

On the history of clinical neurology at Imperial Moscow University: the department of nervous diseases at the Novo-Catherine hospital in 1911–1913

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The article focuses on the research of unknown facts of the history of neurology clinical teaching at Imperial Moscow University, mainly related to the activities of the department of nervous diseases of the Novo-Catherine hospital in 1892–1913. In the article, special emphasis is put on the organizational role of A.Ya. Kozhevnikov and the representatives of his scientific school (G.I. Rossolimo, A. A. Kornilov, V.K. Rot, I.V. Tarasevich, and others) in the establishment of neuropathology teaching at Moscow University. The subject of the research is the conflict between P.M. Popov, chief physician and head of the department of the therapeutic clinic, and A.A. Kornilov, extraordinary professor of the department of the systematic teaching of nervous and mental diseases, a representative of the A.Y. Kozhevnikov's scientific school. The outcome of this confrontation would have defined not only the future of this department but also the possibility of systematic scientific educational and clinical activities in the field of neuropathology at the Novo-Catherine hospital. Each of the sides stood for its own point of view, using as a proof detailed data about legal, personnel, administrative, and financial aspects of the establishment of clinical teaching on the medical faculty at Imperial Moscow University, beginning from 1845. As a result, the neurological department was preserved as a separate unit of the Novo-Catherine hospital, and I.V. Tarasevich, the follower of A.A. Kornilov, began his work in the department as an assistant, which made possible to maintain the traditions of Kozhevnikov's scientific school. The circumstances of the eruption of conflict that influenced the development of clinical neurology at Moscow University, its main points and the details of this debate are published for the first time.

Keywords: *history of medicine, clinical teaching, Imperial Moscow University, Novo-Catherine hospital, department of nervous diseases*

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At the turn of the 18th–19th centuries, when universities became centres for the development of clinical medicine [1, p. 74], the administration in higher educational institutions faced the pressing challenge of efficient organisation of clinical teaching. The challenge lay in the need for constant modernisation of curricula, staff in departments and clinics in medical schools, the architecture and equipment of clinics in

line with the latest trends in medical science and practices. The development of Russian medicine gathered pace from the beginning of the 19th century and by the middle of the century, it had embraced current trends in European medicine. Further differentiation of medical disciplines led to the emergence of new branches – ophthalmology, neuropathology, gynaecology, paediatrics, dermatovenerology, urology, etc [2, p. 132–153], which meant universities had to create new academic courses and sub-branches, and a little later – separate departments and clinics.

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According to archive documents,¹ the opening and further work of some departments in the faculty of medicine at Imperial Moscow University took place amid stiff competition between newly created and long-standing structures in charge of clinical teaching. In 1911–1913, the department of nervous system diseases at the Novo-Catherine Hospital² found itself in a tricky situation when its status was being decided: to be an independent department or to be part of the faculty therapy clinic. The debate between P.M. Popov,³ chief physician and head of the therapy department at the Novo-Catherine Hospital, and A.A. Kornilov,⁴ extraordinary professor in the department of systematic study of nervous system and mental diseases, is interesting not only because of its consequences, but also because it touched on certain issues in the history of the establishment and development of clinical neurology at Imperial Moscow University (IMU).

¹ Central State Archive of the City of Moscow. F. 418 Op. 418 D. 131 On the establishment of a neurological department at the Imperial Catherine Hospital. Central State Archive of the City of Moscow. F. 418 Op. 90 D. 751 On the existence of an independent department of nervous system diseases at the Catherine Hospital. Central State Archive of the City of Moscow. F. 418 Op. 89 D. 784 On opening a neurological department at Catherine Hospital.

² The Novo-Catherine Hospital was established in 1833 by the order of Nicholas I on the former estate of Prince S.S. Gagarin for free treatment of people from all walks of life. In 1846 it became the hospital base of the medical faculty of Imperial Moscow University, and in 1876 it was given the Imperial Status.

³ Petr Mikhailovich Popov (1861–1920) – beloved student and close confidant of G.A. Zakharyin, graduated from IMU in 1886 and his subsequent career was associated with the faculty therapy clinic of IMU. After the retirement of G.A. Zakharyin in 1896, P.M. Popov took over his post as director of the faculty therapy clinic, and in 1899 he was appointed chief physician at the Novo-Catherine Hospital and extraordinary professor in the hospital therapy clinic [3, p.111–115].

⁴ Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Kornilov (1855–1926) – graduate of IMU (1881), professor, member of A.Ya. Kozhevnikov's school of neuropathology, was one of the founders of the Moscow Society of Neuropathologists and Psychiatrists (1890), as well as member of the editorial committee of the S.S. Korsakov Journal of Neuropathology and Psychiatry. Head of the department of nervous system diseases at the Novo-Catherine Hospital in 1911–1917.

The first decades of the neurological department at the Imperial the Novo-Catherine Hospital

The teaching history of nervous system and mental diseases at IMU began nearly a century before the opening of special clinics and departments. The theory of nervous system and mental diseases was taught as part of the therapy and pathology course by renowned professors S.G. Zybelin, F.G. Politkovsky and M.Ya. Mudrov [4, p. 33].

The University Charter of 1835 split the department of pathology, therapy and clinical practice into a department of special pathology and therapy, and a therapy clinic [5, p. 971]. The teaching of nervous system and mental diseases was part of the special pathology and therapy course, although there was no separate clinical teaching of nervous system diseases at that time. Without a special clinic, the theoretical course on nervous system and mental diseases in those years was complemented with the demonstration of patients suffering from nervous system diseases to students in therapy clinics of the university. These patients constituted about 10% of all patients [6, p. 35]. Influential professors in the faculty of medicine I.T. Glebov, V.A. Basov, I.V. Varvinsky and A.I. Polunin insisted on the establishment of a special clinic for nervous system diseases at IMU.

The University Charter of 1863 provided for the creation of a special department of nervous system and mental diseases [7, p. 4–5], where clinical studies with students could be conducted. In 1865, the faculty of medicine sent a proposal to the university council to set up a general department of “nervous system, skin and venereal diseases” at the Novo-Catherine Hospital which, from 1845, served as the base for hospital therapy and surgery clinics. Early 1866, the education minister officially gave permission to open a clinical department of nervous system, mental, skin and venereal diseases with 31 beds at the Novo-Catherine Hospital.

However, the teaching of the clinical course on nervous system and mental diseases in that department did not commence in 1866. The university failed to utilise the permission from the ministry apparently “due to lack of qualified neurologists and psychiatrists in the faculty of medicine at Moscow University” [8, p. 160].

