

JAROSLAW PADOCH

THE INDESTRUCTIBLE SOCIETY

On the 110th Anniversary
of the
Shevchenko Scientific Society



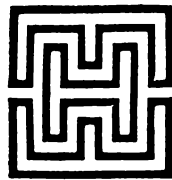
New York, 1983



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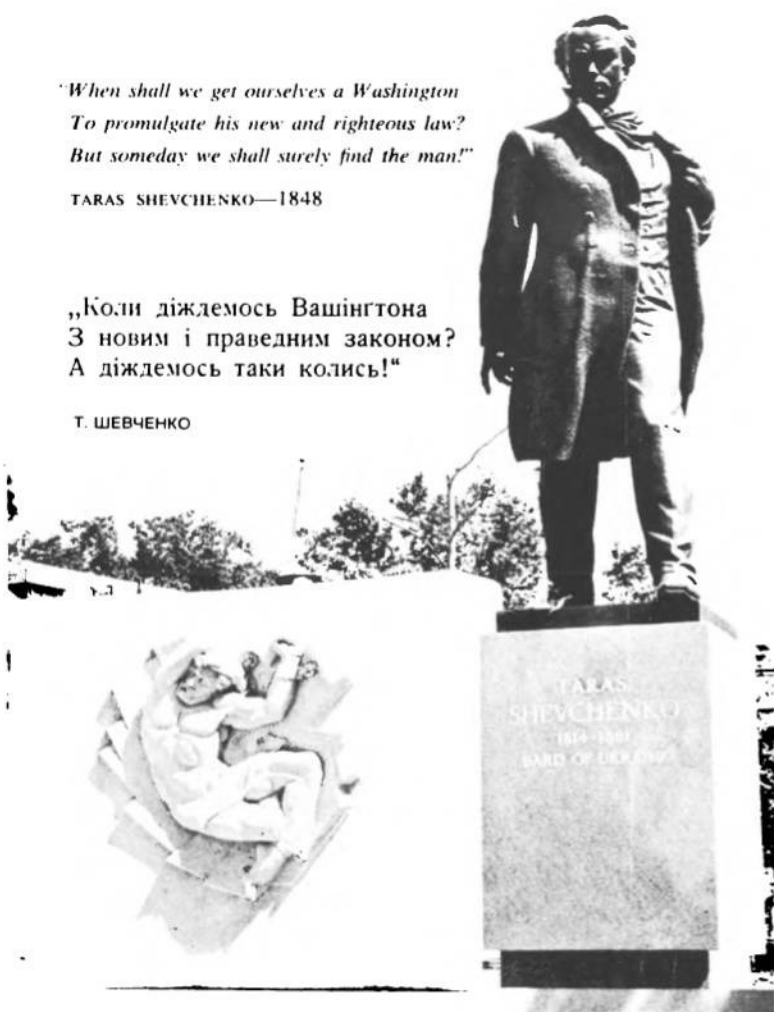
"Svoboda", 30 Montgomery Street, Jersey City, N.J. 07302

*"When shall we get ourselves a Washington
To promulgate his new and righteous law?
But someday we shall surely find the man!"*

TARAS SHEVCHENKO—1848

„Коли діждемось Вашінгтона
З новим і праведним законом?
А діждемось таки колись!“

Т. ШЕВЧЕНКО



On the initiative of the Ukrainian National Association and with the active participation of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in America (the president of the Society, Dr. Roman Smal-Stocky, headed the committee for the monument's construction, and the present president, Dr. Jaroslaw Padoch, was its secretary) and through the efforts of the entire community, this monument, designed by sculptor Leonid Molodozhany (Leo Mol), was erected on the 150th anniversary of the birth of Shevchenko, in 1964, in the capital of the United States of America, Washington, which is named after George Washington, the "Father" of the country. Shevchenko wished that Ukraine had a Washington of its own with his righteous law.

SHEVCHENKO SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY: 110 YEARS OF SCHOLARSHIP

The founding of the Shevchenko Scientific Society 110 years ago in Lviv was not accidental; it arose out of historic necessity. Western Ukraine had once again become the site of political and cultural development, a role it had assumed after the fall of Kiev, when the Ukrainian national state was moved to the west and the traditions of Kievan Rus' were continued in the Galician-Volhynian State (1240-1349).

