Ivan Boberskyi’s pedagogical activity at Bazilian sisters Servantsgymnasium in Lviv (1906 – 1914)

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Abstract. The purpose of the research is to investigate Ivan Boberskyi’s pedagogical activity at Basilian Sisters Servants (Vasiliyanok sisters) Women’s Gymnasium in Lviv comprehensively. The methodology of the research is based on the use of the general scientific (analysis, synthesis, generalization) and special-historical (historical-typological, historical-systemic) methods, principles of historicism, systematicity, scientificity, verification, the author’s objectivity, narrative constructivism. By applying the biographical method, the authors were more likely to disclose the goals and objectives of the study. The scientific novelty is that for the first time in the Ukrainian and foreign historiography I. Boberskyi’s pedagogical activity was investigated in the Ukrainian Basilian Sister Servants Women’s Gymnasium in Lviv during 1906 – 1914, in particular, as holding the position of the German language Professor, being the Head of the German-language Library for the students, the author of the educational and methodological literature, designed specially for the physical education classes («rukhanka»), the source of inspiration for the «Girls Sports Club» activity.

The Conclusions. During his pedagogical...
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work at the Ukrainian Bazilian Sister Servants Women’s Gymnasium in Lviv, I. Boberskyi introduced «rukhanka» classes (physical education lessons) into the educational process of students, taught German at a high level, was at the head of the German-language library, initiated the «Girls Sports Club» establishment, published the vital scientific and methodological works on physical education topical issues, popularized various sports among girls.

Key words: Lviv, Ivan Boberskyi, Bazilian Sister Servants Gymnasium, rukhanka (physical education), sport, the German language.

ПЕДАГОГІЧНА ДІЯЛЬНІСТЬ ІВАНА БОБЕРСЬКОГО
ГІМНАЗІЇ СЕСТЕР ВАСИЛІЯНОК У ЛЬВОВІ (1906 – 1914)

Анотація. Мета дослідження – комплексно дослідити педагогічну діяльність Івана Боберського в жіночій гімназії сестер Василіянок у Львові. Методологія дослідження базується на використанні загальнонаукових (аналіз, синтез, узагальнення) та спеціально-історичних (історико-типологічний, історико-системний) методів, принципах історизму, системності, науковості, верифікації, авторської об’єктивності, нарративного конструктивізму. Завдяки застосуванню біографічного методу авторам вдалося з більшою вірогідністю розкрити поставлені мету і завдання дослідження. Наукова новизна полягає у тому, що вперше в українській та за-рубіжній історіографії досліджено педагогічну діяльність І. Боберського в українській жіночій гімназії СС Василіянок у Львові упродовж 1906 – 1914 рр., зокрема, на посаді професора німецької мови, завідувача німецькомовної бібліотеки для гімназисток, автора навчально-методичної літератури для заняття з фізичного виховання, натхненника «Дівочого Спортового Кружка».

Висновки. Упродовж своєї педагогічної праці в українській жіночій гімназії СС Василіянок у Львові І. Боберський запровадив гімнастичні заняття (уроки фізичного виховання) у навчальний процес гімназисток, викладав на високому рівні німецьку мову, завідував німецькомовною бібліотекою,дав поштовх до створення «Дівочого Спортового Кружка», видав важливі науково-методичні праці з актуальних питань фізичного виховання, спопуляризував різні види спорту серед дівчат.

Ключові слова: Львів, Іван Боберський, гімназія СС Василіянок, фізичне виховання, спорт, німецька мова.

The Problem Statement. Among the prominent teachers, public, cultural, educational, military and political figures, journalists, organizers, various sports propagandists among Halychyna Ukrainians in the early XXth century the figure of Professor I. Boberskyi (1873 – 1947) should be distinguished. In contemporary Ukrainian historiography, many works have been devoted to his activity as a leading Ukrainian specialist in the field of physical education and sports. There are works outlining his pedagogical work at the Drohobych Gymnasium and the Academic Gymnasium in Lviv. However, during 1906 – 1914, his activity in the Ukrainian Bazilian Sister Servants Women’s Gymnasium in Lviv did not find proper elaboration and coverage. Taking everything into consideration, the proposed article is relevant and fills in a significant gap in I. Boberskyi’s biography and provides an opportunity to present this figure in a more objective way in Ukrainian history of the early XXth century.

