

Наукові установи

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UKRAINIAN STUDIES AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY

I.

The state of knowledge about Ukraine in the United States presents a kind of paradox. On the one hand, the Ukrainians number some 50,000,000 strong, numerically the second largest Slavic nation. In the United States itself, there are about 2,000,000 Americans whose roots are in Ukraine, so that every hundredth American is of Ukrainian origin. On the other hand, the statistics notwithstanding, knowledge of Ukraine, its history and culture, is disproportionately minimal in this country.

The reasons for this ignorance in Ukrainian matters are mainly due to the political situation in Ukraine, past and present. In the nineteenth century, when information on East European affairs was being systematized in the West in textbooks, Ukraine was an almost indistinguishable part of the Russian and Austro-Hungarian Empires. Students of these textbooks were in turn the formulators of that approach to East European matters whose legacy survives to this day. As far as Ukraine was concerned, even the cataclysmic events of 1917—1921 left hardly an impression in the West, for despite its formal constitution as a sovereign state, the Ukrainian SSR in fact remains to this day in a state of political subordination to Russia, and its “sovereignty” in international affairs is limited to membership in the United Nations. As a result at the present time, when the world is divided into two superpowers, the USA and the USSR, and within the latter, Ukraine is the “Second Soviet Republic,” the veil of ignorance on Ukraine has scarcely been pierced.

At a time when American concern with Eastern Europe was only peripheral, a simplistic approach was perhaps understandable. Increasing contacts with Europe after World War I and particularly after World War II, however, have exposed these generalized conceptions of Eastern Europe as anachronistic and no longer productive. The growing sophistication in East European studies in the United States has made imperative a new concentration on hitherto neglected areas, of which Ukraine is undoubtedly one of the most important.

Although the poor state of Ukrainian studies in the USA was obvious to many, the first to propose a constructive remedy were the youngest members of the Ukrainian-American community, the students. When a congress of Ukrainian students met in Cleveland in 1957, it was obvious to the participants that mere criticism and denunciation of the status quo would scarcely solve the problem of Ukrainian studies. Instead the students determined to improve the existing deficiencies through concrete and systematic efforts on their own part. They decided to initiate a fund drive within the Ukrainian-American community for the purpose of endowing a chair of Ukrainian Studies at an American university. Within a year the Ukrainian Studies Chair Fund was established and incorporated in the state of New York. Despite the students' inexperience, their enthusiasm and perseverance won over even the most sceptical. Under the direction of S. Chemych and his associates, the students' fund progressively increased from a sum of \$7,000 in 1961 to \$280,000 by the end of 1967.

In the meantime, some Ukrainian scholars likewise realized that their existing scholarly associations, lacking funds and facilities and unable to train new specialists, did not have the capacity to ensure the development of Ukrainian studies in the USA. It became clear to them that new alternatives had to be sought.

In 1967, Professor Pritsak proposed that a center of Ukrainian Studies be organized at a leading American university. This center would consist of three professorial chairs in Ukrainian language, literature and history (i. e., in the fields most directly connected with Ukrainian culture) and a research institute. The existence of the three professorships would provide an integrated program for the training of younger scholars, while the institute would provide the facilities for research and the publication of scholarly works. This proposal was enthusiastically accepted by the Ukrainian community in general and by the students in particular. A joint committee of scholars and students involved in the fund-drive was created and negotiations were begun with a number of leading universities.

Less than a year after the original proposal by Professor Pritsak, on January 22, 1968, an agreement was reached with Harvard University, and the first chair of Ukrainian Studies was established. Although at this time the students' fund drive had collected a total of \$280,000, the establishment of the first chair provided sufficient momentum within the Ukrainian community to add to this sum \$340,000 by the end of 1968. Thus, the first chair of Ukrainian Studies was financially secure.

In May of 1968 Dean Franklin Ford appointed a Committee on Ukrainian Studies consisting of Professors Lunt, Pipes, Pritsak (chairman) and Ševčenko, and later also Weintraub. The purpose of the Committee was to supervise and develop the Ukrainian Studies Program at Harvard University.

