The Dilo newspaper: achievements of Ukrainian biographical bibliography

РЕЦЕНЗІЇ / REVIEWS

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THE DILO NEWSPAPER: ACHIEVEMENTS OF UKRAINIAN BIOGRAPHICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

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There are not so many newspapers in the history of Ukraine, whose influence on the socio-political and cultural life of the Ukrainians was as important as the influence of the Lviv publication Dilo (The Deed). The Dilo newspaper was the first and for a long time the only Ukrainian daily newspaper in Galicia for more than half a century. The first issue of the newspaper was published in Lviv on January 1, 1880. At first it was published twice a week, then three times a week, and from 1888 it began to be published every day. For some time, the newspaper represented the position of the largest Ukrainian parties in Western Ukraine: the Ukrainian National Democratic Party and the Ukrainian National Democratic Union. Although the newspaper was associated with these parties, it repeatedly criticized the party leadership. At the beginning of the 1920-ies, due to censorship of the Polish occupation regime, the publication often changed its name: Hromadska Dumka (Public Opinion), Ukrainska Dumka (Ukrainian Opinion), Ukrainskyi Vistnyk (Ukrainian Herald), Hromadskyi Vistnyk (Public Herald), Svoboda (Freedom).

During World War I, Lviv was under the Russian occupation for some time. At that time, all Ukrainian newspapers were closed. Therefore, Dilo was published in Vienna until the editorial office returned to Lviv in June 1915. During the Ukrainian-Polish war of 1918 – 1919, the newspaper was closed by order of the Polish military command. The issue of the newspaper was briefly resumed in September 1922. At the end of October of the same year, the Polish authorities arrested the editor-in-chief of Dilo, Fedir Fedortsiv, his deputies and close associates for political reasons. The newspaper was restored only a year later – in September 1923.

The first editor of the newspaper was Volodymyr Barvinskyi, a well-known Ukrainian journalist and public figure. Later it was edited by Antin Horbachevskyi, Ivan Belei and others. From 1914 the newspaper was edited by Vasyl Paneiko and Fedir Fedortsiv (1914 – 1918), Dmytro Levytskyi, Olha Kuzmovych, and Vasyl Mudryi (1927 – 1935). In 1937 – 1939 the editors were Ivan Kedryn, Ivan Nimchuk, and Volodymyr Kuzmovych. At the beginning of World War II, the publication of the newspaper stopped – the last issue of the newspaper was published on September 15, 1939. With the establishment of the Soviet power in western Ukraine, the printing of the newspaper was banned.

Back in 1930, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the newspaper, the famous historian of culture Stepan Siropolko wrote: “The work of the Ukrainian citizenship in politics, church, school, cooperation, science, education, theater, music, etc., always finds its imprint on the pages of Dilo, and therefore no historian of our past... cannot pass by the material contained in the yearbooks of Dilo” (Siropolko, 1930, p. 10). These words remain relevant today. It is safe to say that studies of the past of both Galicia and the whole of Ukraine will be incomplete without analyzing the publications of the Dilo newspaper, which is an important source for reproducing various aspects of the Ukrainian life (Kurylyshyn, Vol. 1, p. 5).

Biographical materials were a rather large part of the newspaper’s information resource. Most often, they were presented in the form of extended obituaries, which revealed the life path of a person, who passed away. Obituaries were mainly printed on the third or fourth page of the newspaper and contained information about the deceased: a surname and name (for the wife – also a maiden name), her social status, position, scientific or literary achievements, awards, date and place of death, as well as in which cemetery they were buried. Much more information was provided about well-known people in society. In these cases, obituaries were published in the form of articles on the first two pages of the newspaper. They, in addition to an extensive biography, contained a description of the merits of the deceased to society.
However, a considerable layer of biographical information contained descriptions of various events, analytical and journalistic articles, surveys, essays, various reviews and advertisements. The study of this biographical array and the formation of a bibliographic index on its basis was undertaken by the Candidate of Historical Sciences Kostiantyn Kurylyshyn – the head of the department of Ukrainian Studies in Lviv Vasyl Stefanyk National Scientific Library of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine.

It should be noted that this researcher achieved significant success in the field of the Ukrainian bibliography. Back in 2007, K. Kurylyshyn published two volumes of a large-scale historical and bibliographic study devoted to the Ukrainian legal press of the period of the German occupation (1939 – 1944) (Kurylyshyn, 2007). In 2013, he edited the Halychany newspaper (1893 – 1913) and formed a collection of materials on a biographical bibliography (Kurylyshyn, 2013). This work received positive reviews from reviewers (Haliv, 2013).