The Analysis of Sources and Recent Researches. During the Soviet era the following topic was actually banned and tabooed. Only with the advent of Ukraine as the independent state, Ukrainian scholars started to draw attention to the activity and creative heritage of numerous renowned Ukrainian history figures of the first half of the XXth century, including I. Boberskyi. There are some works dedicated to his public and pedagogical activity as a teacher of Drohobych Gymnasium and Academic Gymnasium written by Andriy Sova (Sova, 2017a; Sova, 2017) and Yaroslav Tymchak (Sova, Tymchak, 2017). However, despite certain Ukrainian historiography achievements, many aspects of Ivan Bobersky’s life and
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work still remain insufficiently understood or completely unknown. Among them, there is his pedagogical activity at Bazilian Sister Servants Gymnasium in Lviv.

The source base for the research were the following document: Central State Historical Archives of Ukraine in Lviv (Fund 312 («Ukrainian Sports Society» «Sokil-Batko», Lviv)), statistics data, including Bazilian Sister Servants Gymnasium in Lviv reports, periodicals, photographs and postcards stored in Stepan Haiduchok’s and Yuriy Zaverbnyi’s private archives, memoirs.

The purpose of the article is to investigate I. Boberskyi’s pedagogical activity at Bazilian Sister Servant Women’s Gymnasium in Lviv during 1906 – 1914 comprehensively.

The Statement of the Basic Material. On June 20, by issue # 18535 of the High Tsar-Royal Council of School Land, the permission was received from the beginning of September, Volodymyr Filevych directed the corresponding funds for the premises arrangement for the classes. On the 4th of September in 1906 the gymnasium began its studies with Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky blessing.

In the early XXth century I. Boberskyi worked at many educational establishments in Lviv, where Ukrainian Halychyna elite was studying and forming up: 1) the Academic Gymnasium (during 1901 – 1918) and its branch (1906 – 1914); 2) the Women Teacher’s Seminary (1903 – 1905) and Bazilian Sister Servants Women’s Gymnasium (1906 – 1914). In 1906, an educational institution for girls emerged in Lviv, the first Ukrainian Basilian Sisters Servants Women’s Gymnasium (Karkhut). Long before that period of time, there was a heated discussion in Ukrainian society about the urgent need to open a high school – a lyceum or a girls’ gymnasium. The educational institution emergence took a lot of money, efforts, especially the organizational work and was generally a risky issue. In April 1906, Fr. Spyrydon Karkhut suggested establishing such a gymnasium at the monastery to the Most Reverend Mother Volodymyra Filevych, Rector of Bazilian Sister Servants Monastery in Lviv since September 1906. On April 22, the first advertisement concerning the above-mentioned case was submitted to the periodicals. Eustachyi Makarushka, professor at the Academic Gymnasium in Lviv, was a helping hand and was assisting in the above-mentioned issue. On April 29, a relevant document was sent to the High Tsar-Royal Council of the School District for the gymnasium establishment, requesting the permission to open such a school. The prospectus of the gymnasium was also prepared and printed, which was distributed to almost all people’s institutions, societies, and influential individuals in Halychyna. On June 20, by the issue No 18535 of the High Tsar-Royal Council of School District, the permission was even to open the preparatory class and the first class of the gymnasium in the beginning of September 1906. On July 4 and 5, the first entrance exams took place and 15 students were enrolled. Additional examinations were held on September 3. Volodymyra Filevych has directed appropriate funds for the class rooms arrangement. On September 4, 1906, with the blessing of Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky, the teaching process began in the gymnasium.