Three years later, A.I. Polunin, the dean of the faculty of medicine at IMU, was able to split the department of nervous system, skin and venereal diseases into two parts [9, p. 61]. Independent departments of nervous system diseases,⁵ and skin and venereal diseases were thus created at the Novo-Catherine Hospital. The neurological department of the hospital therapy clinic, which was run by Professor I.V. Varvinsky, was allocated 20 beds [10, p. 41]. The official permission from the education minister for the establishment of a department of nervous system diseases at the Novo-Catherine Hospital followed on 8 December 1869.

It is not fully clear how the neurological department was to operate in relation to the hospital therapy department, from which it had been separated. Was the new department part of the hospital therapy clinic or did it have full independence? This uncertainty was particularly the reason behind the debate from 1911 to 1913.

The medical faculty council put forward A.Ya. Kozhevnikov,⁶ who had successfully defended his doctoral thesis on clinical and pathological investigation of Duchenne muscular dystrophy in 1865, to teach a regular course on nervous system and mental diseases and to head the respective department at the Novo-Catherine Hospital. Upon returning from his assignment abroad in 1869, he assumed the role of assistant professor of nervous system diseases and psychiatry in the therapy and pathology department, that had been vacant since 1863. A.Ya. Kozhevnikov started giving clinical lectures and classes to fifth-year students in the newly opened department at the Novo-Catherine Hospital. The hospital lacked lecture halls and so in the first years, he had to give lectures in wards or even corridors, or had to split the group into two, each part visiting the clinic for one semester [11, p. 2; 12, p. 3]. Despite these challenges, students eagerly turned up to his lectures, which

were distinguished by new material and clear presentation of the subject [13, p. 34–35]. It was in 1869–1890, when A.Ya. Kozhevnikov was head of the neurological department, that he was able to attract talented young specialists (V.K. Rot, G.I. Rossolimo, S.S. Korsakov, V.A. Muratov, A.A. Kornilov, L.O. Darshkevich and others), who formed the backbone of his scientific school. In 1884, when a separate department of nervous system and mental diseases was set up [14, p. 54–55], the neurological department at the Novo-Catherine Hospital became its clinical base. Although A.Ya. Kozhevnikov was able to expand the department to 29 beds, there was still a shortage of the necessary study facilities for students.

In 1884, prominent philanthropist Varvara Alekseevna Morozova donated funds to the university to build a psychiatric clinic. This was a major fillip, which sped up work on the project to build a clinic at Devichye Pole, one of the instigators of whom was A.Ya. Kozhevnikov [15, p. 37]. A psychiatric clinic was built at Devichye Pole in 1887 and three years later, on 11 October 1890, a clinic for treating nervous system diseases was opened.

Although almost the entire volume of theoretical and clinical teaching was transferred to the neurological clinic at Devichye Pole, the old department at the Novo-Catherine Hospital continued to exist. G.I. Rossolimo⁷ took over its reins in 1892. In his autobiography, he writes that the neurological department initially comprised 16 beds and was part of the hospital therapy clinic. Starting from the 1890s, as G.I. Rossolimo reveals, in his department, he “not only taught a propaedeutic course, but also a clinical course on nervous system diseases, which was even recognised as a parallel course by the faculty from 1908 to 1911” [16, p. 253].

In 1911, IMU witnessed a series of dramatic events which disrupted the normal research and teaching work that had been established for a decade. Education minister L.A. Kasso issued an order banning any political activity at the

⁵ There were no clinical studies on mental (psychiatric) diseases in the department because the the Novo-Catherine Hospital charter prohibited taking in mental patients.

⁶ Aleksey Yakovlevich Kozhevnikov (1836–1902) – prominent figure in local medical practice, one of the founders of neurology in Russia, graduate of IMU (1858), founder of the Moscow school of neuropathologists, the Moscow Society of Neuropathologists and Psychiatrists, the Journal of Neuropathology and Psychiatry.

⁷ Grigory Ivanovich Rossolimo (1860–1928) – distinguished representative of the scientific school of A.Ya. Kozhevnikov, professor, head of the department of nervous system and mental diseases and and the neurological clinic at Devichye Pole (1917–1928), founder of the Institute Of Child Neurology (1911).

university. In response, students began organising mass gatherings, which saw police deployed to the university for the first time in the entire history of the university. The university administration was sacked. These events sparked walkouts by leading experts at the university.

Those who left the university included Professor V.K. Rot, head of the department of nervous system and mental diseases, as well as head of the neurological department at the Novo-Catherine Hospital, G.I. Rossolimo. It was after their sacking and their replacement with V.A. Muratov and A.A. Kornilov, respectively, in 1911 that the question of the status of the neurological department at the Novo-Catherine Hospital was raised.

The decision to induct A.A. Kornilov to serve at IMU as extraordinary professor in the department of systematic study of nervous system and mental diseases, as well as head of the neurological department at the Novo-Catherine Hospital was made by the education ministry (Fig. 1). The order on the appointment of A.A. Kornilov to head “one of the clinical departments, in accordance with his specialty”, was based on article 435 of the Digest of Laws of 1893, according to which “the number and composition of departments at the university determined by the staff could be increased as necessary and possible, at the instance of the Council and the Administrator, with the permission of the Ministry of Education” [17, p. 56].

After taking over as head of the department of nervous system diseases, A.A. Kornilov acknowledged that it was ill-prepared for studies. In his report dated 3 October 1911 addressed to the dean of the faculty of medicine, D.N. Zernov, he described the state of the neurological department (Fig. 2): “After inspecting the neurological department of the Imperial the Novo-Catherine Hospital, I am honoured to inform you that it is in such a state that it is impossible to begin clinical studies on nervous system diseases. <...> ...After many years of its existence, the neurological department at the Imperial the Novo-Catherine Hospital in one fine day was forced to shut down due to the dire state of its teaching materials. In light of all of the above, I ask the medical faculty to petition the government to allocate 1500 rubles for the first installation in order to bring some order

in the neurological department of the Imperial Catherine Hospital...”⁸

The contents of that note suggest that, after taking over as head of the department of nervous system diseases, A.A. Kornilov saw the department as independent from the therapy clinic. However, based on a statement made by A.A. Kornilov on 2 April 1912,⁹ we learn that the independence of the neurological department was not that clear-cut for the administration and representatives of the professorial and teaching staff in the faculty. Attempts by A.A. Kornilov at a faculty council meeting on 13 February 1912 to confirm I.Y. Tarasevich,¹⁰ a member of the “young generation” of A.Ya. Kozhevnikov’s neurological school, as extraordinary assistant in the department of nervous system diseases were futile. Chief physician at the Novo-Catherine Hospital and head of the therapy department, P.M. Popov, claimed the neurological department of the hospital was not independent, but was in fact part of the larger therapy clinic, of which I.Y. Tarasevich was supposed to be a member. The faculty council sided with P.M. Popov. The de facto loss of independence by the department of nervous system diseases meant the end of systematic academic and clinical work in the field of neuropathology at the the Novo-Catherine Hospital. Archive documents show that A.A. Kornilov was unable to come to terms with this state of affairs.

