

## CENTENNIAL JUBILEE OF DMITRIY P. GRIGORIEV

### Special Exhibition at the St-Petersburg Mining Museum

Zhanna A. Polyarnaya, Elena S. Svirina, Galina N. Bogdanova, Elena E. Popova  
Mining Museum of the Saint-Petersburg State Mining Institute  
janna@spmi.ru



Dmitriy Pavlovich Grigoriev

Historical photos from Mining Museum of Saint-Petersburg State Mining Institute Archive

Left to right: V.I. Mikheev, D.P. Grigoriev, A.K. Boldyrev, 1935



October 29, 2009 is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Dmitriy Pavlovich Grigoriev (29.10.1909–12.03.2003), prominent Russian mineralogist, whose name is associated with the introduction of new branches of mineralogy. He also trained a lot of mineralogists. In 1934 Dmitriy Pavlovich graduated from the Leningrad Mining Institute (now Saint-Petersburg Mining Institute) with a diploma in engineering-geology and it became forever his scientific and pedagogical destiny. For almost 70 years he was dedicated to the Mineralogy Chair, passing from an assistant to Professor and Head of the Chair.

Professor D.P. Grigoriev considered scientific-pedagogical work as the main focus of his life. He created a powerful mineralogical school and developed new ontogenic approaches to the study of minerals. As an important part of training he always included studies at the Mining Museum, for he believed it was important to acquaint the students in getting to know geological processes through natural material. *“Mineralogy is a science about minerals, which are the immediate objects of knowledge in our science. Mineral study is carried out with the help of educational and scientific literature, but the books and articles only help the study of stone objects. The real knowledge of mineralogy is knowledge of the minerals themselves, understanding of laws and rules of the science in those aspects, as they are displayed in minerals. The Museum is an illustrated “mineral text-book” of this science”* these are the bases of proper study as formulated by Professor D.P. Grigoriev.

From the first years of his scientific activity Dmitriy Pavlovich paid special attention to the Museum mineralogical collection, which at first, from the 18<sup>th</sup> century, was created as an educational one.

In 1936–1937 at the opening of the 17<sup>th</sup> International Geological Congress D.P. Grigoriev prepared an exposition on mineral synthesis. The main collection was specially synthesized and collected at the Laboratory of Experimental Mineralogy and Petrology of the Mining Institute. The exposition included also samples of magnesium and magnesium-iron micas, whose development for industrial production was carried out by D.P. Grigoriev. Also, it displayed experimental equipment, numerous diagrams and photos, showing the possibilities of industrial utilization of artificial minerals, various by-products of technical productions. Due to the variability of the material, this exposition became for its time truly unique.

For several decades Professor Grigoriev was the scientific supervisor of the Mineralogy Department of the Mining Museum. In 1947 Dmitriy Pavlovich developed a plan for the reconstruction of the department exposition, which took into consideration modern achievements of geological sciences and he



**Calcite with fluorite**, 18 x 13 cm.  
Dalnegorsk, Primorskii krai, Russia, 1960.  
MM SPSMI MGS-257/560

**Agate** with different directions of levels,  
10 x 8.7 cm. Akhaltsikhe, Georgia, 1965.  
MM SPSMI MGS-175.66

**Calcite**, 17.5 x 9.5 cm. Dalnegorsk, Russia.  
MM SPSMI No 257/649

**Astrophyllite**, radial aggregates, 21 x 15 cm.  
Kola Peninsula, Russia, 1969. MM SPSMI No 773/-

**Sphalerite with quartz and calcite**.  
Dalnegorsk, Russia. MM SPSMI No 33/204

Iron **meteorite** of Yardymli, 5 x 3 x 1.5 cm.  
Lenkoran, Azerbaidzhan. MM SPSMI No 223/1

