geologisches Museum der kaiserl. Akademie der Wissenschaften (Mineralog. Abteil.) Sct. Petersburg

	K.	n.
Hibschit	Marienberg	2
Pyrrhotin	Schneeberg	18
Calcit	Hüttenberg	6
Speckstein pseudom.	Göpfersgrün	22
Achiardit	San Piero	50
Emplektit	Schwarzenberg	12
Breithauptit	Andreasberg	18
Eudialyth	Grönland	16
Pyrrhotin	Brasilien	10
Zinnerz pseudom.	Cornwall	54
Apatit	Insel Elba	46
Zusammen Kronen		254
zweihundertvierundfünfzig Kronen		

Maximale 22 / 14 B.K.

Fig. 3. The invoice of August 12, 1912 of Austrian mineralogical office of Julius Böhm with V.I. Kryzhanovsky's note «To submit for payment on January 22, 1914, V.K.»

COMPTOIR MINÉRALOGIQUE & GÉOLOGIQUE SUISSE
 Téléphone N° 2842 GENEVE 3, Cours des Bains, GENEVE 3
 3 PREMIERE PRIX Exposition Fournier, Santiago, Chili. Médaille d'Or à l'Exposition Générale de Sciences Naturelles, Auch, Belgique. GRAND PRIX Exposition Internationale, Nancy, Vr.

Mineralogisches Museum der Kaiserlichen Akademie der Wissenschaften
 St. P. e. t. u. r. l. i. b. u. r. g.
 Genève, le 12 Februar 1912

Pyromorphit, radioaktiv, Grury, Saône et Loire, Frankreich	7.--
Aurmit, St. Symphorien de Marnagne, bei Autun, Saône & Loire	30.--
" " Sabugal, Portugal	49.50
" " " " " " " " " " " "	14.--
" " " " " " " " " " " "	6.--
" " " " " " " " " " " "	12.--
Turnerit, Scharficht bei Marienbad, Böhmen	1.50
Turnerit, Badnatsch bei Vals, Graubünden	22.50
Gehlenit, Monzon, Passatai, Tirol	-75
" " " " " " " " " " " "	1.50
Orthoklas & Albit, Striegau, Schlesien	5.--
Albit, Orthoklas & Quarz, Striegau, Schlesien	1.50
Desmia & Epidot, Striegau, Schlesien	1.50
Pearson auf Albit	1.50
Uranocerit & Hesperit, Gjerstad bei Risør, Norwegen	18.--
Fergusonit, Evje, Satersdalen, Norwegen	9.--
" " " " " " " " " " " "	4.--
" " " " " " " " " " " "	6.--
Risør, Gyrting, Gjerstad bei Risør, Norwegen	3.50
Xenotim, Naresto bei Arendal, Norwegen	2.--
Kryolith & radiomhaltiger Fluorit, Ivigtut, Grönland	12.50
Asbestinilite, Grube Neuves, Thassos, Türkei	3.50
Chalcofanit, Sterling Hill, New Jersey	2.--
Tantalit, Greenbushes, Australien	2.--
Francs 250.--	

Handwritten notes: 1 рубль и 10 копеек, 1914, V.K.

Fig. 4. The invoice of February, 12, 1912 of Swiss mineralogical firm GREBEL, WENDLER & Co with V.I.Kryzhanovsky's note «To submit for payment on January 22, 1914, V.K.»

Левид Ильич Крыжановский.
 Кандидат минералогии и геологии
 № 129
 Екатеринбург, 25 февраля 1916 г.
 МИНЕРАЛОГИЧЕСКОМУ МУЗЕЮ ИМПЕРАТОРСКОЙ АКАДЕМИИ НАУК.
 Петербург.

Клостытве Государь,
 Послал Вам счет и двѣ копии к нему на сумму Руб. 202.66

Я счел возможным помѣстить в один счет минералы выбранные Вами Музею из моих посылок в разное время. Я не имел в этот счет АМФИСТА из последней посылки, так как незнаю который из двух выборов Вами. На основаніи Вашей просьбы продать Вам ИШТЕН-ПАРИЗИТ по возможности дешево, я счел возможным мою прежнюю цѣну 25 коп. грамы уменьшить до 16 коп. Малые муски я могу продавать Вам по 10 коп. за грамы.

Считаю долгом уведомить Музей, что сумму 123 руб по предыдущему счету я получил, тогда как сумму в Руб 52, проведенную еще 21 Января сего года, я до сих пор не получил. Допуская возможность ошибки в назначеніи перевода, нахожу не лишним уведомить Вас об этом ненормальном явленіи.

За быструю оплату настоящих счетов буду весьма признателен.

О совершенном почтеніем
L.I. Kryzhanovsky

Fig. 6. Letter # 129 of L.I.Kryzhanovsky dated February 25, 1915 to the Mineralogical museum of the Imperial Academy of Sciences

Левид Ильич Крыжановский.
 Кандидат минералогии и геологии
 № 137
 Екатеринбург, 20 апреля 1916 г.
 Минералогическому Музею ИМПЕРАТОРСКОЙ АКАДЕМИИ НАУК.
 Петербург.

Всего.
 Аметист (контрагент для работы) 1р. 69 коп., по 10 руб. за опилки Руб. 16.90
 Магнетиты и работы о магнетитах 172 шт. " 115.00
 Сфериновый, Ленинск " 3.00
 Гранаты " 0.25
 Итальиты, Виржини " 2.85
 Итого Руб. 137.40

(По предыдущему счету руб. совок коп.)
L.I. Kryzhanovsky

Fig. 5. The invoice for 137 Rbl 40 copecks of April 20, 1916, drawn by L.I.Kryzhanovsky on the Museum with V.I.Kryzhanovsky's note «Submitted for payment on May 11. V.K.»

4 pounds and 7 pounds comprises minerals collected by Fersman and Kryzhanovsky during their summer expedition». A small amount of samples came as gifts. So, the same letter of L.I. Kryzhanovsky notes that «one box contains a collection gifted to the Museum from Emerald Mines of Mr. Kuznetsov located in quarter 220 of Berezovaya Dacha».

Gifts came from mine engineers, students, mine managers and collectors. However, the basic source of collection replenishment with diverse material was purchase of minerals at western firms and Russian collectors.