In the following two and half years, there was a debate over the future of the neurological department, the key figures of which were A.A. Kornilov, P.M. Popov and D.N. Zernov, dean of the faculty of medicine, who had sided with Kornilov. Each party had to study in detail a range of issues relating to the legal, personnel and administrative aspects of organising clinical teaching at IMU from 1845.

⁸ Central State Archive of the City of Moscow. F. 418 Op. 418 D. 131 On the establishment of a neurological department at the Imperial Novo-Catherine Hospital. L. 8–8 ob.

⁹ Central State Archive of the City of Moscow. F. 418 Op. 418 D. 131. L. 12, 12 ob, 13. On the establishment of a neurological department at the Imperial Novo-Catherine Hospital.

¹⁰ Ivan Yulyevich Tarasevich (1871–1941) – graduate of IMU (1898), student of V.K. Rot, head of neurological department at the Moscow Psychoneurological Institute (1921–1941), advisor in the medical and sanitary department of the Kremlin (1923–1941) [8, p. 233].

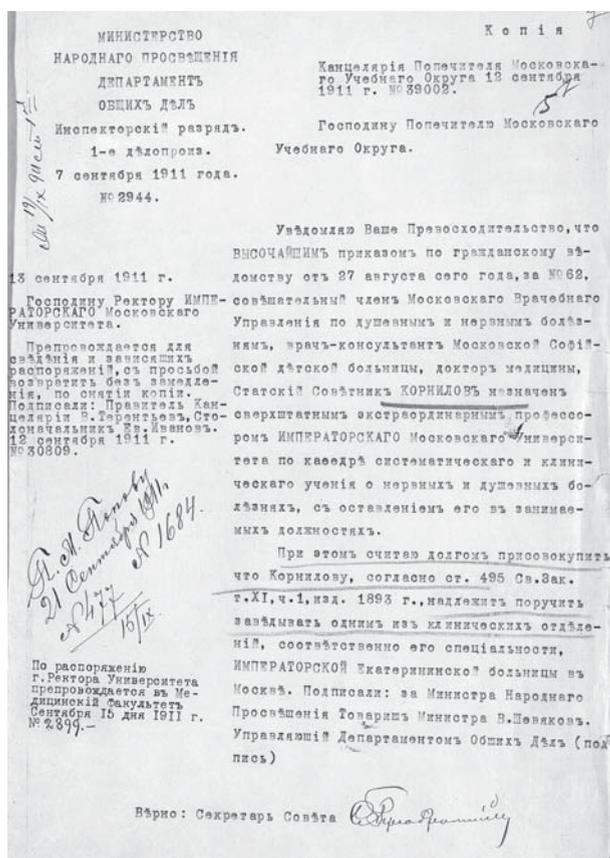


Fig 1. A copy of the notice on the appointment of A.A. Kornilov as extraordinary professor in the department of nervous system and mental diseases at IMU.¹¹

Central State Archive of the City of Moscow. F. 418.
Op. 418. D. 131. L. 7.

¹¹ Text on the picture:

MINISTRY OF
EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF
GENERAL MATTERS

Inspector rank
1st secretary

13 September 1911

To the Rector of IMPERIAL Moscow University.

Forwarded for your information and related orders with the request to return immediately upon duplication.

Signed by: Head of the Chancery V. Terentyev, Head of Department E. Ivanov.

12 September 1911

No. 30809

P. M. Popov.

21 September 1911

On the orders of the Rector of the University, forwarded to the Faculty of Medicine on 15 September 1911.

No. 2899

Positions taken by the parties in the discussion on the future of the department of nervous system diseases

In his statement issued on 2 April 1912,¹² A.A. Kornilov points out that the work of the independent neurological department established in 1869 had never been legally shut down. Citing article 430 section III item 3 of the University Charter of 1884,¹³ he argued that the official shut-down of the independent department of nervous system diseases at the Novo-Catherine Hospital was supposed to be approved by the education minister. Due to the fact that none of the proposals put forward by the administration to close the neurological department of the faculty reached the minister, the department remained open. I.Y. Tarasevich was therefore supposed to be confirmed as assistant in the neurological department and not the therapy department.

In his response to this claim by A.A. Kornilov,¹⁴ medical faculty dean D.N. Zernov argued that no

This serves to notify Your Excellency that by the SUPREME order on the civil department of 27 August this year, No. 62, advisory member of the Moscow Medical Department on mental and nervous system diseases, consulting physician of the Moscow Sofiyskaya Children's Hospital, Doctor of Medicine, State Councillor KORNILOV is hereby appointed extraordinary professor of the IMPERIAL Moscow University in the department of systematic and clinical study of nervous system and mental diseases, by drafting him into the occupied position.

I should add that according to article 495 Digest of Laws. t. XI, part 1, published 1893, Kornilov is appointed to head one of the clinical departments and, in accordance with his specialty, at the IMPERIAL Catherine Hospital in Moscow.

Signed by: for the Minister of Education – Deputy Minister V. Shevyachkov. Head of Department of General Matters (signature)

Certified by: Secretary to Council

¹² Central State Archive of the City of Moscow. F. 418 Op. 418 D. 131 On the establishment of a neurological department at the Imperial Catherine Hospital. L. 23–26

¹³ According to this paragraph, proposals on merging and splitting departments, on replacing one department with another, on opening new departments and on transferring departments from one faculty to another after discussion by the faculty council are presented through the administrator for consideration or approval by the education ministry.

