IRYNA NESTIUK: THE ADDITION TO THE BIOGRAPHY OF THE REPRESENTATIVE OF LVIV ETHNOLOGICAL SCHOOL OF ADAM FISCHER

Abstract. The purpose of the study is to reconstruct the biography and to analyze the scientific achievements of Iryna Nestiuk, a prominent representative of Lviv Ethnological School of Adam Fischer formed at Lviv University during the interwar period. The methodology of the study is based on the application of the methodological principle of historicism, as well as general scientific and specially scientific methods, first of all, prosopographic, hermeneutical and comparative-historical. Priority is given to scrupulous study of archival primary sources and verification of the information available by comparing the same facts from the biography of the personality reflected in different documents. The research novelty of the study is that for the first time in Ukrainian and foreign historiography, based on the involvement of archival materials, biography of I. Nestiuk is presented, which can serve as a basis for further more thorough studies on the scientific heritage of the scholar. The factual material and theoretical generalizations given in the article will be important for historical studies in the course of cultural and intellectual history of Drohobychyna and Galicia in general.

The Conclusions. Native of Drohobychyna (born in Medenychi, now Drohobych district, Lviv region) Iryna (Yaryna, Irena) Nestiuk (Nestiuk-Ivanchuk, pol. Nestiuk-Iwańczuk, Iwańczuk-Nestiukowa) belongs to the ethnologists, whose formation as scientists was due to the Department of Ethnology and the Institute of Ethnology under the direction of Professor A. Fischer, who worked at the University of Lviv during 1924 – 1939. Her biography reflects the peculiarities of the educational and scientific process organized by these units, as well as the next stage of the development of ethnology at Lviv University – the activities of the Department of Folklore and Ethnography under the direction of Professor Filaret Kolessa in the late 1930s – early 1940s. In addition, the biography and scientific activity of I. Nestiuk makes it possible to fully reveal the Ukrainian dimension of Lviv Ethnological School of A. Fischer; to cover the peculiarities of ethnologists training at Lviv University in the 1930s (lectures, practical classes, examinations, defense of masters and doctoral works, etc.); to characterize the so-called «ethnographic monographs» (on the example of I. Nestiuk’s doctoral thesis «Ethnographic Monograph of Zamość County») as a genre of scientific works; to analyze interdisciplinary studies in the field of Slavic Studies, oriented towards the training of both philologists and natural scientists; to show the change of vector of ethnographic field expeditions of Lviv University ethnographers in the late 1930s – early 1940s from the Carpathians, West Podillya and the Pomeranian region to the territory of the historically-ethnographic Volyn and adjacent territories of the Polish-Ukrainian border (then Zamość County).

Key words: Iryna (Yaryna, Irena) Nestiuk (Nestiuk-Ivanchuk, Iwańczuk-Nestiukowa), Lviv University, Department of Ethnology, Department of Folklore and Ethnography, Lviv Ethnological Science School, Adam Fischer.
ІРИНА НЕСТЮК: ПРИЧИНЮК ДО БІОГРАФІЇ ПРЕДСТАВНИЦІ ЛЬВІВСЬКОЇ ЕТНОЛОГІЧНОЇ ШКОЛИ АДАМА ФІШЕРА

