

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON  
"LOBACHEVSKII AND MODERN GEOMETRY"  
(Kazan University, August 1992)

December 1, 1992 is the 200th anniversary of the birth of Nikolai Ivanovich Lobachevskii (died 24 February 1856), one of the principal founders of non-euclidean geometry (*the* founder of hyperbolic geometry) and Rector of the University of Kazan. His work still has importance for many areas of mathematics and mathematical physics, including, for example, Relativity Theory. His work also had a direct impact on the development of non-classical logics by providing inspiration for Nikolai Aleksandrovich Vasil'ev's work in logic.

Aleksandr Vasil'evich Vasil'ev (1853-1929) was one of the strongest early supporters of Lobachevskii's work in geometry. Along with Viktor Viktorovich Bobynin (1849-1919), he was one of Russia's pioneers in the field of history of mathematics. He wrote a book on Lobachevskii, the English translation of which was critically reviewed by Charles S. Peirce. A.V. Vasil'ev also wrote the book *Space, Time and Motion – Historical Introduction to the General Theory of Relativity* (1924), the introduction to the English translation of which was written by Bertrand Russell. Half a century after Lobachevskii's death (more precisely, in 1910-1912), Lobachevskii's non-euclidean "imaginary" geometry became the model the non-aristotelian "imaginary" three-valued logic of Aleksandr's son, Kazan University teacher Nikolai Aleksandrovich Vasil'ev (1880-1940). He was thus the first to develop a system of logic without the Law of Excluded Middle. N.A. Vasil'ev is known to have also studied Russell's and Peirce's work in logic.

In commemoration of Lobachevskii's birth and scientific career, an international conference on "Lobachevskii and Modern Geometry" will be held in Kazan in August 1992. The conference will include the following sections:

- 1) Geometry and topology
- 2) The theory of relativity and gravitation
- 3) History of mathematics

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