



# U.F.U. Newsletter

Ukrainian Free University in Munich

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This Newsletter Nr. 4 gives a short survey of the more important events of the year 1949. Since, however, certain events of 1950 had to be considered, some minor reports were retained for the next issue.

## Honorary Degrees.

In recognition of his great services on behalf of the Ukrainian Free University, Bishop Iwan Buchko, Dr. theol. and Dr. phil. h. c. the Apostolic Visitor to the Greek-Catholic Ukrainians in Western Europe and chairman of the curatorium of the Ukrainian Free University, was granted an honorary degree of doctor of the Faculty of Philosophy of our University on March 5, 1949.

In the introduction to his address on that occasion, Prof. Dr. Georg Panejko, the Rector, emphasized the historical importance of the University as the only Ukrainian university outside of Ukraine which, contrary to the educational institutions of Soviet Ukraine, is based on the lasting foundations of humanism, and promotes and develops Christianity and the imponderable values of western culture.

Meanwhile, Soviet authorities are striving with all the means at their disposal, to subject the Orthodox Ukrainian Church completely to Moscow and to destroy the Catholic Ukrainian Church and with it all that binds the Ukrainian people to Rome, in the hope, doubtless, of cutting it off from western culture and making it more amenable to eastern influence, thus facilitating the process of assimilation. In this connection, the Rector mentioned the great services rendered by the Bishop to the cause of Ukrainians in exile, above all, his help in averting the danger of enforced repatriation, and his support of the financial difficulties it incurred after the reform of German currency. "At the same time", the Rector continued, "Pope Pius XII, in true fatherly love for the unhappy Ukrainian people, stretched out a helping hand to Ukrainian students, regardless of creed. This fatherly compassion on the part of the Head of the Roman Catholic Church is of historical significance and the Ukrainian people will gratefully cherish its memory for all time, without reference to any creed. Your Excellency is to be thanked for the Holy Father's attitude."

In concluding, the Rector emphasized the contributions the Bishop had made to Ukrainian learning and summed up the reasons for granting him the honorary degree of doctor.

Thereupon, Prof. V. Shcherbakivskyj, Dr. h. c. Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy, carried out the ceremony. Bishop Dr. I. Buchko, Dr. h. c. expressed his thanks for the great honour which he accepted less for himself than as an appreciation of his work and mission. He promised to continue to promote the interests of the University. The ceremony, which was attended by professors and students of the University and by a number of honoured guests, closed with a rendering of "Gaudeamus" sung by the students' choir.

One of the high lights at the Third Congress of Ukrainians in Canada in the first week of February, 1950 in Winnipeg, was the conferring of an honorary degree of doctor of the Ukrainian Free University on Dr. Watson Kirkconnell. The graduation ceremony was attended by 500 delegates and guests, among whom were about 50 Ukrainian professors and scholars. The ceremony began with an address by Prof. Dr. J. Rudnykyj of the Ukrainian Free University, now head of the Institute of Slavonic Languages at Manitoba University; the speaker conveyed in Ukrainian and English greetings from the Ukrainian Free University to the Congress. Prof. G. W. Simpson of

Saskatoon University, himself an honorary doctor of the UFU, in his speech mentioned Prof. Kirkconnell's services to Ukrainian culture and learning, and handed him the diploma. In his reply, Prof. Kirkconnell expressed appreciation of the honour showed him and touched on the destruction of peoples by the Soviet-System. The ceremony was attended by, among others, Prof. Doroshenko and Prof. Dr. Bilezkyj who represented the Ukrainian Free University, of which the former was vice-rector and the latter a former vice-dean.

Speeches were then held in honour of Dr. Kirkconnell by Prof. Dr. A. H. S. Gillson, the president of Manitoba University, Prof. Doroshenko, on behalf of the Free Ukrainian University and the Ukrainian Free Academy of Learning and by Mr. Syrnyk, editor, in the name of the Congress of Ukrainians in Canada.

Detailed reports with pictures of the graduation ceremony appeared in the English and the Ukrainian press.

## Other honorary doctors.

In addition, our University has conferred the honorary degree of doctor on the following, in recognition of services rendered to the Ukrainian people and Ukrainian learning.

### By the Faculty of Law and Economic Science:

Prof. Dr. Mykola Chubatyj, professor of the UFU and the Lemberg Academy of Catholic Theology. At the moment, Prof. T. is in charge of the branch of the Shewchenko Society of Learning in the United States, the office being in New York.