Анотація. Мета дослідження – реконструювати біографію та проаналізувати науковий до-робок Ірини Нестюк (Iryna Nestiuk) – чліної представниці Львівської етнологічної школи Адама Фішера (Adam Fischer), сформованої у Львівському університеті у міжвоєнний період. Методологія дослідження базується на застосуванні методологічного принципу історизму, а також загальнонаукових і спеціально-наукових методів, передусім просопографічного, герменевтично- го і порівняльно-історичного. Першочергове значення надане скрупульозному вивченню архівних періодережей та верифікації наявної у них інформації зіставленням тих самих фактів з біографії персоналії, відображених у різних документах. Наукова новизна дослідження полягає у тому, що вперше в українській та зарубіжній історіографії, на основі залучення архівних матеріалів, представлена біографія І. Нестюк, що може слугувати основою для подальших більш грунт-тових студій над науковою спадщиною вчені. Наведені у статті фактографічні матеріал і теоретичні узагальнення матимуть важливе значення для історико-краєзнавчих студій в руслі культурно-інтелектуальної історії Дрогобиччини та Галичини загалом. Висновки. Уродженка Дрогобиччини (народилася у Меденичах, нині с. Медениче Дрогобицького р-ну Львівської обл.) Ірина (Яри-на, Ірена) Нестюк (Нестюк-Іванчук, Іванчук-Нестюкова) належить до народознавців, становлення яких як науковців відбулося завдяки кафедрі етнології та Етнологічному інституту під керівництвом професора А. Фішера, які діяли у Львівському університеті впродовж 1924 – 1939 pp. Її біографія відображає особливості навчально-наукового процесу, організованого зазначеними підрозділами, а також наступного етапу розвитку етнології у Львівському університеті – діяльності кафедри фольклору й етнографії під керівництвом професора Філарета Колесси наприкінці 1930-х – на початку 1940-х pp. Окрім цього, життєпис та наукова діяльність І. Нестюк дає змогу повніше розкрити український вимір Львівської етнологічної школи А. Фішера; висвітлити особливості підготовки етнологів у Львівському університеті у 1930-х рр. (лекційні курси, практичні заняття, складання іспитів, захист магістерських та докторських робіт тощо); охарактеризувати так звані «етнографічні монографії» (на прикладі докторської роботи І. Нестюк «Етнографічна монографія Замостського повіту») як жанр наукових праць, розроблений в львівському університеті у 1930-х рр.; показати зміну вектору польових експедицій народознавців Львівського університету наприкінці 1930-х – на початку 1940-х років з Карпат, Західного Поділля та польського Помор'я на територію історико-етнографічної Волині і суміжні терени польсько-українського пограниччя (тодішній Замостський повіт).

Ключові слова: Ірина (Ярина, Ірена) Нестюк (Нестюк-Іванчук, Іванчук-Нестюкова), Львівський університет, кафедра етнології, кафедра фольклору й етнографії, Львівська етнологічна наукова школа, Адам Фішер.

The Problem Statement. There are many «white spots» in the history of ethnology at Lviv University, as well as in other sciences. In particular, the activities of many scholars whose contribution to the development of certain directions are significant and have not lost their relevance are not covered. Thus, only thorough source studies and prosopographic studies can form the basis for writing syntheses from the history of Lviv University, the appearance of which is now in existence. The study of biographies of Lviv scholars is also important from the point of view of historical local lore, since most of them come from different territories of Galicia. Therefore, each new source-prosopographic study allows supplementing the overall picture of the cultural and intellectual history of the region. In this context, it is worth emphasizing the native of Drohobych region, Iryna (Yaryna, Irena) Nestiuk (Nestiuk-Ivanchuk, Iwańczuk-Nestiukowa). She is one of those scholars, who were among the most promising ethnologists in Lviv in the late 1930s and early 1940s, but the events of World War II dramatically changed the life of the researcher, and in the postwar years her figure and scientific background were forgotten.
**The Analysis of Sources and Recent Researches.** The works devoted to the history of different fields of national science, authorship of Ukrainian and foreign (especially Polish) scholars, contain only brief information about I. Nestiuk (in the context of the activities of the Department of Folklore and Ethnography of the University of Lviv in the early 1940s some facts of her biography were cited by Filaret Kolessa (Koval-Fuchylo, 2011, p. 50), Vasyly Ivashkiv and Ruslan Markiv (Ivashkiv, Markiv, 2010, p. 21), Maryana Starosta (Starosta, 2012, pp. 357–361), or not mentioned at all. For example, her biography is missing from the detailed multi-volume edition of «Etnografowie i ludoznawcy polscy: sylwetki, szkice biograficzne» (Fryś-Pietraszkowa, Kowalska-Lewicka, Spiss, 2002; Fryś-Pietraszkowa, Spiss, 2007; Spiss, Szromba-Rysowa, 2010; Spiss, Święch, 2014). In our works, we touched upon the biography, pedagogical and scientific activity of I. Nestiuk only in the context of broader topics – the history of the Department of Ethnology (1924 – 1939) and the Department of Folklore and Ethnography (1939 – 1941, 1944 – 1947) of Lviv University, Lviv Ethnological School of A. Fischer (Tarnavskyi, 2013; Tarnavskyi, 2016), or presented in the form of an encyclopedic reference (Tarnavskyi, 2014), which caused the need to bypass many important facts about this researcher, made it impossible to create a holistic prosopographic narrative about her. Instead, available sources include the personal case of I. Nestiuk from the Archive of Ivan Franko National University of Lviv (hereinafter – AIFNUL, f. Р-119, d. 1, c. 541, 7 p.), the case of the graduation of I. Nestiuk from Lviv University of the State Archives of Lviv Region (hereinafter – SALR, f. 26, d. 2, c. 744, 27 p.), and the full text of the manuscript of her doctoral thesis «Ethnographic Monograph of Zamość County» («Monografia etnograficzna pow. Zamojskiego») (Lviv, 1939), a copy of which is preserved as a case 415 of the 4th description in the 26th Fonds of the said archive (SALR, f. 26, d. 4, c. 415, 136 p.). It should be noted that during the attribution of this case, the workers of the Soviet period archives made a mistake in the author’s surname, as well as other translation mistakes, entitled it as Doctoral dissertation of Irena Mestiush on the subject «Ethnographic monograph of Zamość County».