After the destruction of the remains of the Hetman-Kozak autonomous state (1781), the incorporation of Ukraine by Russia and Poland, and later the occupation by the Russian and Austro-Hungarian empires, western Ukraine was once again the center of all activity. This was due to the fact that conditions for the cultural-national rebirth of Ukraine were better in the West European climate of Austria than in Eurasian Russia.

The publication of Ivan Kotliarevsky's *Eneid*, the Promethean appearance of Taras Shevchenko's works, the founding of the University of Kharkiv with its Ukrainian academic center and the hopes for further cultural development in Ukraine in conjunction with this institution — all of this was subjected to attack as the tsar's absolutist government tightened its reign.

In 1863, only two years after Shevchenko's death, the tsar's minister of the interior, Peter Valuyev, announced that "there has not been, is not, and never can be" any Ukrainian language, and with this action he put an end to all academic, literary, and publishing activities in Ukraine.

This ukase only hampered the cultural activities of the Ukrainian activists; it did not stop them. They quickly found a way out of the difficult situation. In reaction to the Valuyev ukase, the Shevchenko Scientific Society was formed exactly 10 years later in Lviv, the city which was to become the center, or as Prof. Volodymyr Doroshenko wrote, "the hearth," of Ukrainian culture and scholarship.

This center was to concern itself with the development of cultural and national consciousness for western Ukrainians, as well as of

Ukrainians from Naddniprianshchyna, by printing books in the Ukrainian language and disseminating them throughout Ukraine.

Volodymyr Doroshenko, the renowned historian, a full member and long-time librarian of the Shevchenko Scientific Society, characterized the historic role that this Society, founded 110 years ago in Lviv, played in the history of Ukrainian scholarship. In his preface to the history of the Shevchenko Scientific Society, entitled *The Hearth of Ukrainian Scholarship — the Shevchenko Scientific Society*, published in 1951, he wrote:

“The Shevchenko Scientific Society plays an exceptionally important, even unique role in the history of Ukrainian scholarship. For many years this was the only Ukrainian institution in all of Ukraine which thoroughly developed Ukrainian scholarship in the broadest sense of the word.

“The Shevchenko Scientific Society was a true promoter of Ukrainian scholarship because its activities helped prepare for the founding of all later Ukrainian academic institutions.

“The Ukrainian Scientific Society, founded in Kiev in 1907, used the Shevchenko Scientific Society as its model and many of its members also became members of this new Kiev institution. Ten years later the All-Ukrainian Academy of Sciences was founded with the assistance of professors from the institutions founded earlier. It would not have been able to get itself organized and develop so quickly had its predecessors not existed to pave the way.”

This appraisal of the Lviv-based academic institution by Prof. Doroshenko, one of the most prominent educators from eastern Ukraine, and a co-worker of Prof. Michael Hrushevsky, especially deserves the attention of readers because it was V. Doroshenko who published the first history of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in 1913.

THE ALL-UKRAINIAN SOCIETY IN LVIV

At the dawn of the Society, a group of Ukrainian activists in eastern Ukraine, the writer Oleksander Konysky, Dmytro Pylchykiv, Mykhailo Zhuchenko and, especially Elizabeth Skoropadsky Myloradovychева, collected 6,000 rubles and, along with smaller donations including contributions from Galicians, mainly from the Rev. Stepan Kachala, a deputy in the Galician Diet and the Austro-Hungarian State Council, the financial base of the Society was established.

The funds were earmarked for buying a printing house, which was to become the center of activity for the planned Society. The by-laws of the Society were authored by Mykhailo Drahomaniv and a long-time member

of the Ss. Cyril and Methodius Brotherhood, Pylchykiv. Thus, the initiative and financial support for the new Society came from eastern Ukraine, while the official founders of the Society were Galicians — Austrian citizens.