In 1906 there were 28 students studying at the first form and 7 students studying at the preparatory class. Fr. Spyrydon Karkhut once wrote the following: «So you have already, my dear fellow countrymen, a Female Gymnasium, in which the Bazilian Sister Servants orphanage and high school, and along with the best forces in a teacher’s assembly are devoted with full parental sensitivity, care and attention, devotion and love, in the gymnasium Your female youth can be educated and may be formed up in a way completely equal to men, the God be praised, dear Nenka-Vitchynya (dear Country) for the support, to You for fun, for a good cause and for Your own pleasure» (Karkhut, p. 2).
The Basilian Sisters Servants Women’s Gymnasium grand opening was aimed at preparing the womenhood for the further work, in particular for studies in high school. By that time, only few women managed to enter higher educational institutions, owing to private lessons. In 1895 women were granted the legal permission to enter Lviv University (Berezhnytska, p. 4). Olena Berezhnytska, a teacher at Basilian Sisters Servants Women’s Gymnasium (was teaching Polish and Science of Nature during 1906 – 1907) justified the importance of women obtaining a gymnasium education in the analytical article «Gymnasium as the Learning Environment for the Womanhood Higher Education». She drew attention to the fact that the following subjects as Greek, Latin, Ukrainian, German, Religion, World History, Geography, Mathematics, Physics, History of Nature, Chemistry, propedeutics of Philosophy, and so on, are included in the curriculum in order to broaden a person’s outlook, develop people skills. According to Olena Berezhnytska: «It should be in society and humanity interest that all people, men and women alike, are equal, enlightened citizens. The women, who got at least a general secondary education will be able to fulfil their female vocation much better and the mothers will have the opportunity to educate the younger generation, who is the embodiment of the future hopes. Therefore, women seek for the equal education in comparison with the men’s education, equal schools, equal rights and women would like to have the equal responsibilities concerning the people’s care» (Berezhnytska, p. 9).

I. Boberskyi received an invitation from Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytskyi to work at Bazilian Sisiter Servants Women`s Gymnasium from 1906 till 1914. He began his pedagogical work in 1906 – 1907, I. Boberskyi was teaching gymnastics (physical education) in the preparatory and the 1st class (two lessons per week for one hour). Seven students from the preparatory class and seventeen students from the 1st grade attended the physical education lessons. In the same way as at the Academic Gymnasium in Lviv, I. Boberskyi conducted classes in accordance with the guidelines approved by Austro-Hungarian Ministry of Religion and Education in 1897. (Bb, p. 13).

During winter or execrable weather conditions the students had their gymnastics lessons at school premises. According to the School Report during 1906 – 1907: «The student’s age and strength were required in order to put emphasis on choosing exercises on their own. In April the exercises in the backyard began: hiking in the rows and columns, turning moves, competition in running. The following games took place: «Bunny in Cabbage», «Turok», «Broken King», «Follow Me», «Pass on», «Cat and Mouse», «Hawk and Bow», «The Last Couple», «Khapko (Catcher)», «Caller», «Tretyak» (Zvit, 1907, p. 18). I. Boberskyi had 2 hours per week for physical education lessons. In addition, during the same academic year, school students went under the teachers guidance for three journeys to Yaniv, Zymna Voda and Bryukhovych.

In the following academic year, I. Boberskyi taught «rukhanka» (a physical educaotion) lessons by his developed and tested methods. Due to the increase in the number of classes and students interested in the physical education lessons, the number of gymnast who took part in gymnastics lessons began to plummet. As a result, there were 5 students from the preparatory class, 12 students from the 1st class and 15 students from the 2nd class during 1907 – 1908. «Rukhanka» (a physical education lesson (gymnastics)) which took place in the gymnasium was divided into ordinary exercises, free exercises, jogging and fun. The lesson in the courtyard (implemented since April 1908) was divided into the following parts: 1) introduction (lasted four minutes): hike in a row, column, twos, quads, turns; 2) free exercises (lasting from five to ten minutes); 3) motor games (the rest of the time) were the
same in the previous year, and new games have been added, including elastic ball and small balls «L’otteria», «Race», «Kutye», «Firtochka» (Zvit, 1908, p. 68).