¹⁴ Central State Archive of the City of Moscow. F. 418 Op. 418 D. 131 On the establishment of a neurological department at the Imperial Catherine Hospital. L. 14–17

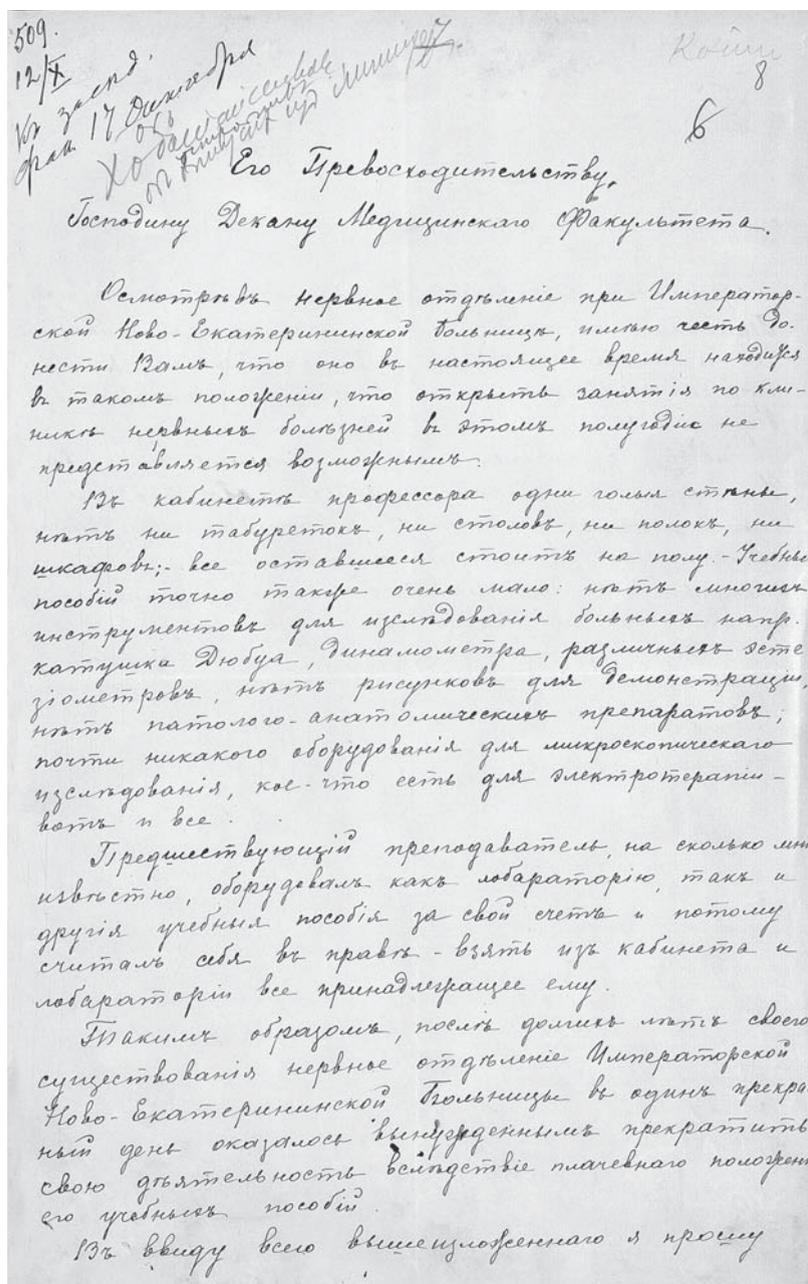


Fig. 2a. A.A. Kornilov's report on the state of the department of nervous system diseases.¹⁵
Central State Archive of the City of Moscow. F. 418. Op. 418. D. 131. L. 8.

¹⁵ Text on the picture:

To His Excellence, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine.

After inspecting the neurological department of the Novo-Catherine Hospital, I am honoured to inform you that it is currently in such a state that it is impossible to open a clinic on nervous system diseases in this half-year.

The professor's office has only bare walls, no stools, no tables, no shelves, no cupboards; everything remains on the floor. There are also very few teaching materials: there are few instruments for examining patients, for example, the Du Bois-Reymond induction coil, dynamometer, various aesthesimeters, no drawings demonstration, no autopsied specimen, almost no equipment for microscopic examination, there is something for electric therapy, and that is all.

As far as I know, the previous teacher equipped both the laboratory and other instruction materials out of his own pocket and so had the right to take with him all that belonged to him from the laboratory.

Therefore after many years of its existence, the neurological department at the Imperial Novo-Catherine Hospital in one fine day was forced to shut down due to the dire state of its teaching materials.

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 факультетъ на первое полугодіе 1912 года ассигно-
 вать мнѣ на нервное отделение 200 рублей

Док. профессоръ А.А. Корниловъ

Москва
 3-е октября 1911 г.

Fig. 2b. A.A. Kornilov's report on the state of the department of nervous system diseases.¹⁶
 Central State Archive of the City of Moscow. F. 418. Op. 418. D. 131. L. 8 ob.

order to shut down the neurological department was needed since it had never been shut down but was instead made part of the neurological clinic at Devichye Pole in 1892. This led to the expansion of the two main clinics at the Novo-Catherine Hospital – the therapy clinic (headed by Professor K.N. Pavlinov) and the surgical clinic (headed by Professor I.N. Novatsky), with up to 80 beds in each. Special courses without an independent status began in each of these departments in accordance with the University Charter of 1884. Patients suffering from nervous system diseases who were admitted to the therapy department were assigned to Privatdozent G.I. Rossolimo, who was teaching a faculty course on nervous system diseases. When G.I. Rossolimo left the hospital, he lost his right to work with patients and teach, and the vacant beds were returned to the therapy department. D.N. Zernov therefore

concluded that the department of nervous system diseases at the Novo-Catherine Hospital was shut down back in 1892 and the appointment of I.Y. Tarasevich as assistant in the therapy department had to be approved.

On 2 April 1912¹⁷ P.M. Popov, head of the therapy department and chief physician at the Novo-Catherine Hospital, unexpectedly claimed that the independent department of nervous system diseases should not be officially recognised because it was never an independent unit of the Novo-Catherine Hospital. In 1845, the clinical base of the Moscow Medical and Surgical Academy was integrated into IMU, and two types of clinics were established – a faculty clinic and a hospital clinic. The faculty clinic, which consisted of therapy, surgical and midwifery departments, was located at Staro-Catherine Hospital on Rozhdestvenka street. The Novo-Catherine Hospital became the base for hospital clinics (therapy and surgical). According to P.M. Popov, the minister's order issued in 1866 on opening a department of skin, venereal and nervous system diseases at the Novo-Catherine Hospital was not legally justified because it introduced special departments at the hospital that had always been considered faculty departments and were

¹⁶ Text on the picture:

In light of all of the above, I ask the medical faculty to petition the government to allocate 1500 rubles for the first installation in order to bring some order in the neurological department of the Imperial Catherine Hospital.

Knowing the limited funds of the university, I cannot ask for more; however, this sum can barely meet all of the basic needs of the department and so I would also ask the faculty to allocate the neurological department 200 rubles for the first half of 1912.