II.

The Committee on Ukrainian Studies began its work under several serious handicaps. This was the first attempt in the USA, and in fact, anywhere outside the borders of Ukraine, to organize such a program. In consequence, there was no precedent upon which to draw for experience and guidance. Everything had to be done through trial and error.

A very serious problem was presented by the lack of suitable instructors in the fields of Ukrainian history, language and literature.* In general, the older generation of émigré scholars, well versed in Ukrainian disciplines, had long been out of touch with the academic world, while the younger generation, educated in American institutions, had no possibility of receiving training in Ukrainian fields. Thus, the first aim of the Committee was to provide for the training of new cadres of specialists, utilizing to the utmost all available resources. Because there were no available candidates for tenured positions, the Committee initiated a policy of inviting visiting professors. The course programs were made deliberately elastic, providing for both official graduate level courses and informal courses or conferences where the students could make up their deficiencies in Ukrainian subjects (see Appendix I). The Committee also found full understanding and support from the existing Harvard institutions, concerned with cognate areas viz., the Slavic Department, the Department of History, the Russian Research Center, and the Slavic Division of the Harvard College Library. With an endowed chair, it was not necessary to worry about the number of students, so that special emphasis was placed on quality rather than quantity. Nevertheless, student response at this early stage is quite encouraging. Three graduate students in Slavic literatures and three in history have chosen their major (or minor) in the respective Ukrainian subject. The courses were also well attended by students whose concentrations lay in other specializations.

The second important area of concern was the expansion of the University Library's holdings in Ukrainian fields in order to provide sufficient source materials, monographs and periodicals for the use of the faculty and students. With this aim the Committee initiated a ten-year program of support for the Library, assigning annually \$ 5,000, of which \$ 3,000 were for the procurement of microfilms of rare periodicals and

* Editorial note: The above statement of Professor Pritsak in regard to the „lack of suitable instructors in the fields of Ukrainian history, language and literature“ constitutes a debatable question.

At the present many Ukrainian historians, philologists and other subject specialists are teaching courses in East European history and Slavic languages at various American, Canadian and European Universities. Many Ukrainian historians of both the older and younger generation are very active in researching special topics in Ukrainian history. In this respect the term „suitable instructors“ needs a clear and precise definition.

out-of-print editions, while the remaining \$ 2,000 were to supplement the Library's other funds for the purchase of new materials.

The results of this program are already becoming apparent. In the calendar year 1969 to date the Library has already obtained over 700 titles which constitute about one-sixth of the total acquisitions in the Slavic Division. A number of rare periodical series, in original and microfilm, have already been acquired for the first time in this country (see Appendix). This program has been greatly facilitated by cooperation with the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences in Kiev on the initiative of its Vice-President. Other exchange of materials has been undertaken with the central libraries of the Soviet Union, notably the Lenin Library in Moscow (see Appendix II).

The lack of suitable scholarly literature in English has also prompted the Committee to undertake a long-range publishing plan. On the Committee's initiative an agreement was reached between the President and Fellows of Harvard College and the Fink Verlag of Munich, Germany, to inaugurate the publication of a *Harvard Series in Ukrainian Studies*, which will bring out some twenty volumes annually beginning with the academic year 1969/70 (see Appendix III). The series will encompass both original works in English as these are made available, and reprints of important out-of-print editions. The latter, to be reprinted in the language of the original, will be supplemented by English language introductions, indices and scholarly apparatus where necessary. In the future, it is also planned to inaugurate the publication of a *Harvard Journal of Ukrainian Studies*, and a yearbook of Current Bibliography in Ukrainian Studies.

As soon as the news of the publishing program became known, even unsolicited manuscripts from various universities of the USA and Canada were offered to the Committee. Several of them showed considerable merit and were included in the publication program. Thus, Harvard is already becoming a magnet for valuable scholarly monographs which can now appear in our special Ukrainian series.