**The Publication’s Purpose.** The purpose of the proposed publication is to reproduce, based on available sources, the biography of I. Nestiuk against the background of the development of ethnology at Lviv University in the 1930s – early 1940s.

**The Statement of the Basic Material.** The autobiography of I. Nestiuk for the personnel department of Lviv University is dated on 10 February 1940. As this biography is one of the most important sources, we will give the full text: «I was born in 1911 on 25 July in Medenychi (Drohobych district). I graduated from public school in 1921 in Chortkiv. I went to high school in Lviv, where I passed the maturity exam in 1929. In 1930/31 I finished the one-year Trade Course for Applicants in Lviv. In 1931 I enrolled at Lviv University at the Faculty of Philology, where in 1934/35 I gained a degree in Folklore and Ethnography, and in 1935/36 – M[a]st[e]r’s degree in Slavic Philology. From 1936 to 1939 I worked on my doctoral thesis and in 1939 on 23 June I passed the exam for the degree of Doctor of Ethnology. From 15 October 1939 to 15 January 1940 I was a teacher of the Ukr[ainian] language in the Women’s Jewish Gym[nasium] in Lviv; on 11 January 1940 I was named assistant at the Department of Folklore and Ethnography of Lviv Franko State University, where I work until now» (AIFNUL, f. P-119, d. 1, c. 541, p. 5).

Other personal documents of I. Nestiuk from Lviv University Archives, as well as a number of other sources allow us to clarify and correct certain facts of this autobiography. The future scholar was born in the family of Rudolf Ivanchuk, and took the surname «Nestiuk».
after marrying (in the documents it appears as «Nestiukowa»). At the beginning of 1940 she lived in Lviv at 5 Wanda Street (now Shchekavyska Street) (AIFNUL, f. Р-119, d. 1, c. 541, pp. 2–4, 6).

From the beginning of the 1930s I. Nestiuk’s life was closely connected with the University of Lviv, where she studied from 11 December 1931 to 30 June 1936 (AIFNUL, f. Р-119, d. 1, c. 541, p. 1). The cited autobiography contains some inaccuracies, since I. Nestiuk did not enter the Faculty of Philology, which was founded in 1939 (Markiv, 2014, p. 583), but the Faculty of Humanities, which existed in 1924 – 1939 (Revera, Bodnar, 2011, pp. 394–395). In 1931 – 1935 I. Nestiuk studied at the Department of Ethnology under the direction of Professor A. Fischer. This scientist, since the 1920s, was able to create one of the most powerful ethnological centers in Central and Eastern Europe at the University of Lviv (based on the Department of Ethnology and the Ethnological Institute he headed, and the Ethnological Society in Lviv, where he acted as secretary) (Grochowski, Mianecki, 2015). Among the subjects that I. Nestiuk could study in the disciplines of science were: Ethnography of the Southern Slavs, Plants in the Beliefs and Customs of the Polish People, Ethnography of Pomerania, Ethnography of Bulgaria, Ethnography of the Czech Republic and Slovakia by Professor A. Fischer, a series of lectures on folklore, anthropology and archeology (teachers – Zygmunt Czerny, Jan Czekanowski, Boleslaw Rosiński, Tadeusz Sulimirski) Ethnological exercises, Exercises from the area of ethnologists of Poland, and the Ethnological Seminar, led by A. Fischer (Tarnavskyi, 2016, pp. 184–187; Tarnavskyi, 2019, pp. 376–379).

