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## **THE DEVELOPMENT OF ATHLETICS IN ZHYTOMYR REGION: HISTORICAL ASPECT**

At the present stage athletics has become a very popular form of motor activity not only in Ukraine but all over the world. Athletics is one of the most popular sports that includes walking and running at various distances, broad jumping and high jumping, discus, javelin throwing, hammer-throwing, shot put, as well as track and field athletics, decathlon, pentathlon and other modern sports. In the modern sport classification, there are over 60 varieties of athletic exercises.

The main achievements of the national school of athletics became possible due to fundamental scientific works of C. M. Platonov, M. M. Bulatova, T. Y. Krulewich, G. M. Maksimenko, H. P. Andrei Korobeinikov, D. P. Markova, M., Ozolina, L. C. Volkov, I. O. Zaporozhanova. [1, p. 18].

The purpose of our article is to study the historical experience of the development of athletics in Zhytomyr region.

Athletics was cultivated in all countries of the world, its history began a lot of centuries ago. The great popularity of track and field athletics reached in Ancient Greece, where the national competitions, which were called the Olympic games, were held.

Modern athletics began in 1508. The first known, however informal, competitions on the territory of Ukraine were held on 21 may 1858 in Mykolaiv. In 1908, Katerynoslav (now Dnepropetrovsk) a circle of athletics amateurs was established. Later the same circles appeared in Odessa, Kyiv, Chernyhiv, Kharkiv, Maryupil and Zhytomyr. In 1913, Kyiv hosted the first all-Russian Olympiad. The citizen of Zhytomyr Stefan Ivanytskyi took part. In August 1913 after returning from the Olympics S. Ivanytskyi organized a group of amateur athletes.

Since 1921, athletes of Volyn (Zhytomyr) became well-known with the Ukrainian athletics (among them Vadym Snetenchuk, Leonid Hryhoriev, Oleksandr Yehorov, Victor Karabanov, Mykola Levytskyi, Mykola Vakulko, Vasyl Uhnivyi, Heorhii Dorn). On 1 September 1921 in the first competitions which were held in Zhytomyr on the sport ground of the Institute of public education Stefan Ivanytskyi and Victor Karabanov got medals.

On 26-31 August in Zhytomyr the first Volyn province Olympics was held. In June 1935, in Zhytomyr the school of track and field athletics was organized. In 1936 sports school with departments of athletics, football and gymnastics was opened.

In 1927 the number of athletes in Zhytomyr district was 520 men, at the end of 1940 this number increased to 12305. On 27-28 August 1944 first postwar athletic competitions took place in Zhytomyr, the winners of which were I. Krasnytskyi and F. Melnykov.

According to archival materials, in the period from 15 June to 15 July 1945 region and city athletic games, in which 22 326 thousand athletes took part, were held. In the period of 1946-1950, the best athletes of Zhytomyr were I. Krasnytskyi, D. Shmakova, S. Bolotova, E. Velyhuro, I. Holumbiievskyi, O. Smulska, O. Stupko, F. Melnykov, O. Slutskyi, N. Bakaliar, M. Beloshytskyi, F. Vozniuk.

Athletes from Zhytomyr region took part not only in the national but in the international competitions.

The first Zhytomyr sportsman who took part in the Olympic Games was V.O. Sytkyn. It was in Melburn in 1956.

In 1966 V.Skvortsov became the European high jump champion with the best result – 221 cm, and his trainer V.O. Lonskyi was awarded the title "Honoured trainer of the USSR" in 1968.

Zhytomyr region is famous for high jump school.

In the 1970s, one of the best Soviet high jump athlete was R. F. Ahmetov – the sport master of the international class, the honored worker of physical culture and sports of Ukraine, the sevenfold champion of Ukraine (twice he set the record of Ukraine –219 cm, 223 cm), two-time winner of the USSR championship and European champion, the member of the XX Olympic games in Munich, where he took the sixth place.

Almost a half of the M.I Denysov teaches and educates athletes of high-class master level. Among them: Inna Evseeva (the world record holder of running at 1000 m), Olena Kolesnyk (the record – holder of Ukraine of steeplechase at the distance of 400m).

Thus, summarizing the above, we can conclude that during the years of the existence of athletics in Zhytomyr region 13 participants of the Olympic games, 14 masters of sports of international class were trained.

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