Among them were the Rev. Kachala; Mykhailo Dymet, a businessman and Lviv councilman; Mykhailo Kossak, a Lviv councilman; Dr. Omelian Ohonovsky, a professor at the University of Lviv; Dr. Oleksander Ohonovsky, a professor at the same university; Dr. Kornlyo Sushkevych, a secretary of the state treasury; Theophil Baranowsky, a state engineer, Lonhen Lukashevych, an insurance clerk; and Julian Romanchuk, a teacher and a deputy of the Galician Diet and Austro-Hungarian State Council.

The Society was named for Taras Shevchenko, although at the beginning the initiators proposed to name it Halych, in recognition of its Galician character. Without a doubt, this was the first society which accepted Shevchenko's name — only 12 years after the poet's death. After the passage of the Society's by-laws on December 11, 1873, the first general meeting was held on June 4, 1874.

At this meeting the Society elected Dr. Sushkevych as the first president. In early 1867, he published the first full text of Shevchenko's *Kobzar*. he was the president of the Society until his death in 1885.

The newly-founded Society was formed for general cultural activities. For this reason, the word scientific was not incorporated into its name at the beginning of its existence. The Society immediately bought a printing house and began publishing literary works. This service was even more needed three years later, in 1876, when the Ems Ukase took effect in eastern Ukraine, for that ukase did not allow the printing of Ukrainian books in the Russian empire, nor did it allow the transporting of Ukrainian books into areas within the empire's boundaries.

Among the activities of the Society in the first 10 years of its existence, was the publication of a journal, *Zoria*, edited by V. Levytsky (Vasyi Lukych). It became an all-Ukrainian journal, and in 1897 the *Literaturno-Naukoviy Vistnyk*, also published by the Shevchenko Scientific Society, took over this role.

The *Zoria* journal and later the *Literaturno-Naukoviy Vistnyk* published not only academic works, but also the literary works of Lesia Ukrainka, Mykhailo Kotsiubynsky, Osyp Makovey, Bohdan Lepky, and others.

It should be noted that the Society also protested the Ems Ukase in the newspaper *Pravda* and printed the work of Prof. Omelian Ohonowsky of the University of Lviv entitled *Studies of the Ruthenian Language*. Published in the German language, this work demonstrated the

differences between the Ukrainian and Russian languages. He later wrote the six-volume *History of Rus' Literature*. Both works stirred lively polemics between many Russian and Ukrainian scholars.

This discussion was the cause of the St. Petersburg Academy's recommendation that the government cancel the ukase against the Ukrainian printed word, which it did in 1905. However, that decision was rescinded in 1914.

The above-mentioned works were the first steps taken to include scholarly works in the Society's activities. At that time, there were not many scholars in Galicia. Thus, the Society began making a transition from a literary to a scientific society.

THE SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

For the most part, the Society worked along parallel lines with Prosvita, an organization five years older than the Shevchenko Society. The basic difference between the two organizations was that Prosvita worked among the peasants and spread cultural activities, while the Shevchenko Society worked among the intelligentsia.

With the growing intelligentsia, especially academics, on both sides of the border, a literary society did not suffice.

In the year 1889, Oleksander Konysky, the founder of the Society, began proposing a change in the by-laws of the Society to include scientific studies which could eventually lead to the formation of a Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, along the lines of European academies.

In cooperation with Volodymyr Antonovych, a professor at the University of Kiev, he persuaded the executives of the Society to call a general meeting and change the by-laws. This meeting took place March 13, 1892, and the new by-laws were adopted on November 16 of that year. Konysky proposed the Shevchenko Society be restructured into the Shevchenko Scientific Society.

The goals of the newly restructured Shevchenko Scientific Society were: to foster and develop all studies in the Ukrainian-Rus' language and to collect all memoirs, ancient writings, and subjects pertaining to Ukraine-Rus' (this was to be accomplished through scholarly research into Rus' and Slavic philology as well as the history of Ukraine-Rus', its literature, art, language, history, and archeology and, in addition, through the study of philosophy, politics, economics, and law, mathematics, and the natural sciences, geography, medicine, etc.); to promote academic discussions; to organize conferences for scholars, literati, and artists; to publish the *Zapysky* of the Shevchenko Scientific Society and other academic works; to collect materials for its library and museum; to grant scholars, literati, and artists prizes and financial aid; to provide for the upkeep of the printing house and bookstore.