The Committee's publication plans were also influenced by the situation in Ukraine, where since the 1930's, the scope of scholarly research in the humanities was sharply limited, both by the pressure of Communist ideology and Russian great-power chauvinism. Despite some easing in recent years, there are still entire periods and areas whose investigation by Soviet scholars is circumscribed or wholly prohibited. It is the aim of the Ukrainian Committee to make up for this deficiency in the publication series.

Although the first steps have been made, the full implementation of the original program will require much more effort and, especially, money. For the future, four main needs will have to be met.

It is imperative for the Library to have a full-time librarian for the Ukrainian section if the acquisition program is to function effectively.

Secondly, the fund drive for the second chair must be completed, and thirdly, an endowment for the third chair must be found.

Finally, a Ukrainian Research Institute should be created. While the three professorships will ensure the training of new scholars, the Institute will provide the space, material and resources for research activity. This will enable scholars from other universities and recent graduates to prepare their studies for publication while freeing them from other burdensome duties.

All this will require much greater financial resources than the Committee now has available. The Ukrainian students have made a brave beginning. For ten years, they have turned their youthful energies and talents to the endowment of the first chair. They hope that their endeavors will be recognized by those interested in the furthering of East European studies.

APPENDIX I.

Courses in Ukrainian history, language and literature offered by the departments concerned in cooperation with the Committee on Ukrainian Studies (1968—1969 and 1969—1970).

A. *Official Courses*

History 253cr. Topics in Ukrainian History of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries.

Half course. Spring term. Visiting Lecturer O. Ohloblyn.*

Slavic 220r. Topics in Ukrainian Literature. Half course. Fall term (repeated Spring term). Professor O. Pritsak and assistant.

Slavic Ga. Elementary Ukrainian. Half course. Fall term. Professor H. Lunt and assistant.

Slavic Gb. Ukrainian Reading and Composition. Half course. Spring term. Professor H. Lunt and assistant.

B. *Informal Courses (in Ukrainian)*

Ukrainian Historiography. Half course. Fall term. Visiting Lecturer O. Ohloblyn.*

Sources to Ukrainian History of the 17th—18th centuries. Full course. Visiting Lecturer O. Ohloblyn.*

APPENDIX II.

From the reports of the Slavic Division of the Harvard College Library.

“Notes of Significant Acquisitions and Activities.”

1. May 1969. 4. a) The Lenin Library has confirmed that they will start filming 20 Ukrainian government and diocese gazettes which Prof. Pritsak feels should be in the collection. This is part of the Ukrainian Studies Program and will be completed over a long period in exchange for current American publications.

* All the courses delivered by Professor Ohloblyn have been recorded on tape and are at the disposal of the students at the Audio-Visual Service.

b) In connection with this program photoreproductions have been received of the following two titles:

Bessarabskaia guberniskaia uchenaia arkhivnaia kommissiia. TRUDY. T. 1—3. Kishinev, Tipo-Lit. E. Shlimovitsa, 1900—1907.

Lazarovskii, A. M.: Ocherki, zametki i dokumenty po istorii Malorossii. Kiev, Tip. Korchak-Novitskago, 1892—1899.

2. June 1969. 1. The Ukrainian Academy has agreed to microfilm and send 16 of the journals asked for by Prof. Pritsak and three in the original. In return we will be sending them U.S. publications, both monographs and serials.
3. September 1969. 1. From the Lenin Library microfilm of *Kievskie eparkhialnye vedomost, 1861—65*; *Khersonskie eparkhialnye vedomosti. 1896—1900*, titles requested by Prof. Pritsak for the Ukrainian Studies Program, have started to arrive at a cost of over \$ 3,000.

APPENDIX III.