Owing to the increased number of students willing to attend «rukhanka» (a physical education) lessons and the lack of the appropriate school premises, I. Boberskyi began to conduct physical education lessons at the Ukrainian gymnastics club «Sokil-Batko»), located on 20 Ruska Street during 1908–1909. It should be highlighted that I. Boberskyi was the head of Ukrainian gymnastics club at that time (CSHAUL, f. 312, op. 1, spr. 12, ark. 1; CSHAUL, f. 366, op. 1, spr. 12, ark. 81). The gymnasium students were divided into two departments – senior and junior. «Rukhanka» (a physical education) lessons were held two hours a week. The lesson was divided into several parts: 1) working out in a row (warm up exercises), 2) free exercises, 3) the first gymnastics training equipment usage, 4) the second gymnastics training equipment usage, 5) fun activities, 6) running. The gymnastics clothing for students was develop on the Swedish and German models basis. The same gymnastics clothing was used in Ukrainian Pedagogical Society of Women’s Seminary in Lviv. The following information was mentioned about the gymnastics clothing at school report: «The gymnastics clothing was the same as Swedish and German clothing implemented by Ukrainian Pedagogical Society in Women’s Seminary: black lightweight shoes, black stockings, black «sharovarky» (trousers), dark-blue belt and black or light-blue blouse» (Zvit, 1908, p. 68). Due to lack of funds, sports outfits were not ordered centrally. The gymnasium students sewed it at home or had their gymnastics clothing sewed at the professional seamstresses. Every student, who ordered gymnastics clothing, had to adhere strictly to the approved model of the outfit, including the cut and color scheme.

In the same academic year, under I. Boberskyi’s guidance, the gymnasium students went to Slovita and Brukhovych.

In addition to the classroom lessons and trips outside Lviv, I. Boberskyi often went on organized excursions with students through Lviv streets, museums. For instance, in 1910, on the 18th of October along with Julian Levitskyi, the gymnasium director, Olena Berezhnytska, the Professor and the 4th and 5th grades students got acquainted with the architecture, painting and carving exhibition on a suburban square in Stryiskyi Park (Zvit, 1911, pp. 13–14).

Despite some rough times, the number of grades and students at Bazilian Sisiter Servants Women’s Gymansium has been increasing steadily up till the First Word War (Dyrektsiia, p. 15). Having tackled and arrange rukhanka» (physical education lessons, gymnastics) at the Bazilian Sister Servants Women’s Gymnasium properly, I. Boberskyi, due to his heavy workload at the Academic Gymnasium, had a change of heart and decided to take over another position as a German teacher at Ludwik Sal, along with the public affairs, began teaching German language and the proxy as a gymnastics teacher at Bazilian Sister Servants Women’s Gymnasium was given by I. Boberskyi to Theodor Polissya (conducted gymnastics lessons during 1909 – 1910), and after that – to I. Boberskyi’s closest student and pupil Stepan Haiduchko, (conducted physical lessons during the following academic years 1910/1911 – 1912/1913). In 1913 – 1914 «rukhanka» (a physical education lesson) was superseded by a rhythmic «rukhanka» (a physical education lesson) implemented and conducted by Maria Turska (Zvit, 1914, p. 27).

I. Boberskyi taught German at the gymnasium during the following academic years 1909/1910 – 1913/1914 (Zvit, 1910, p. 4; Zvit, 1911, p. 3; Zvit, 1912, p. 3; Zvit, 1913, p. 3; Zvit, 1914, p. 25). As the German language was a compulsory subject, I. Boberskyi entered the teachers’ assembly on August 15, in 1909 (Zvit, 1910, p. 9). In total, the teachers’
assembly consisted of 13 people. Apart from I. Boberskyi the teachers’ assembly also included: Yulian Levytskyi, Director, Academic Gymnasium Professor, History and Geography teacher; Volodymyr Adrianovich, Deputy Teacher, Mathematics and Physics Teacher; Olena Berezhnytska, the Polish language, Mathematics and History of Nature teacher; Dioniziya Dzurych, calligraphy teacher; Roman Tsehlynskyi, Academic Gymnasium Professor, Latin, Greek and German teacher and the others (Zvit, 1910, pp. 3–4).