Under the influence of A. Fischer, the sphere of scientific interest of I. Nestiuk was plants in folk beliefs, customs and rituals. The professor elaborated on this issue by collaborating on a working group of the «Dictionary of Slavic Beliefs and Customs», a collective work of leading Slavic scholars (Tarnavskyi, 2016, p. 114). It is possible that I. Nestiuk was involved in the work on this project as well, since A. Fischer involved his talented students in its implementation (Mateiko, 2000, p. 1112).

On 26 June 1935, I. Nestiuk received her Master’s Degree in Philosophy in Ethnography and Ethnology (in her autobiography she transferred the names of these sciences in line with the name of the then department – «Folklore and Ethnography»). The high level of knowledge and skills she gained attests to her high grades in her exams and her master’s thesis on the Cult of the Tree in Slavs («Kult drzewa w Słowian»). At that time, the master’s degree was considered the first scientific degree. The peculiarities of the educational process at Lviv University in the 1930s were that students could complete their studies in several specialties. So, next year I. Nestiuk passed the exams and defended her master’s thesis on «Polish-Ukrainian calendar literature of the XVI – XVIII centuries» («Literatura kalendarzowa polsko-ukraińska od XVI – XVIII wieku») to obtain a master’s degree in philosophy in Slavic philology (assigned 6 June 1936) (SALR, f. 26, d. 2, c. 744, pp. 25–26; AIFNUL, f. P-119, d. 1, c. 541, pp. 1, 6).

In her master’s thesis in ethnography and ethnology, the young researcher has made a complex characteristic of Slavic folk beliefs and knowledge related to the tree: tree as a place of spirits, world tree, folk phytotherapy, motif of the tree in folk art, etc. Instead, in her work on Slavic philology, the subject of which bordered on folklore, she analyzed folk motifs in the so-called calendar literature of the early modern period (SALR, f. 26, d. 2, c. 744, pp. 15–17, 20–22). It should be emphasized that the comparative-historical method and methodological method of isolation of motives, applied by I. Nestiuk, have not lost their relevance even in modern ethnical studies. It is also worth noting that the researcher sought
to write her first master’s thesis in a comprehensive way, covering various areas of spiritual culture of the Slavs.

By the mid-1930s, I. Nestiuk was one of the main contenders for continuing her scientific career in the field of science. In the following years, she devoted her time to collecting material and writing her doctoral thesis on «Ethnographic Monograph of Zamość County». This work, the successful defense of which for the Doctor of Philosophy in Ethnography and Ethnology Degree, took place on 23 June 1939 (AIFNUL, f. P-119, d. 1, c. 541, p. 4), has not yet been published (SALR, f. 26, d. 4, c. 415, p. 21[a]), although it has not lost its scientific relevance.

I. Nestiuk’s «Ethnographic Monograph of Zamość County» is an example of «ethnographic monographs» – a popular genre of scientific research among A. Fischer’s students. It provides comprehensive coverage of the characteristics of the certain small area’s population (county, village or several settlements) and its traditional culture. Thus, the introductory part of the «Ethnographic Monograph of Zamość County» describes the sources on which the study is based, its territorial boundaries (with the addition of the map of Zamość County and the analysis of the specificity of these territories), as well as the characteristics of the local population (dialect, number, characteristics in terms of historical-ethnographic zoning and anthropology, major stages in the settlement of the region, etc.). For example, I. Nestiuk wrote that «the territory of Zamość County has the character of a border between the Cress groups of the Lublinians and the Lviv-Ternopol group. It was created under various influences: the Lublinians themselves, the Mazovian and the Ruthenian (i.e. the Ukrainian)» (SALR, f. 26, d. 4, c. 415, p. 8).