Extraordinary Professor A.A. Kornilov
 3 October 1911

¹⁷ Central State Archive of the City of Moscow. F. 418 Op. 418 D. 131. On the establishment of a neurological department at the Imperial Catherine Hospital. L. 18–26.

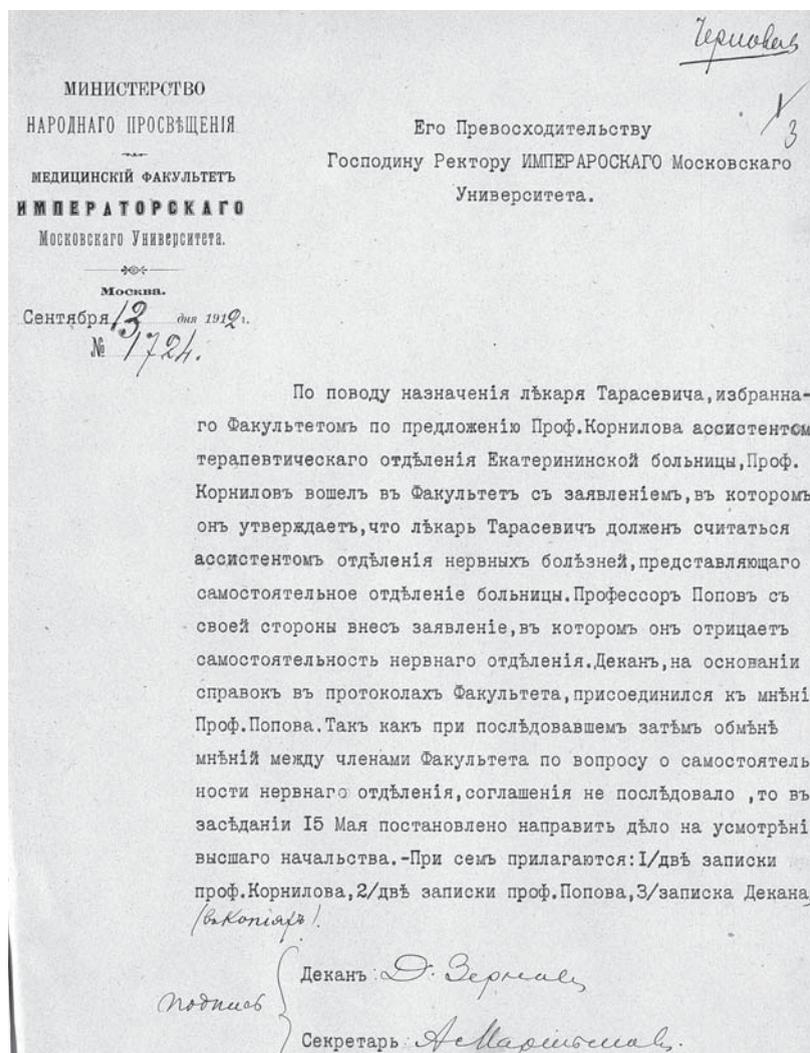


Fig 3. Order on referring the issue of the independence of the department of nervous system diseases at the Novo-Catherine Hospital for review by higher authorities.¹⁸ F. 418. Op. 418. D. 131. L. 3.

¹⁸ Text on the picture:
Ministry of Education
Faculty of Medicine of IMPERIAL Moscow University
Moscow
13 September 1912.
No. 1724

His Excellence

The Rector of IMPERIAL Moscow University.

Regarding the appointment of physician Tarasevich, who was elected by the faculty, at the suggestion of Professor Kornilov, as an assistant in the therapy department of the Catherine Hospital, Professor Kornilov sent a statement to the faculty where he argues that physician Tarasevich must be approved as assistant in the department of nervous system diseases, which is an independent department of the hospital. Professor Popov, in turn, issued a statement dismissing the independence of the neurological department.

Based on references in records from the faculty, the dean sided with Professor Popov. Since after subsequent exchange of views between faculty members regarding the independence of the neurological department, no agreement was reached, the meeting on 15 May decided to send the matter to higher authorities for consideration.

The following was attached:

1. two notes from Professor Kornilov;
2. two notes from Professor Popov;
3. a note from the dean