In 1909/1910 – 1913/1914 all German lessons were taught according to an approved curriculum for Halychyna gymnasium implemented by the High Tsar-Royal School Board (Order No. 44242 of August 2, 1909) (Zvit, 1910, p. 5; Zvit, 1911, p. 4; Zvit, 1912, p. 5; Zvit, 1913, p. 6; Zvit, 1914, p. 28).

I. Boberskyi along with Ludwik Salo (who was conducting lessons during the following academic years 1906/1907 – 1908/1909) were able to conduct the German language lessons at high-level from the beginning of the Gymnasium’s activity. In the interwar period, these traditions were continued by the teachers Ivan Dobushchak and Yuriy Rudnytskyi (literary alias Yulian Opilskyi). In 1910/11 I. Boberskyi gave students the following assignment «easy stories proofreading» (Zvit, 1911, p. 5). He spoke only German at the very lessons. The students were encouraged to accrue knowledge, especially to develop a deeper understanding of grammar, formal and literary language styles as well as an informal language. The learning process was carried out according to the approved books and textbooks by the Ministries. The students at primary classes read the Brothers Grimm «Fairy Tales» as additional material, the students at secondary classes – «Herman and Dorothea», a poem written by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe; Schiller’s ballads and dramas «The Robbers» (Die Räuber), «Love and Intrigue»; «Laocoon», «Minna von Barnhelm», comedy written by Gotthold Ephraim Lessing; Peter Schlemihl’s «Chamisso»; «Immensee», a novella written by Theodor Storm and the others (Lev, 45).

In addition, I. Boberskyi took part in the library funds formation at gymnasium. The library funds consisted of a teacher’s library, a Ukrainian-language library, a Polish-language library and a German-language library for students. There were only 26 books at the German-language library for youth during 1906 – 1907 (Zvit, 1907, p. 19). During the following academic years the German-language library was updated: in 1907 – 1908 – 9 German books were added to its funds (Zvit, 1908, p. 70); in 1908 – 1909 – 7 German books (Zvit, 1908, p. 57), during 1909 – 1910 – 1 German book (Zvit, 1910, p. 8), in 1910 – 1911 – 1 German book (Zvit, 1910, p. 10), in 1911 – 1912 – 50 German books were added (Zvit, 1912, p. 12). As a result, in 1912–1913 the German-language library included 161 German books (Zvit, 1913, p. 12). It should be highlighted that in 1912–1913 I. Boberskyi presented 69 books for the youth from his own collection (Zvit, 1913, p. 13). In 1913 – 1914 I. Boberskyi, taking into account the school needs, became the head of the German-language library in the gymnasium. By the end of the academic year, this library numbered 176 books. For comparison, the teacher’s library numbered 297 volumes, the Ukrainian-language library for students – 409, the Polish-language library for students – 213 (Zvit, 1914, p. 35).

During his pedagogical work in the gymnasium, I. Boberskyi continued to summon and publish educational and methodical literature on physical education, which was also published in the Academic Gymnasium Reports and «Sokil-Batko» Lviv Ukrainian Gymnastic Society editions. Hence, in 1908/1909 I. Boberskyi’s work «Sytkivka» emerged in the report (Boberskyi, 1909a, pp. 2–47), during 1909/1910 one more I. Boberskyi’s work appeared – «Lavchyna and Shchebliyivka» (The Shop and the Chisel) (Boberskyi,
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1910a, p. 2–16), during 1911/1912 – «Prorukh» (Boberskyi, 1912a, pp. 2–15). I. Boberskyi published the same works with some refinements and corrections in the form of separate brochures (Boberskyi, 1909; Boberskyi, 1910; Boberskyi, 1912). The above-mentioned and the following I. Boberskyi’s works «Zabavy i Hry Rukhovi» (1904) (Fun and Move Games), «Zabavy i Hry Rukhovi. Part II Eighteen ball plays» (1905), «Vporyad» (1909) were used by «rukhanka» (a physical education) teachers in gymnasium in particular by Theodor Polikh, Stepan Haiduchok and Maria Turska, as well as by the «Girls Sports Club» members and leaders.

