



Sophia Moiseyevna Krasnoshchekova (Sheindlya-Son-ya Movshevna Krasnoshchek) (party pseudonym: Natasha) (? , Chernobyl, Radomyśl district, Kiev province – after 1953). From the family of a clerk. She was home-schooled. She began her participation in the revolutionary movement as a social-democrat. In 1902 she was arrested in Kiev while making preparations for a 1st of May demonstration. In August, 1901, she took part in organizing an escape of prisoners from Lukyanovskaya prison [Kiev]. In 1904 she was again brought in for questioning.

She was an active member of the Kiev group of anarcho-communists at the time of the Revolution of 1905–1907. In 1907 she was living in Bezhitsa [near Bryansk, in western Russia] on the passport of B. F. Domysevich, where she was one of the leaders of the local group of anarcho-communists “Buntar” [Rebel]. She was the common-law wife of the Bryansk and Smolensk anarchist I. A. Fomin. On March 4, 1907, she was forced to flee from Bryansk, hiding from the police who were following her. At the end of March, 1907, she was arrested in Moscow together with Aleksandr G. Taratuta.

In 1918 she joined the Moscow Union of the Ideological Propaganda of Anarchism [a major publisher of anarchist literature]. In February, 1921, she was a member of the Commission for the Organization of the Funeral of P. A. Kropotkin, and also became a member of the All-Russian Public Committee (VOK) for Perpetuat-

ing the Memory of P. A. Kropotkin. In 1923 she joined the Moscow Society of Aid to Anarchists being held in Russian prisons. In 1927–1928 she belonged to the “Collective of Russian Anarcho-Communists and Anarcho-Syndicalists. On March 3, 1928, together with other comrades, she withdrew from the VOK, signing an appeal “To Anarchists!”, accusing the Soviet government of persecuting anarchists and also sharply criticizing the activities and ideology of the “mystical anarchists.” In the early 1930’s, she worked as an “agitator” at the Moscow plant Dynamo. She received a pension from Istpart [Commission on the History of the October Revolution and the RCP (Bolshevik)]. Until the end of her life she wrote on questionnaires and application forms: “member of the party of anarchists.”

She was the sister of several activists of the anarchist movement: the anarcho-syndicalist (then Bolshevik and head of the Far Eastern Republic) A. M. Krasnoshchek (1880–1937); the Kiev and Bryansk anarcho-communist A. M. Krasnoshchek (1889–1908); and the Kiev, Odesa, and Yekaterinoslav anarchist P. M. Krasnoshchek (1888–?). Sophia Krasnoshchekova’s first husband was the social-democrat E. R. Falk, brother of well known artist R. R. Falk; her second husband was the prominent mathematician L. A. Tumarkin.

The sketch of Sophia Krasnoshchekova reproduced above is from the 1930s and is the work of her brother-in-law Robert Falk.

by Sergei Ovsiannikov using information from Anatoly Dubovik (translated by Malcolm Archibald)