### By the Faculty of Philosophy:

Prof. Dr. Paul Rohrbach on his eightieth birthday, celebrated by the famous expert in problems of Eastern Europe last July.

On June 24, Prof. Dr. Iwan Mirchuk was unanimously elected by the Bavarian Academy of Learning to be corresponding member of their section for philosophy and history.

The Shewchenko Society of Learning, founded in 1873 in Lemberg, celebrated its seventy-fifth anniversary this year. After an interruption caused by the war, in 1947 the exiled Society resumed its activity in close connection with the Ukrainian Free University. The Society, which has acquired a great reputation as a scientific institution, both in Europe and elsewhere, in consequence of the services it has rendered to Ukrainian learning, is at present occupied with, among other things, the publication of a Ukrainian encyclopedia, which will be a standard work in that field. The first part has already appeared and has been favourably received by the Ukrainian press abroad and by experts. Up till now, the Society, which counts a number of prominent foreign scholars among its members, has published more than 600 scientific works and its library in Lemberg was one of the most valuable collections of books on Ukraine; before the outbreak of war in 1939, it contained about 250,000 books and about 1500 manuscripts. At that time, the Society also exchanged books with more than 200 scientific institutions in 28 different countries.

A series of public lectures organized by the Ukrainian Free University was opened on May 20 in the small hall of Munich University by Dr. Clifton C. Winn, head of the University Section of the American Military Government for Bavaria. He spoke on "Pragmatic Movements in American Intellectual Life". The lecture was a great success. Many prominent members of the cultural life



of the Bavarian capital and German learning, including Prof. Dr. W. Gerlach, Rector of Munich University, were in the audience. Among Ukrainians present were Prof. Dr. Panejko, Rector of the Ukrainian Free University, many professors and students of that University and representatives of various institutes.

Prof. Dr. I. Mirchuk, vice-rector of the Ukrainian Free University, welcomed the guests and said a few words about the purpose of the proposed course of lectures. Reports appeared in the appropriate columns of the German and the Ukrainian press, emphasizing the particular importance of the Ukrainian Free University as the only free slavonic university of this kind on this side of the Iron Curtain.

In order to characterize American intellectual life as a whole, Dr. Winn confined himself to intellectual expression in two provinces, viz. the philosophy of perception and the philosophy of society. In those systems, the intellect is only a tool, an "instrument", in the struggle to extend the sphere of life. Only what has proved itself in action (pragma) and in practice, is true. The individual and his welfare is the central point in American social thought. The privileged position of the individual is expressed in the statement that society exists for man.

The second lecture was given on December 1st, also in a hall of Munich University, by Dr. Paul Rohrbach on "From Brest-Litovsk to Jalta — 25 Years of Eastern European history". The lecturer described shortly and vividly the historical and geopolitical background of Ukraine and its development in the interval between the Peace Treaty of Brest-Litovsk in 1918 till the Conference of the Great Four in Jalta in 1944. It has proved a fatal error that Western statesmen in this period did not use the "centrifugal powers" of the nations within Russian territory struggling for freedom and independence, in order to create a lasting peace in Eastern Europe which they might have done, had they possessed a wide vision and energy.

On this occasion, too, Prof. Dr. I. Mirchuk, the vice-rector of the UFU, in introducing the lecturer, was able to welcome a large international audience, including many representatives of German intellectual life. Favourable comments on the lecture appeared in the German and the Ukrainian press.

#### Inauguration.

Prof. Dr. George Panejko, who had been elected Rector of the Ukrainian Free University for the academic year 1948/49, was confirmed in office for the next year, 1949/50, by the professorial staff. The following are members of the senate of the University: Prof. Dr. G. Panejko, Rector, Prof. Dr. I. Mirchuk, Vice-rector, and the following deans: Prof. W. Shcherbakivskyj Dr. h. c., Faculty of Philosophy, Prof. W. Hryshko, Faculty of Law and Economic Science — vice-deans: Prof. Dr. O. Ohloblyn, Faculty of Philosophy, Prof. Dr. O. Baraniv, Faculty of Law and Economic Science, and the following members of the Senate: Prof. Dr. J. Studynskyj, associate professor. No ceremony was observed at the inauguration this year.