In November 1910 I. Boberskyi triggered the «Girls Sports Club» (GSC) emergence in gymnasium. The main purpose of the club was to «awaken the students to sports with the help of reports and discussions, and to give the members an opportunity to practice sports appropriate for the female youth and to rationally nurture them» (Zvit, 1911, p. 7). The 4th and 5th grades students became the members of the above-mentioned club and there were 31 members from the first day of its activity. Since November 1910 the «Girls Sports Club» (GSC) began dynamic activity. As a result, at the beginning of November the club members decided to buy two samples of «Turul» game and on November 18, under the guidance of a gymnastics teacher from Budapest, Antina Halyachy the game was tried out. In 1910 – 1911 during winter season 18 members were engaged in «sovarstvo» (skating) on the basis of the «Lizhvar Society». In addition, 12 members practiced sledding. The theoretical lessons on the topical issues were also held for the members. In 1911 during summer season, 10 members of the «Girls Sports Club» (GSC) were engaged in «sytvitka» (tennis). For this purpose they rented a tennis net at the «Sokil-Batko» stadium. In addition to these kinds of sports, the «Girls Sports Club» (GSC) members were engaged in swimming; rowing; riding on rovers; dances and more. Also, the group made several joint trips around Lviv, including the 13th May to Yanov (there were only 31 participants). The «Girls Sports Club» (GSC) members held one amateur show, and the income from the show was put aside for the further work (Zvit, 1911, pp. 7–8). During the first year the «Girls Sports Club» (GSC) activity was characterized by the fact that a postcard with the image of Bazilian Sister Servantas Women’s Gymnasium students during dynamic sledding was issued (Stepan Haiduchko’s Private Archive; Yuriy Zaverbnyi’s Private Archive). There is an inscription on the front side of the postcard: «The members of Bazilian Sister Servants Gymnasium in Lviv are having fun in the city», on the reverse side «Lyissa, ts(isarskoho) and r(oyal) Ph(otographer) Lviv St(reet) Akademichna 18». Taking into consideration that I. Boberskyi initiated such publications, it can be assumed that this postcard came to light thanks to him. The money raised from its sale went to the sports club needs.

Before the World War I, the number of (GSC) members plummeted steadily. As a result in 1910 – 1911 there were 31 members (Zvit, 1911, p. 7); in 1911 – 1912 – 37 (Zvit, 1912, p. 7), in 1912 – 1913 – 40 (Zvit, 1913, p. 17), in 1913 – 1914 – 52 (Zvit, 1914, p. 43). There were numerous «Girls Sports Club» mentors and curators. For instance, Olena Berezhnytska, qualified secondary school teacher, Polish, Mathematics and Nature History teacher was the «Girls Sports Club» curator during the following academic years 1910 – 1911 and 1911 – 1912; Volodymyr Adiryanovych, Deputy Teacher, Fr. Spiridon Karchuta Assistant Director, Physical Department Head, Mathematics and Physics Teacher – during 1912 – 1913; Oleksandr Tysovsyki, Deputy Teacher, Natural Sciences Teacher – during 1913 – 1914. The «Girls Sports Club» was headed by Sofiya Matsyrakivna in 1910 – 1911 and in 1911 – 1912. Anna Ostapchukivna was in charge
of the club during 1912 – 1913 and 1913 – 1914 (Zvit, 1911, p. 7; Zvit, 1912, p. 7; Zvit, 1913, p. 17; Zvit, 1914, p. 43; Ukrainski, p. 143). Hanna Korenets, Bazilian Sister Servant Women’s Private Gymnasium student mentioned the following information about «Girl’s Sports Club» and I. Boberskyi in particular: «(...) even before the First World War prof(essor) Ivan Boberskyi, who was teaching the German language, also conducted «rukhanka» as the subject of an utmost importance. He cherished the ideas of sports in practice among young people. Therefore, the students came to «Sokil-Batko», situated on Rus’ka Street in order to take part in «rukhanka», where they had a special equipment. He encouraged the girls to play «vidbyvanka» (volleyball) and «koshivka» mainly. In the winter, under his direction, the students performed ice-skating exercises («sovhanka») along with the ice-skating competitions. His motto: «A healthy soul is in a healthy body» became popular among our youth of both sexes, and gave girls a temper of body and spirit» (Korenets, pp. 232–233).