Almost immediately after the publication of biobibliographic materials of the Halychany newspaper, K. Kurylyshyn began to work on the Dilo newspaper. He planned to publish ten volumes of a biobibliographic reference book based on articles in the newspaper. He currently published five volumes. The first volume (Kurylyshyn, 2015) covered the biobibliographic materials about more than three thousand known, little-known and forgotten representatives of the Ukrainians and other nationalities, whose destinies are connected with Galicia. The content of the first volume was formed on the basis of the publications of the Dilo newspaper for the first ten years of its existence (1880 – 1889). We should note that all the materials of this and the next volumes, the researcher concentrated in two sections. The first section Obituaries contains posthumous mentions of the people recorded in the newspaper obituaries, as well as in such a column as Gratitude. These are short messages from the deceased’s family, which also provided additional information about the life, family and description of the deceased’s funeral. The second section Biobibliographic Publications presents information about the persons mentioned in the Dilo newspaper in the form of a bibliography. The materials included in this section are divided into four parts: 1) biographical information about the person; 2) publications on parliamentary activities (participation in election campaigns, speeches at meetings of the Galician and Bukovinian Seimas, the State Council of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, legislative initiatives, reports to voters); publications (correspondence, letters, speeches, reviews, thematic investigations, appeals, letters, statements); works of art and their translations.

The first volume contains, in particular, obituaries of the President of Krakow, Ukrainian Mykola Zybylykevych (1825 – 1887), a prominent historian Mykola Kostomarov (1817 – 1885), well-known teachers Yevhen Zhelekhivskyi (1844 – 1885) and Stefan Kurylovych (1842 – 1884), the famous Lviv lawyer and banker Markyl Madeiskyi (1882 – 1886), a prominent economist, statistician and publicist Volodymyr Navrotskyi (1846 – 1882) (Kurylyshyn, 2015, pp. 142, 147, 167, 175, 193, 204). Bibliographic materials on the activities of a journalist and politician Volodymyr Barvinskyi, a composer Porfyrrii Bazhanskyi, a politician and teacher Mykola Antonevych, an educator Anatolii Vakhnyanyn, a writer Sydir Vorbokhevych, a politician Yulian Romanchuk, the Greek Catholic Metropolitan Sylvester Sembratovych (Kurylyshyn, 2015, pp. 282, 285, 287, 317, 326, 473–476, 483–484) and the others.

The second volume covers biobibliographic materials that were published in daily issues of the Dilo newspaper during 1890 – 1894. This volume contains information about more than three thousand people, some of whom were mentioned in the first volume. The section Obituaries of the second volume contains materials about 1520 dead people, among them...
about such famous people as a politician and public figure Ivan Borysykevych (1815 – 1892), a teacher Demian Hladylovych (1846 – 1892), Chernihiv poet Leonid Hlibov (1827 – 1893), Bishop of Krakow Roman Catholic, Ukrainian Albin Dunaevskyi (1817 – 1894), Galician Muscovite Ivan Naumovych (1826 – 1891), Polish artist Jan Matejko (1838 – 1893), a teacher and writer Julian Celewicz (1843 – 1892), a writer Wołodymyr Chylak (1845 – 1893), Przemyśl, Sambo and Sanok Greek Catholic Bishop Ivan Stupnytskyi (1816 – 1890), a linguist and Slavic, professor of Kharkiv University Oleksandr Potebnia (1835 – 1891), associate professor of Lviv University Oleksandr Ohonovskyi (1848 – 1891) and the others.


Issues of the Dilo newspaper of 1900 – 1904 formed the basis of the fourth volume of the peer-reviewed edition. This time K. Kurylyshyn published the Biobibliographic Publications section first, as it contains the most slogans – more than 2,750. The newspaper materials about the following people are especially widely presented: the politicians Teodor Bohachevskyi, Viacheslav Budzynovskyi, Andrii Kos, Yevhen Olesnytskyi, Yulian Romanchuk, Danylo Taniachkevych, a pedagogue and philologist Ivan Kopach, a lawyer and politician Kost Levytskyi, composer Mykola Lysenko, a public figure and publicist Mykhailo Lozynskyi, cooperator Mykhailo Petrytskyi, a publicist Roman Sembratovych, Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky (Kurylyshyn, 2018, pp. 139–140, 147–148, 261–262, 269–270, 293–295, 302–305, 363–367, 386–388, 413–416, 432–433, 460–464, 511–515). Instead, in the Obituaries section in the fourth volume of the publication of the Dilo newspaper a little more than 1,300 slogans are published. Among them we find the obituaries of the poet and composer Sydir
Vorobkevych (1836 – 1903), a teacher Hryhoriy Vretsona (1836 – 1891), a writer and public figure Oleksandr Konyskyi (1836 – 1900), a historian and publicist Venedykt Ploshchanskyi (1834 – 1902), the Czech national figure Franz Volodyslav Rieger (1818 – 1903), a rector of Lviv University, the Roman Catholic priest Luka Soletskyi (1827 – 1900), a public and political figure Ostap Terletskyi (1850 – 1902), a literary critic Piotr Chmielowski (1848 – 1904), a historian Izydor Szaraniewicz (1829 – 1901) and the others (Kurylyshyn, 2018, pp. 565, 604, 648, 653, 663, 672, 681, 688). In total, the fourth volume contains more than 4,000 biobibliographic slogans.

