

Naum Tseitlin



This picture was taken in Moscow in 1946, I was wearing my uniform for this picture.

I finished the World War II as a sergeant. In 1944, at the front, I joined the Communist Party. I was demobilized in November 1945. Having returned home, I, without a day for rest, went to the place where I had worked before the war. I was received with open arms, and I immediately resumed my favorite job. Gradually I became not simply a teacher in circles, but also a propagandist of manual labor at secondary schools. At that time I supervised the department of science and technology in the Moscow Municipal House of Pioneers, directed the club of young craftsmen, I was the initiator

of the first 'Skilful hands' hobby groups in this country, for which I created the program and the first methodical recommendations.

I can speak about wartime for hours, but I should say here that there are not only the tragedy and horrible things I remember from the war. Even during the war life goes on, and sometimes there were even funny or merry moments. Let me tell you one anecdote. For a feat of arms, our division was awarded the order of Kutuzov, it is normally an order given to military leaders, military units are rarely granted this award. We tore off of the enemy defenses and went to the rear for reinforcements, and fresh forces entered in our stead. Then we broke through in another location. We liberated the Belovezhskaya Puscha. I walked through it two times, a very good place, and I saw live bison. There is a museum in Belovezhskaya Puscha, which I visited. The Germans did not touch it.

I went to Nicholas II's small hunting lodge, I was even in his apartments, I passed through all the rooms of this two-storied building. On the second floor were the apartments of the tsar and his court, and the servants lived downstairs. When I was on the second floor, one of the attendants told me, 'These are Nicholas's private rooms, and this is his lavatory.' Upon which I said, 'I will take advantage of this lavatory.' And I used that imperial lavatory.