Harvard Series in Ukrainian Studies

The Harvard Committee on Ukrainian Studies, established in 1968, has decided to undertake the publication of a *Harvard Series in Ukrainian Studies* in order to provide the students participating in the Ukrainian program with necessary source and textbooks and to establish a firm basis for the development of scholarly research outside the Ukraine in the fields of Ukrainian linguistics, literature, history and folklore. The series will encompass original works, reprints of rare and important works, collected articles on selected topics, textbooks, handbooks, bibliographies, dictionaries and selected works of classics in Ukrainian humanities. The reprints will always contain an up-to-date introduction and indices where these are lacking. The tentative plan presented below contains 25 titles most of which will appear during the academic year 1969—70. The editors of the Harvard Series in Ukrainian Studies are Professors Horace G. Lunt, Richard E. Pipes, Omeljan Pritsak (editor-in-chief), Ihor Ševčenko, Wiktor Weintraub.

1. Ihor Ševčenko, Dumbarton Oaks (Harvard University)

The Lives of Constantine and Methodius

Introduction, English translation of the text prepared by P. Lavrov, index verborum, and a Byzantinological commentary.

2. Omeljan Pritsak, Harvard University

The Igor Tale as a Historical Document. Rus'-Tmutorokań-Polovtsian Steppe.

The author reconstructs the political and cultural situation in Rus' and the Polovtsian steppe of the 11—13th centuries, utilizing all available Old Russian and Asian sources on the one hand and the data of the *Igor Tale* on the other. The comparison of the results provides the answer to the longdisputed problem of the authenticity of the *Igor Tale*.

3. Omeljan Pritsak, Harvard University

The Origin of Rus

Leaving aside the 200 year old but now sterile feud between the Normanists and Antinormanists, the author examines anew all pertinent source materials (Chinese, Arabic, Persian, Syriac, Turkic, Hebrew, Byzantine, Old Russian, Old Scandinavian, West European) in question. After comparing his results with those of the archeological and

numismatic discoveries, and the data from the history of commerce, cities and charismatic clans he reaches a completely new solution for this old set of questions.

4. Xvedir Tütov

Forewords to Ukrainian Incunabula and Early Printed Books

Reprint of *Materialy dlia Knyzhenoi Spravy na Vkrayini v XVI—XVII vv.*, published in 1924 by the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in Kiev in an edition of only 200 copies. Ca. 600 pp. With an introduction by Professor Ihor Ševčenko.

5. Kateryna Hrushevs'ka

Ukrainian Epic Songs

Reprint of *Ukrayins'ki Narodni Dumy. Korpus. vol. 1—2.*, published in 1929—31 by the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in Kiev. With an introduction by Professor Albert B. Lord, Harvard University, a historiographical essay by Professor Orest Zilynskyj, Czech Academy of Sciences, Praha, and an English translation of all 33 basic epic poems by a group of American and Ukrainian poets headed by Patricia Warren (Kylyna) and George Tarnawsky.

6—10. Ivan Franko

Ukrainian Apocrypha

The famous Ukrainian writer Ivan Franko (1856—1916) was also a leading authority on problems of Old Ukrainian literature. His collection *Apokryfy i Legendy z Ukrayins'kykh Rukopysiv*, published in a limited edition by the Shevchenko Scientific Society in Lviv in five volumes (1896—1910), contains the Old Testament, New Testament and Eschatological Apocrypha, as well as apocryphal legends of the Saints. With an introduction by Professor Dmitriij Tschizevskij, University of Heidelberg.

11—12. Eyewitness Chronicle

The *Litopys Samovydtisia* is the oldest of the so-called Ukrainian Cossack chronicles of the 17—18th centuries. The edition consists of two volumes. The first volume contains the reprint of the best critical edition by Orest Levyts'kyi (Kiev, 1878), with an introduction by Professor Oleksander Ohloblyn, Harvard University. The second volume, edited by Professor Omeljan Pritsak, brings together all the important monographs dealing with the identity of the anonymous author of the chronicle and with methodological problems of the source itself.

13. Kiril Taranovsky, Harvard University

The Iambic Tetrameter of Taras Ševčenko.

14. George S. N. Luckyj, University of Toronto

Between Gogol and Shevchenko. Polarity in the Literary Ukraine: 1798—1847.

15. Myron Korduba

La Littérature Historique Soviétique Ukrainienne. Comptes-rendus, 1917—1931.