In addition, the new by-laws provided that the Society should have three sections: philology, history-philosophy and mathematics-natural sciences-medicine, and that some academic matters were to be handled by specially appointed commissions.

Now the Shevchenko Scientific Society had by-laws based on those of the principal West European scientific academies.

From its inception, the Society had admitted both scholars and non-scholars. But, in 1882, the by-laws were changed so that it would have two types of members: full members — scholars, who could also be members of various sections, and regular members — non-scholars, who could be members only of commissions.

The by-laws also contained rules in regard to the administration of the Society. The president and secretary had to be full members; the board of directors had three delegates representing the three sections. The chairmen of special sections also had to be full members. With time, a new rule prevailed, stating that new regular members could not serve on the board of directors.

Thus, it developed that all the younger scholars held regular membership, and the full members were mostly members of the commissions. As a prerequisite to becoming a full member, a scholar had to have work published or accepted by the Shevchenko Scientific Society.

The first 32 full members were named at the general meeting on June 1, 1889, on the basis of the by-laws, book of regulations, and reports of the various commissions. Special emphasis was placed on the fact that the scholar should be a member of other academic societies or universities.

Among the persons named full members were V. Antonovych, M. Hrushevsky, Fedir Vovk, Stanyslav Dnistriansky, Mykhailo Zobkiv, Kost Levytsky and Stepan Tomashivsky, who were in the historical-philosophical section.

Full members of the philological section were: Oleksander Barvinsky, Volodymyr Hnatiuk, Oleksander Kolessa, Oleksander Konysky, Stepan Smal-Stotsky, Kyrylo Studynsky, Ivan Franko and others.

Ivan Verkhtsky, Ivan Horbachevsky, Petro Ohonovsky, Ivan Poluy, Oleksander Cherniakhivsky and others belonged to the mathematics-natural sciences-medicine section.

Other full members were elected by members of individual sections and approved by the Society's board of directors. Later the Society began naming foreign scholars as full members, including Albert Einstein Vatroslav Yagich, Albrecht Penk, Max Plank, Tomas Masaryk, Sven Hedin and others.

Reforms of this sort contributed to the growth and golden age of this

scholarly institution. The guiding spirit of the Shevchenko Scientific Society during these years was Konysky, who began publication of the *Zapysky* of the Shevchenko Scientific Society. The first volume was published in 1892, the second in 1893; two were published in 1894 and the fifth, which came out in 1895, was edited by Hrushevsky.

One of the most important undertakings of Konysky was his work in Shevchenko studies. With the assistance of the Shevchenko Scientific Society, he edited four volumes of the poet's works and wrote a biography of this bard of Ukraine.

THE SOCIETY'S GOLDEN AGE

In the spring of 1894, Hrushevsky, the greatest Ukrainian historian and, later, president of the Ukrainian National Republic, arrived in Lviv. He became professor of the chair of history of Ukraine (officially, this was the chair of East European history), a position which was first offered to V. Antonovych of the University of Kiev. He passed it along to his best student, Michael Hrushevsky, who was then 28 years old.

The arrival of this brilliant scholar and organizer of academic works marked the beginning of the golden age of the Shevchenko Scientific Society. Soon after his arrival in Lviv, Hrushevsky became the director of the historical-philosophical section and in the following year took over the editing of *Zapysky*.

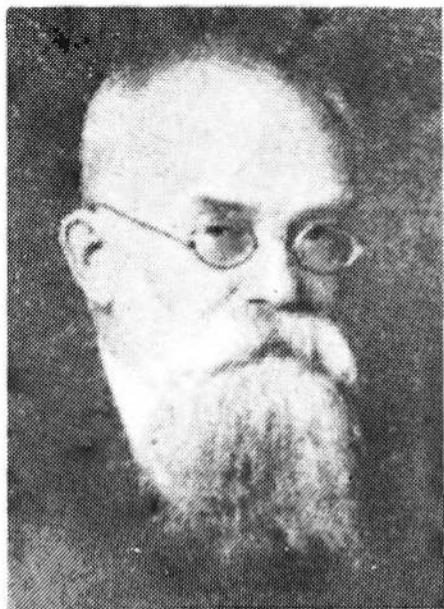
At the general meeting of the Society on November 2, 1897, he was elected president of the Society, a position he held until 1913. During this time, he turned the "humble society" into a real, though not officially recognized, Ukrainian academy of sciences.