Dean
Secretary

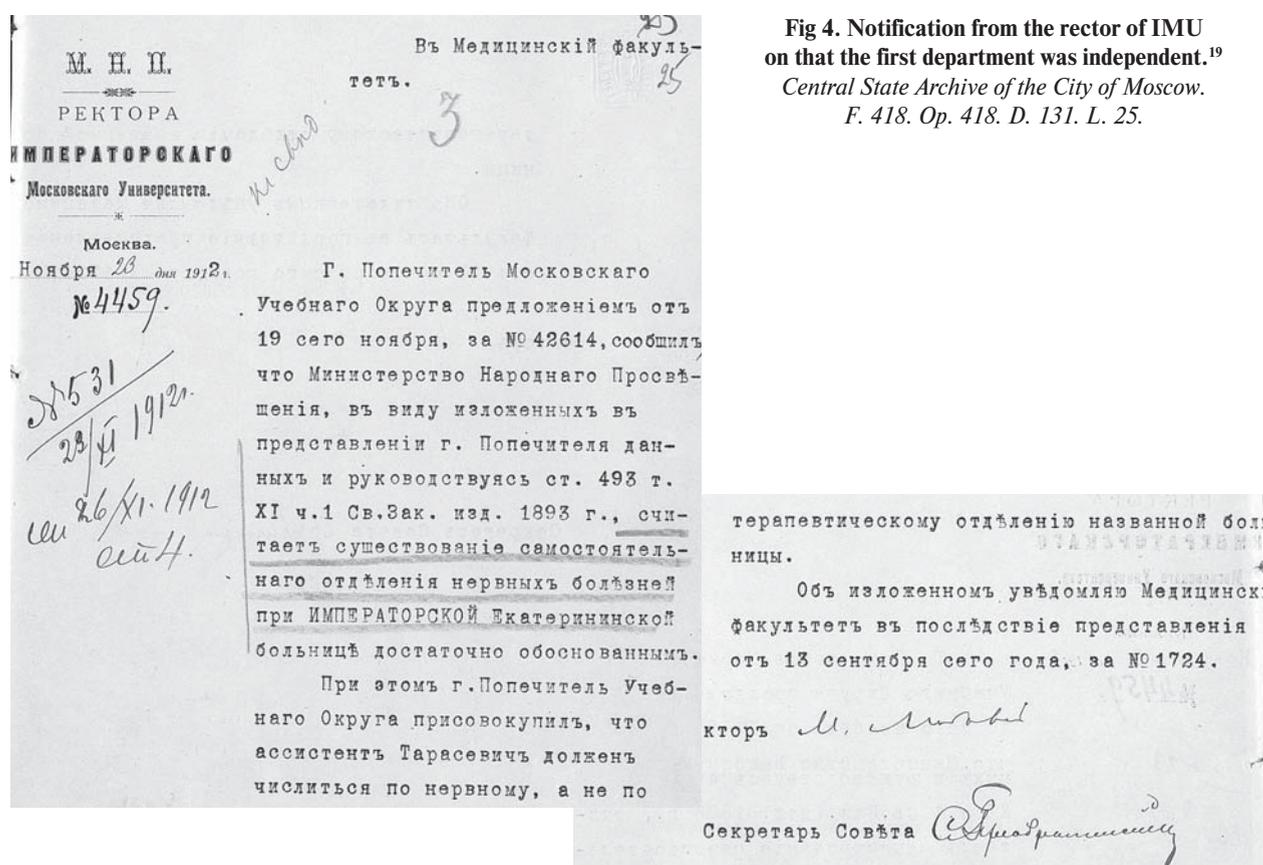


Fig 4. Notification from the rector of IMU on that the first department was independent.¹⁹
Central State Archive of the City of Moscow.
F. 418. Op. 418. D. 131. L. 25.

supposed to be housed in the building of the faculty clinic on Rozhdestvenka. This is particularly why the special department for patients suffering from nervous system diseases created in 1869 in the hospital therapy clinic was never independent, but was rather part of the hospital therapy clinic.

The university charter of 1884, which allowed for the legal establishment of only two departments of hospital clinics (therapy and surgical) had more emphasis on the provision according to which only hospital clinics, and not any other clinics, could be

¹⁹ Text on the picture:

Through proposal No. 42614 of 19 November, the Administrator of Moscow District said that, in light of the information presented before the Administrator and based on article 493 t. XI part 1 Digest of Laws published 1893, the Ministry of Education considers the existence of the independent department of nervous system diseases at the IMPERIAL Catherine Hospital sufficiently justified.

The Administrator of the Educational District added that assistant Tarasevich must be considered a member of the neurological, and not the therapy department of said hospital. I am notifying the Faculty of Medicine on the above-mentioned in the statement issued 13 September this year, No. 1724.

Rector: M. Lyubavsky

Secretary to Council: S. Preobrazhensky

set up at the Novo-Catherine Hospital, just like in the hospital clinic of the university. P.M. Popov then repeats the argument raised by dean D.N. Zernov: in the autumn of 1890 the department of nervous system diseases at the Novo-Catherine Hospital, which was being headed by Professor A.Ya Kozhevnikov, was transferred to the neurological clinic at Devichye Pole. An independent clinical department of nervous system diseases was not created for Privatdozent G.I. Rossolimo at the Novo-Catherine Hospital: he was only granted the right to use material (patients suffering from nervous system diseases) available to the therapy department for teaching.

Consequently, Professor P.M. Popov writes, the department of nervous system diseases existing at the Novo-Catherine Hospital could never be considered an independent hospital clinic department because it was only part of the hospital therapy clinic, the material (patients suffering from nervous system diseases) of which was used for teaching purposes by Professor A.A. Kornilov, and the appointment of I.Y. Tarasevich as assistant in the therapy department had to be confirmed.

Citing the lack of unanimity on the independence of the department of nervous system diseases among members of the faculty, dean D.N. Zernov referred the decision on this matter to higher authorities (Fig. 3).

On 23 November 1912, the medical faculty received notification from the rector of IMU, M.K. Lyubavsky (Fig. 4), which stated that the Ministry of Education demanded to consider the department of nervous system diseases at the Novo-Catherine Hospital independent, as a result of which assistant I.Y. Tarasevich was to be listed as a member of the neurological department and not the therapy department. Interestingly, the legal instrument on which the decision was based was the same article 493 section XI part 1 of the Digest of Laws of 1893, based on which A.A. Kornilov was appointed head of the neurological department on 27 August 1911.

However, the official decision of the education ministry, which granted the right for independent work to the department of nervous system diseases at the Novo-Catherine Hospital, was not enough to resume clinical teaching. There was need to resolve a host of material challenges arising from the fact that the department was not being funded by the university from 1892 to 1911, and by the time A.A. Kornilov was appointed, it was ill-prepared for the clinical teaching process. By A.A. Kornilov's estimates, at least 1500 rubles was required to prepare the department for the educational process alone.

Due to the fact that after the departure of Privatdozent I.G. Rossolimo, who "never attended faculty meetings and did not have the right of representation of attending physicians and assistants, whose duties were being fulfilled by the staff in the therapy clinic"²⁰, the special neurological department at the Novo-Catherine Hospital did not exist officially. In October 1912, the dean of the medical faculty, D.N. Zernov, who "regarded the existence of the neurological clinic at Novo-Catherine Hospital as vital for teaching"²¹, appealed to M.K. Lyubavsky, rector of IMU, asking the education ministry to allocate 1500 rubles for the "first installation

of the neurological department at the Imperial Catherine Hospital"²² (Fig. 5a, 5b).

D.N. Zernov's request was partially granted and in March 1912, the department of education instructed the Moscow provincial treasury to grant a 500 ruble loan to fund educational work in the neurological department of the Imperial Catherine Hospital.²³ However, subsequent attempts during the year by the administration of the medical faculty and A.A. Kornilov²⁴ himself to get additional funding for the department from the education ministry (a lump sum of 1000 rubles or annual allocation of 400 rubles; see Fig. 6) were unsuccessful.²⁵ The university also refused to shoulder the extra cost of maintaining the department of nervous system diseases at the Novo-Catherine Hospital, citing lack of funds from the education ministry.²⁶ Despite that A.A. Kornilov was able to raise just 500 rubles to fund the department, which was three times less than the sum he had requested, the department resumed clinical studies on the faculty introductory course on nervous system diseases [8, p. 233].

The professional paths of key participants of the events associated with the work of the neurological department at the Novo-Catherine Hospital in 1911–1913, went in different directions. P.M. Popov headed the hospital therapy clinic until 1913. In 1920, shortly before his death, he was appointed director of the hospital therapy clinic at Devichye Pole. After the revolution of February 1917, A.A. Kornilov was sacked. From 1920 until his death, he headed the department of nervous system diseases at Samara Medical University [18, p. 126]. After the departure of A.A. Kornilov, Livery Osipovich Darshkevich (1858–1925) took over as head of the department of nervous system diseases at the Novo-Catherine Hospital. In 1917, G.I. Rossolimo [16, p. 255], who had established a successful school of neuropathology, returned to Moscow University as professor and director of the first clinic of nervous system diseases and the neurological institute. In the neurological department at the Novo-Catherine Hospital,

²⁰ F. 418 Op. 89 D. 784 L. 1–2. On opening a neurological department at the Catherine Hospital.