I. Boberskyi’s pedagogical activity in Bazilian Sister Servants Gymnasium left good memories for both the students and the professor. Hence, Sofiya Nahirna mentioned the following: «Professor Ivan Boberskyi was very strict, but not intrusive. He demanded absolute silence during his lectures. All students sat as if they were statues, without even moving while taking part in the German language accruing. One day I was sitting at the lecture and understood that I couldn’t stand that forced silence. And in that absolute silence, I whistled. Now (Ivan) Boberskyi would throw me out of classroom and I would be a hero! I was waiting for some actions but nothing happened. The professor walked through the class calmly and carried on the lecture. Looking down on my «heroism» I would fall low. Prof(essor) (Ivan) Boberskyi called me «shtubak» (junior pupil). As a teacher I took advantage of the lecture repeatedly. Because it is better to ignore students action more than once than to «make a mountain out of a molehill» (Nahirna-Lev, p. 84).

I. Boberskyi kept in touch with the gymnasium teachers as well as with the former students. He made several notes concerning the above-mentioned issue in his diary in 1918 – 1919 (Boberskyi, Dnevnyk, рр. 11, 31).

Professor I. Boberskyi was remembered and recounted by various stories of the Ukrainians in the Diaspora. Hence, when preparing a memorable book dedicated to I. Boberskyi that came out in 1980, former students put in a lot of interesting information about «rukhanka» (a physical education) teacher and German teacher, «The Father of Ukrainian physical education». Among the others, in this book we came across the following lines: «Boberskyi Ivan, 1873 – 1947; (...) The athlete and the Germanist, the embodiment of teacher, on his own sample and behavior was nurturing the ideas of love to his native land, encouraged the youth to discipline, punishment and hard work, and especially the slogan: «A healthy soul is in a healthy body», through sports education» (Uchyteli, pp. 85–86).

The Conclusions. During his pedagogical activity at Bazilian Sister Servants Gymnasium in Lviv, I. Boberskyi introduced «rukhanka» classes (physical education lessons) into the educational process of students, taught German at a high level, was at the head of German-language library, initiated the «Girls Sports Club» establishment, published vital scientific and methodological works on physical education topical issues, popularized various sports among girls. I. Boberskyi was able to conduct the German language lessons at high-level from the beginning of the Gymnasium’s activity. Owing to it, the German-language library for students was formed. More than a third of the book stock was donated by him. In Gymnasium I. Boberskyi gave impetus to the foundation of the «Girls Sports Club», which developed at a
high rate during 1910 – 1914. The «Girls Sports Club» was constantly plummeting, fostering and spreading various sports among the Ukrainian womanhood. The first two years of the club formation became crucial. At that time, a special responsibility was placed on the group curators Olena Berezhnytska and Professor I. Boberskyi. While working at gymnasium I. Boberskyi prepared relevant teaching and methodological works: «Sytikivka» (1909) «Lavchyna and Shechebliyivka» (1910), «Prorukh» (1912) were used at «rukhanka» (physical education) lessons in gymnasium and by the «Girls Sports Club» members as well as being very popular in the Ukrainian lands of Austro-Hungarian and the Ukrainian Diaspora.

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