In his inaugural address on October 25, 1948, dealing with the part played by ethics in the life of the state, the Rector dwelt mainly on the instruments of state power and discussed, whether unethical means could be used in order to attain ethical ends. Surveying the history of the change in the idea of what is ethical and what is unethical in political action, the Rector discussed modern politics and emphasized that the state could depart from the ethics of the individual only if the duty of preserving the state demanded it, or only if it was a question of the state's authority. In all other cases, he said, there was no excuse for departing from the ethics of private life.

In conclusion, the Rector dealt with the problem of the ethics of those who represent the power of the state. A feeling for ethics, he said, was of great importance for state functionaries; for, if one official should fail at any particular point for any particular reason, he will always find the right way out of his dilemma if he allows ethical considerations to guide him. As Goethe says, "In all his dark groping, a good man is well aware of the right way".

The Ukrainian students' choir, conducted by Mr. Boshyk, contributed items to the ceremony which was attended by representatives of American and German agencies and of exiled Ukrainian organizations.

The inaugural celebration was opened by Professor Dr. I. Mirschuk, the retiring rector for 1948/49 and vice-rector for 1949/50. He gave a survey of the academic year 1947/48, pointing out that the year under review had been a record year, as regards the number of students and the size of the teaching staff. The number of students, 500, was the highest since teaching had been resumed under the auspices of Munich University, but the size of the staff — 70 — constituted a record since the foundation of the Ukrainian Free University in 1921.

These numbers have been greatly depleted since then by the emigration both of professors and students. In spite of this, the University intends to continue its work and will endeavour to establish contact with educational centres which have been established in overseas countries.

Commenting on the economic position of the University, the vice-rector stated that, up to the currency reform it was entirely self-supporting, its main resource being the students' fees. But the introduction of the D-mark so shook its economic foundations that the University can only continue its activity with generous help from Bavaria, Rome, USA and Canada.

#### Deaths

Rakovskyj Ivan, Dr. phil., full professor, born 24. 8. 1874 at Cahriv, West Ukraine, scientist and anthropologist. Studied in Lemberg, St. Petersburg, Paris, Vienna. Member of the Shewchenko Society of Learning since 1900 and its president from 1934 till his death. Professor of the UFU since 1946. Died on 28. 2. 1949 in New York.

Pavlykovskyj Julian, Dipl. agr., born 20. 7. 1888 in Senjkiw, West Ukraine, studied law at the university in Lemberg and agriculture at the Agricultural College in Vienna (Hochschule für Bodenkultur). From 1915 until his death on 28. 12. 49, he was one of the leading personalities in the Ukrainian cooperative organization. From 1928—1939 he was a member of the Ukrainian parliament and of the senate in Warsaw. He was a professor of the UFU since 1948.

Dyminskyj Roman, full professor, dipl. ing., an economist of repute, born 2. 1. 1898 in Stanislaw, Western Ukraine. Studied at the College of Commerce and in the Faculty of Philosophy of the Karl Ferdinand University in Prague. Since 1925, lecturer at the Ukrainian School of Economics in Podebrady (CSR), then in the staff of the Ukrainian Scientific Institute in Berlin, and of the UFU since 1934; died at Regensburg, 30. 9. 1949.

Khraplyvyj Evhen Dr. agr. Dipl. agr. full professor. Born 22. 6. 1898 at Lysivoi, West Ukraine, studied at the College of Agriculture in Vienna. From 1924, played an important part in agricultural cooperative societies in Ukraine. 1944, lecturer at Ukrainian Institute for Engineering and Economics and called to the UFU in 1946. Died on 6. 5. 1949 at Erlangen.

#### Publications of the UFU

The UFU issued the following scientific publications in the course of 1949:

1) Ukraine and its People, a handbook of Ukraine in English, edited by Prof. Dr. I. Mirchuk, VIII, 280 pp. maps, tables and diagrams. Price 8.00 DM or 3 Dollar.

2) Collection of scientific essays by members of UFU (Jubilee edition) Vol 5 in Ukrainian with summaries in English and German; 28 scientific essays by professors of the UFU, 1948/49. Price 12.00 DM or 3 Dollar.

3) Lithographed textbooks (manuscripts): Prof. Dr. O. Kulchyckyj: "Outline of structural psychology".

Prof. Dr. O. Baraniv: "Roman law" (Sources of law).

Prof. Dr. P. Kovaliv: "History of the Ukrainian language".

Prof. Dr. J. Sherech: "The influence of Galicia on modern Ukrainian".