²¹ *ib.* L. 2.

²² *ib.* L. 2.

²³ *ib.* L. 9

²⁴ *ib.* L. 11.

²⁵ *ib.* L. 25–30, 35.

²⁶ *ib.* L. 31.

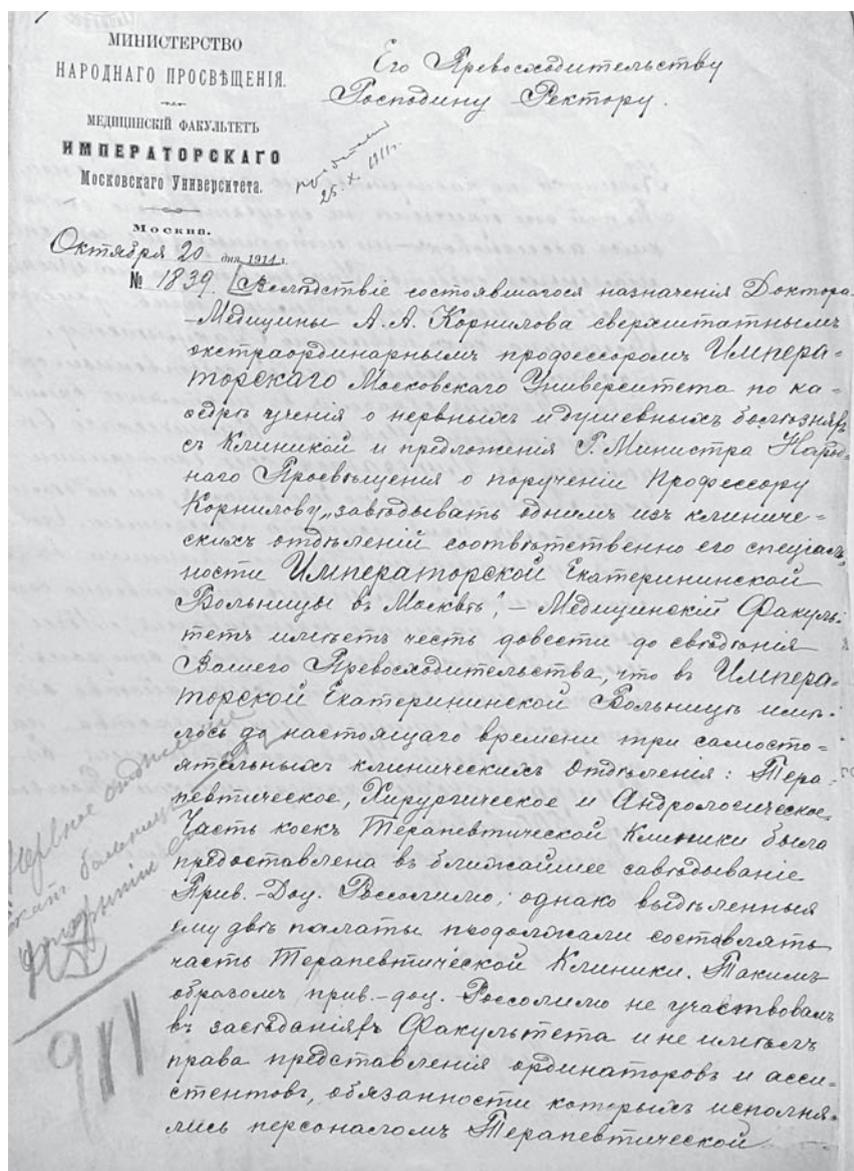


Fig. 5a. D.N. Zernov's request for 1500 rubles for setting up the first department at the Novo-Catherine Hospital.²⁷
Central State Archive of the City of Moscow. F. 418. Op. 89. D. 784. L. 1.

²⁷ Text on the picture:

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
FACULTY OF MEDICINE OF IMPERIAL
MOSCOW UNIVERSITY
20 OCTOBER, 1911
No. 1839

To His Excellency Rector

In light of the appointment of Doctor of Medicine A.A. Kornilov as Extraordinary Professor at the Imperial Moscow University in the department of nervous system and mental diseases with a clinic and proposals by the Minister of Education instructing Professor Kornilov to head one of the clinical departments, in accordance with his specialty, at the Imperial Novo-Catherine Hospital in Moscow, the Faculty of Medicine is honoured to inform Your Excellency that the Imperial Catherine Hospital had to this day three independent clinical departments: Therapy, Surgery, Andrological. Some of the beds in the therapy clinic were offered to Privatdozent Rossolimo, although the two wards assigned to him remained part of the therapy clinic. Privatdozent Rossolimo, therefore, did not attend faculty meetings and did not have the right of representation of attending physicians and assistants, the duties of which were fulfilled by staff in the therapy clinic on the orders of the head of the clinic.

Клиники по распоряжению директора оной.
По той же причине не существовало ника-
ких ассимиляционных штатных, ни изъ спе-
циальных средств Университета на учебные
посадки по нервному отделению прив.-доцента
Россолимо, как известно Факультету,
тратить на учебные посадки собственных сред-
ств. Таким образом в настоящее время
не существует Нервного Клинического От-
деления в Императорской Екатеринин-
ской Больнице ни по штатам, ни по оплате
за учебные прив.-доцента Россолимо. Си-
муществование Нервной Клиники в
Екатерининской Больнице существенно важ-
ным для научного преподавания, Меди-
цинский Факультет с своей стороны
постановил возбудить ходатайство объ
отпуске из сумм Министерства на
первое оборудование Нервного Отделения в
Императорской Екатерининской Больни-
це 1500 рублей.]
При сем прилагается копия ее заявления Про-
фессора А.А. Корнилова.

Деканъ Д. Зерновъ
Секретарь Шварцманъ

Fig. 5b. D.N. Zernov's request for 1500 rubles for setting up the first department at the Novo-Catherine Hospital.²⁸
Central State Archive of the City of Moscow. F. 418. Op. 89. D. 784. L. 1 ob.

²⁸ Text on the picture:

For the same reason, neither regular nor special funds were allocated by the university for instruction materials in the neurological department. According to the faculty, Privatdozent Rossolimo spent his personal funds on instruction materials. Therefore the clinical department of nervous system diseases at the Imperial Catherine Hospital does not exist. Considering that the existence of the neurological clinic at the Catherine Hospital is vital for teaching, the Faculty of Medicine has decided to petition the Ministry to allocate 1500 rubles for the first installation of the neurological department at the Imperial Catherine Hospital.