The following sections of the work are devoted to areas of traditional culture: harvesting, hunting, fishing, bakery and other economic activities (horticulture, beekeeping), folk crafts (woodworking, weaving, pottery, etc.), food, clothing, transportation and harness, etc. (the part «Material culture»); family rituals (maternity, wedding, with a focus on wedding songs, and an overview of funeral ones), public life (with special attention to the leisure of young people), economic customs (above all construction rituals, overviewing customs related to bread-making and beekeeping), calendar and everyday rites, customary law (the part «Social culture»); cosmogonic beliefs, demonology, folk medicine, folklore, folk art, choreography and music (the part «Spiritual Culture»). The toponymic names and general conclusions, as well as the list of used literature complete the «Ethnographic Monograph of Zamość County». I. Nestiuk’s work contains a large number of unique photographs made by the author from 1938 to 1939, which illustrate various objects of traditional culture of the then Zamość County’s population.

We can state that the materials of the work «Ethnographic Monograph of Zamość County» are valuable for researchers of the Polish-Ukrainian border, since they contain considerable factual material from these territories (both in the form of ethnographic narrative and illustrative material). Its uniqueness lies in the fact that it reflects the realities of the late 1930s, which are now lost.

The defense of the doctorate of I. Nestiuk took place two months before the beginning of the Second World War. After the establishment of Soviet power in Western Ukraine, I. Nestiuk found a teaching job: from 15 October 1939 to 1 January 1940 she taught Ukrainian at the Jewish Women’s Gymnasium in Lviv. When, in 1939 – 1940, a structural reorganization of Lviv University, combined with its Ukrainianization, took place, the university needed professional scholars who knew the Ukrainian language well. Therefore, from January 1940,
I. Nestiuk was appointed Assistant Professor of the Department of Folklore and Ethnography (created on the basis of the previous Department of Ethnology and the Ethnological Institute). The document of 24 January 1940, signed by the Dean of the Faculty of Philology, Professor Vasyl’ Simovych, states: «By order of the Rector of Lviv I. Franko State Ukrainian University, Com[rade] Marchenko, p. 109, Comrade Dr. Nestiuk Yaryna Rudolfivna was appointed Assistant at the Department of Ethnography on 11 January 1940» (AIFNUL, f. Р-119, d. 1, c. 541, p. 3).

The staff of the Department of Folklore and Ethnography consisted of scholars, well-known to I. Nestiuk – Professors F. Kolessa (Head of Department) and A. Fischer (perhaps it was he who advised his student in teaching), as well as a graduate of the Department of Ethnology, Henryk Perls, who occupied the position of laboratory assistant (in 1941 he was replaced by another graduate ethnologist at the university, Antin Budzan) (Ivashkiv, Markiv, 2010, pp. 20–21; Stankevych, 1998, p. 430).

As an assistant of the Department of Folklore and Ethnography, I. Nestiuk collected materials for the research «Village Veterinarian», «Labor Songs of the Ukrainian People», and prepared «Bibliography of Folklore and Ethnography of the Western Areas of the USSR from 1916 to 1936» (AIFNUL, f. P-119, d. 1, c. 403, pp. 2, 10) (in other sources – «Ethnographic bibliography of the Western Regions of Ukraine 1919 – 1939») (Koval-Fuchylo, 2011, p. 157). It is possible that the lower chronological boundary of this exploration (1916) is related to the work of Oleksandr Andriyevskyi, a member of the Ethnographic Commission at the NASU «Bibliography of Literature in Ukrainian Folklore. T. I. (until 1916)» published in 1930 in Kyiv. On the state of I. Nestiuk’s work, F. Kolessa later noted that its index had «large gaps and shortcomings» (Koval-Fuchylo, 2011, p. 50).