Reprint of an important bibliographical survey published in Warsaw in 1938. With an introduction by Professor Omeljan Pritsak.

16—19. Oleksander Lazarevs'kyi

Descriptions of Old Little Russia

Reprint of *Opisanie Staroi Malorossii*, the basic reference book for all studies in the history of the Ukrainian Cossack-Hetman State, published in Russian in Kiev in 3 volumes:

- vol. 1: The Starodub Regiment (1888)
 vol. 2: The Nizhyn Regiment (1893)
 vol. 3: The Pryluky Regiment (1901)

Our volume 4 will include Lazarevs'kyi's unfinished studies on the Poltava Regiment and reviews of this main work of Lazarevs'kyi by D. Bahaliy, I. Luchyts'kyi, V. Miakotyn and I. Dzhydzhora. With an introduction by Professor Oleksander Ohloblyn.

20—22. Oleksander Ohloblyn
A History of Ukrainian Industry

Reprint of a three-volume study: 1. *Manufaktura v Getmanshchine* (Kiev, 1925); in Russian); 2. *Predkapitalisticheskaia Fabrika* (Kiev, 1925; in Russian); and 3. *Kripats'ka Fabryka 18—19ho St.* (printed in Kiev in 1931, but not released into circulation; in Ukrainian). With a retrospect in English by the author.

23. Fedir Savchenko
The Prohibition of the Ukrainian Movement in 1876

Reprint of *Zaborona Ukrayinstva 1876 r.*, containing an extensive collection of archival documents and an essay published by the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in Kiev (1930). With an introduction by Professor Basile Dmytryshyn, Portland State College.

24. Richard E. Pipes, Harvard University, ed.
Studies in Ukrainian Revolution, 1917—1922

Collection of twelve articles written by noted American Historians and Political Scientists.

25. VasyI Simovych
Selected Works, edited by Yury Shevelov (Columbia University)

V. Simovych (1880—1944), Professor of the University of Lviv, was one of the leading Ukrainian linguist.

APPENDIX IV.

*Opening Remarks by Dean Franklin Ford on the Ukrainian Studies Center**

I take it that my principal, formal responsibility here, and it is a pleasant one, is to announce on behalf of Harvard University the acceptance of this initial endowment and the commitment to continue and develop a program of Ukrainian Studies in our university. There is not very much I can add to what has been said or will be said by more specialized members of the faculty dealing with this area, but I might say just a word from the point of view of a university in general and what this kind of enrichment means to Harvard. I found it rather moving in considering the genesis of this particular endowment and the launching of this particular fund because it seemed to me to combine what a university should combine: the interest and impulse of young people with old traditions and cultural heritage that people of all ages want not to be lost.

* These comments were delivered by Dr. Franklin L. Ford, Dean of Harvard University Faculty of Arts and Sciences, during the meeting of the Ukrainian Studies Chair Fund held at the Ukrainian Institute of America in New York City on November 21, 1969.

Looking at it from the point of view simply of an American, and you can tell from my name that my own ancestors grew up somewhat further west than the people most interested in this program, it is still perfectly clear that it is in the interest of all of us, all Americans, to understand the complexity and the richness in that sense of our cultural heritage.

I think Professor Pritsak has done well to point out that approximately one of every one hundred Americans are descendants of Ukrainian people, and to that extent we have a responsibility to understand our own people better by understanding the Ukraine. It is also true, and here I might speak for just a moment as a European historian, that there is a danger with being overly impressed by what I might call the accidents of nationhood; that the political lines on the map of Europe, and indeed of the whole world, run the risk of suppressing and hiding very powerful cultural traditions. You can think of others in Europe and elsewhere, and the Ukrainian contribution to Eastern European culture and now to American culture seemed to me a remarkable example of just that kind of possible accident.

In any case, I am very pleased to be here. I share with our other panelists the feeling of being impressed with the energy that has already gone into the launching of this program and I look forward to the time when Harvard will have not only the professors but also the library facilities, the research support for visiting scholars and young people that together make up a real program of cultural inquiry.