A copy of the statement by Professor A.A. Kornilov is attached.

Dean: D. Zernov
Secretary: illegible

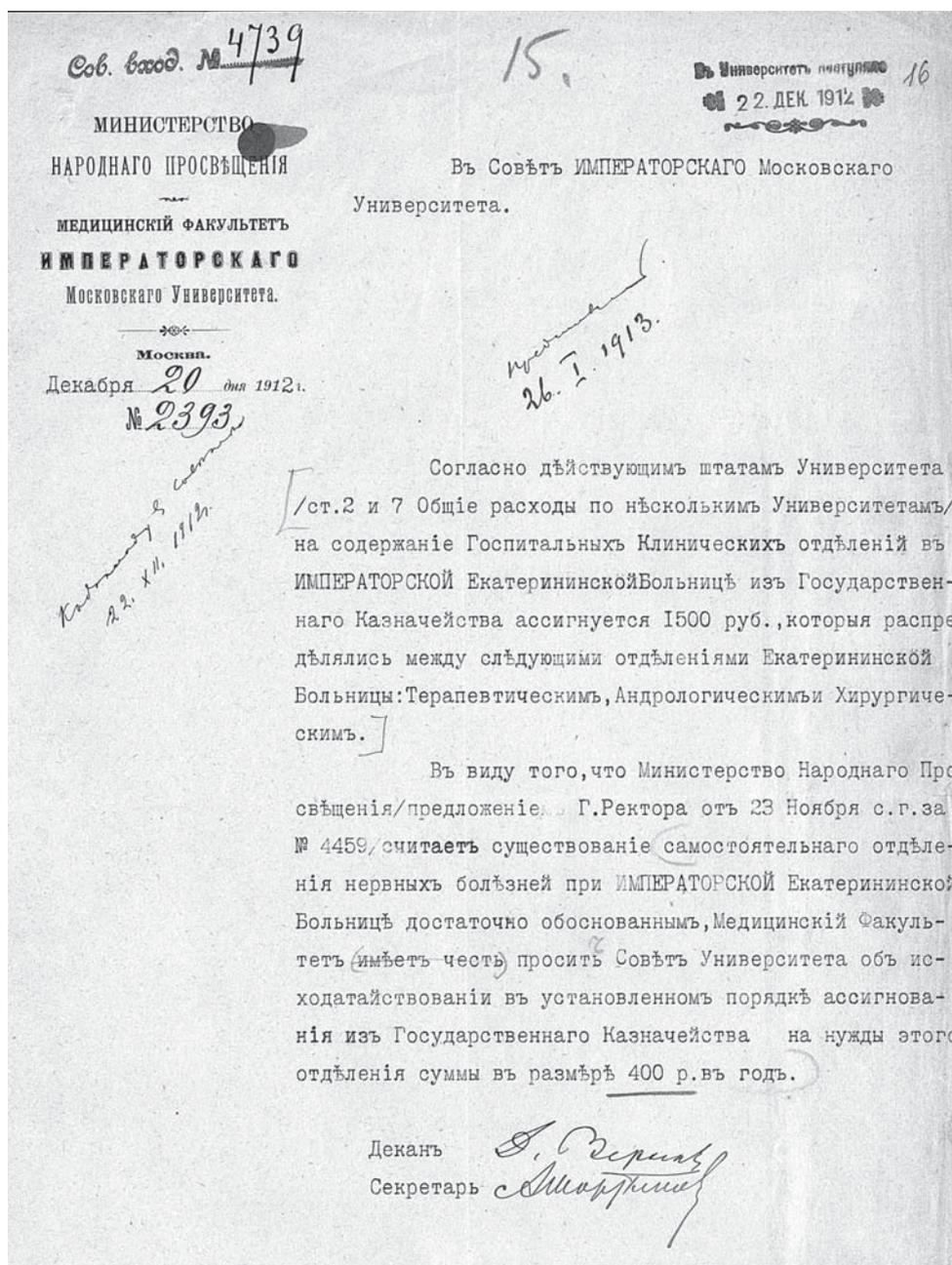


Fig 6. Request to the IMU Council to fund the neurological department.²⁹
Central State Archive of the City of Moscow. F. 418. Op. 89. D. 784. L. 16.

²⁹ Text on the picture:

FACULTY OF MEDICINE OF IMPERIAL
Moscow University

According to current university charter articles 2 and 7, total expenditure at several universities on maintaining hospital clinical departments at the IMPERIAL Catherine Hospital from the State Treasury was 1500 rubles, which was split between the following departments of the Catherine Hospital. Therapy, Andrological and Surgery.

Due to that the Ministry of Education, based on the proposal from the Rector on 23 November, No. 4459, considers the existence of the independent department of nervous system diseases at the IMPERIAL Catherine Hospital sufficiently justified, the Faculty of Medicine is honoured to ask the University Council to petition, according to the established procedure, the State Treasury to allocate 400 rubles a year to cater for the needs of this department.

Dean: D. Zernov
Secretary: illegible

I.Y. Tarasevich taught an introductory course on nervous system diseases and worked there until his death in 1941, rising through the ranks from assistant to professor and head of department. The neurological department that remained in place at the Novo-Catherine Hospital in 1932–1940 was the clinical base of the department of nervous system diseases of the public health faculty of the First Moscow Medical Institute [8, p. 233].

Conclusion

Therefore, based on archive documents, we sought to reconstruct a range of facts relating to the work of the neurological department at the Novo-Catherine Hospital in 1892–1913.

Hitherto unknown information on the influence members of the scientific school of A.Ya. Kozhevnikov had on organising clinical teaching of neurology at Moscow University was uncovered: G.I. Rossolimo personally funding the educational process in the department of nervous

system diseases at the Novo-Catherine clinic in 1892–1911, as well as A.A. Kornilov's efforts to keep the neurological department independent in 1911–1913. Equally crucial for the development of the traditions of Kozhevnikov's scientific school was the fact that A.A. Kornilov was able to have I.Y. Tarasevich, head of the department of nervous system diseases and the neurological department at the Novo-Catherine Hospital in 1925–1941, confirmed as assistant in the neurological department.

Available documentary evidence enables to conclude that the main challenges in organising clinical teaching of neuropathology in the medical faculty of IMU at that time were the acute shortage of beds as well as the dearth of funds allocated by the education ministry. Measures taken by A.A. Kornilov to resume work in the neurological department at the Novo-Catherine Hospital furthered the development of clinical neurology at Moscow University.

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