I. Nestiuk’s teaching activity consisted of conducting classes at the newly created correspondence department of the University (AIFNUL, f. Р-119, d. 1, c. 404, p. 5, 17, 29). I. Nestiuk was also a researcher at the Ethnographic Museum of Lviv University, which, under A. Fischer’s leadership, was organized in the early 1940s on the basis of collections of the Ethnological Institute (AIFNUL, f. P-119, d. 1, c. 404, p. 11).

From 8 July to 27 July 1940 I. Nestiuk was the leader of the field ethnographic expedition on the territory of the historically-ethnographic Volyn, organized by the Department of Folklore and Ethnography (according to its results she wrote an article-report «Ethnographic Experiments in Volyn in 1940»). The route of the expedition was as follows: Lviv – Radekhiv (now – Lviv region) – Merva, Kutriv, Berestechko (now all three settlements – Gorokhiv district of Volyn region) – Vovkoyi (now Demydivka district of Rivne region) – Povcha (now Dubno district) – Dubno – Zbytyn (now Dubno district) – Zalibivka (now Zdolbuniv district) – Zamyn (now village Steblivka of Zdolbuniv district) – Taikury – Rivne – Antopil – Kustyn – Liubomirka (now, apparently, Nova Liubomyrka village) (all settlements – Rivne district) – Lviv. Expedition members were required to collect materials on the traditional culture of the local population and purchase a number of exhibits for the University Ethnographic Museum (about 30 exhibits were brought) (AIFNUL, f. P-119, d. 1, c. 403, p. 2, 10; Starosta, 2012, p. 357–361; Koval-Fuchylo, 2011, p. 50; Ivashkiv, Markiv, 2010, p. 21).

In the summer of 1941, I. Nestiuk, together with H. Perls, planned to carry out a monthly (15 June – 15 July) expedition to the Volyn lands of Volyn and Lviv regions. The departure was agreed with the management of the university, which planned to allocate funds for this scientific journey (AIFNUL, f. P-119, d. 1, c. 412, p. 7, 26). Unfortunately, more details about this expedition – whether it began (before the attack of Nazi Germany on the USSR on 22
June 1941 should have lasted a week), what its results were, etc. – could not be found.

Documents on the University of L'viv from the first months of the Nazi occupation of L'viv indicate that I. Nestiuk continued to work at the Department of Folklore and Ethnography until its closure. Clarification regarding nationality, origin, place and time of holding the position opposite to her surname is given as follows: «I. Nestiuk – Ukraïner, Drohobytisch, Lemberg, 1940» (Museum of History of L'viv University, Copy of the document «Lehrkanzel der Ehnographie u. Etнологie»).

Unfortunately, information about I. Nestiuk’s fate after 1941 could not be found. According to pending verification, she emigrated from L'viv and died in Chicago (USA) on 10 October 1995 (Irene Nestiuk, http://www.ancientfaces.com/person/irene-nestiuk/49424717).

The Conclusions. Characteristics of the biography and scientific activity of the native of Drohobych region I. Nestiuk reflects the specifics of the development of ethnology at L'viv University in the 1930s – early 1940s, in particular, the education peculiarities of future ethnologists at the Departments of Ethnology and Slavic Studies (1930s), and at the Department of Folklore and Ethnography (early 1940s), the development of science (subject and methodology of scientific works, directions of ethnographic field studies, etc.) in these divisions. I. Nestiuk’s biography also reveals the Ukrainian dimension of L'viv Ethnological Science School of A. Fischer, one of the most powerful natural sciences in Central and Eastern Europe in the 1920s and early 1940s.

I. Nestiuk’s scientific heritage is now virtually unknown among scholars-ethnographers (most of the works are known only by references to names, their texts have not yet been found). However, a strong scientific level of the scholar can be concluded on the basis of her doctoral thesis «Ethnographic Monograph of Zamość County». This work has not yet lost its relevance, as it contains considerable factual and illustrative material (collected by the author during field expeditions), reflecting ethno-cultural realities on the Polish-Ukrainian border as of the late 1930s.

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