The fifth volume of the peer-reviewed collection of biobibliographic materials covered 1905 – 1909. The Biobibliographic Publications section contains almost 2,800 slogans. Among them there are quite extensive materials about the following people: the politicians Mykola Vasylko, Yevhen Levytskyi, Kost Levytskyi, Teofil Okunevskyi, Yevhen Olesnytskyi, historian Mykhailo Hrushevskyi, a lawyer and politician Stanislav Dnistryianskyi, a pedagogue and philologist Ivan Kopach, a singer Solomiia Krushelnytska, a publicist Mykhailo Lozynskyi, a politician and writer Mykhailo Pavlyk, a student Myroslav Sichynskyi, a public and political figure Kyrilo Trylivskyi, etc. (Kurylyshyn, 2019, pp. 156–157, 190–192, 204–205, 253–255, 265–266, 280–285, 292–294, 343–350, 363–364, 422–424, 451–452). More than 1,100 obituaries are presented in the second section of the fifth volume. The most voluminous obituaries are devoted to the historian Volodymyr Antonovych (1834 – 1908), the educator Anatol Vakhnianyn (1841 – 1908), the peasant Mark Kahanets (? – 1908), the director of the Dniester Society Yaroslav Kulachkovskyi (1863 – 1909), the philosopher Volodymyr Lesyevych (1837 – 1905), the students of Ternopil gymnasium Vasyl Makohon and Roman Steslovych (both died in 1906), the imperial governor of Galicia Count Andrzej Potocki (1861 – 1908), a public and political figure Danylo Taniachkevych (1842 – 1906), the Croatian bishop and scholar Joseph Yuri Strossmayer (1815 – 1905) (Kurylyshyn, 2019, pp. 518, 529, 561, 574, 580, 586, 606, 621, 624, 638).

It should be noted that Ivan Franko, a prominent Ukrainian scientist, writer, public and political figure, worked closely with the Dilo newspaper. In all five volumes of the peer-reviewed edition, K. Kurylyshyn managed to collect bibliographic materials related to the life and work of this outstanding personality. The first journalistic article about Ivan Franko in the Dilo newspaper was published on May 31, 1880. This article, entitled From Kolomyia…, was about the poet’s release from prison. Ivan Franko began publishing his journalistic and journalistic essays in the Dilo newspaper in September 1882 under the pseudonym M. It was an article Galician Indemnification, later a review of the theatrical play Dobush, then reviews of the achievements of science, art and literature. There were also publications of a scientific nature, such as One Card from the History of Our Folk School, and Auction of Farms of Peasants and Burghers in 1873 – 1883 (1884). Ivan Franko’s works of art (often under the pseudonym Myron) began to be published in Dilo in November 1892. It was then that the Gypsies story was published. Later, the works Hrytseva School Science, Pies with Blueberries, and Christmas Eve Tale were published (Kurylyshyn, 2015, pp. 515–516). A detailed bibliography on Ivan Franko is collected in the following volumes (Kurylyshyn, 2016, pp. 477–478; Kurylyshyn, 2017, pp. 561–564; Kurylyshyn, 2018, pp. 485–486, Kurylyshyn, 2019, pp. 466–468).

Extremely interesting information about the information palette of the Dilo newspaper is given by K. Kurylyshyn’s prefaces to each of the volumes of the Chasopys “Dilo”. Each of these prefaces is, in fact, a scientific historical and bibliographic study, which analyzes
the views of the newspaper on political, social, national, cultural, artistic, religious, educational issues of the past. Here we find an analysis of Ukrainian-Polish interethnic relations, disclosure of the struggle of Galician Jews for national self-affirmation, criticism of Muscovites, coverage of all aspects of the struggle of the Ukrainians for their own university, characterization of educational policy of the National School Council, a review of major problems of the Greek Catholic Church, etc. Undoubtedly, K. Kurylyshyn’s author’s prefaces deserve a positive approval and in the future may form the basis of a synthesized monograph devoted to the Dilo newspaper.

Concluding our review of the five volumes of the Chasopys “Dilo”, we would like to wish the author to complete the work he has begun. He still has to work on the issues of the newspaper of 1910 – 1939. This is colossal and exhausting work, but its implementation will provide the Ukrainian studies studios with an extremely valuable reference material, and the Ukrainian bibliography will be enriched with publications of an international scientific level.

BIBLIOGRAPHY


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