

A. V. MAKSIMOV



Aleksey Vasilyevich Maksimov (1903, St. Petersburg — December 25, 1937, Ufa). He was a student at the Petrograd Geographical Institute when he joined an anarcho-syndicalist group of Petrograd students. Arrested on April 10, 1924, he took part in a protest action by political prisoners in the House of Preliminary Detention on May 8, 1924. A collegium of the OGPU sentenced him on June 6, 1924, to three years in a concentration camp, which was served in the Northern Camps of Special Designation. In 1927 he was sentenced to three years incarceration in the Tobolsk political isolator. Then, in 1929, he was exiled to Surgut, Tobolsky okrug, Uralskaya oblast. While in exile he wrote articles for the Geographical Institute about the ice ages in Siberia. In 1930 he was exiled for three years to the village of Berezovo, Ostyako-Bogulsky national okrug, Uralskaya oblast. There he joined a circle of exiled anarchists (I. Arendarenko, S. Krasavin, and others). In exile he occupied himself with various kinds of regional studies. The results of his phenological observations in Berezovo and its environs, in the form of monthly bulletins, were submitted to the Central & Uralskoye Oblast Bureau of Re-

gional Studies and also to the Museum of Tobolsk North. He compiled tables of additional observations on plants, intended for inclusion in a calendar of nature for the environment of Berezovo. On assignment by the North Urals expedition of the Academy of Sciences, he put together a herbarium of around 1,000 flowering and spore-producing plants. At the request of the Zoological Museum of the Academy of Sciences, he put together an entomological collection (around 800 specimens). He carried out excavations of an ancient settlement about three or four km from Berezovo, conducted tests of permafrost soils, and investigated clay outcrops along the Kazennaya Channel [of the Ob River]. He began living in Sverdlovsk in 1931. In 1933 he was exiled for three years to Ufa. There he worked as the chief of a geological crew working out of the prospecting bureau of the Bashneft Trust [oil firm]. He was arrested on March 31, 1937, in Ufa. On December 25, 1937, he was sentenced to the VMN (Highest Measure of Punishment) by an assize of the Military Collegium of the Supreme Court of the USSR. On the same day he was shot.

by Sergei Ovsiannikov (translated by Malcolm Archibald)