Hrushevsky deserves great credit for having persuaded Ivan Franko, a poet and a highly educated man, to work at the Shevchenko Scientific Society on a regular basis. Franko became the director of the philological section. Hrushevsky also brought in a hard-working scholar and ethnographer, Volodymyr Hnatiuk. Often researchers call Hrushevsky, Franko and Hnatiuk the "*velyka triyka*" (the great trio) of the Shevchenko Scientific Society.

Hrushevsky was soon recognized as an exemplary scholar. His chair of studies attracted a group of talented young students whom he trained to be first-rate scholars. Among them were: B. Buchynsky, V. Herasymchuk, F. Holychuk, I. Dzydzora, I. Krevetsky, I. Krypiakevych, S. Rudnytsky, S. Tomashivsky and N. Chubaty. Hrushevsky gave them academic research assignments, taught them methods of research and published their works in *Zapysky*.

He also established a series of committees in conjunction with his historical-philosophical division. These included the archeographical commission, which published *Sources for the History of Ukraine-Rus'*, as

THE "GREAT TRIO" OF THE SHEVCHENKO SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY



Michael Hrushevsky



Ivan Franko



Volodymyr Hnatiuk

well as the archeological and statistical committees. He also published *Monuments of the Ukrainian Language and Literature*. Besides editing the *Zapysky*, he founded and published the *Collections of the Historical-Philosophical Section* and the *Rus' Historical Library*.

He still found time for his responsibilities as professor and continued research for the colossal work of his lifetime, *The History of Ukraine-Rus'*, of which eight volumes were published by the Shevchenko Scientific Society and the last two were published after the war in Ukraine.

No less active and productive was Franko, the head of the philology section. In a span of 10 years (from 1907 until he became incurably ill), Franko took charge of publishing the *Collections of the Philology Section*, in which such world-renowned scholars as I. Verkh ratsky, V. Hnatiuk, I. Zilynsky, O. Kolessa, A. Krymsky, I. Ohiyenko, V. Simovych, S. Smal-Stotsky and others published their works.

In a work entitled *The Ukraine-Rus' Archives*, he published works of ancient literature. During Franko's directorship, besides his own research works which appeared in print (including his valuable *Apocrypha*), works on ancient and contemporary literature by M. Vozniak, J. Hordynsky, V. Shchurat, C. Studynsky, A. Yensen, D. Domanytsky, P. Zaytsiv were also published. The *Ukrainian Library* series for new literary works also began publication.

Special attention should be given to the successful works of the ethnographic commission and the direction of V. Hnatiuk. Franko served as secretary of this committee. In 1871-1926, Hnatiuk worked for the Shevchenko Scientific Society publications, in particular those edited by his commission, including *Ethnographic Collections* and *Materials for Ukrainian Ethnology*, which later became *Materials for Ukrainian Anthropology and Ethnology*. He authored many priceless ethnographic works, especially about Carpathian Ukraine. From 1898 until his death, Hnatiuk served as the general secretary of the Shevchenko Scientific Society.

The work of the very active law commission, which published the *Law Journal*, the *Law and Economics Journal*, the *Collections of the Law Commission* and the *Law Library*, must be mentioned.

A bibliographic committee also existed. It published *Materials for Ukrainian Bibliography*, and the journal, *The Ukrainian Book*.

Other collections were published by the physiographic, geographic, statistical, and Shevchenko studies commissions. Important publications which should be mentioned included *Literaturno-Naukoviy Vistnyk*, which was published from 1898 to 1905 (it later came under the aegis of the Ukrainian Publishing Association), *Ancient Ukraine*, *Medical News*, and the *Chronicle of the Shevchenko Scientific Society*.

This list of publications, some of which were edited in numerous volumes, shows the impressive number of works published by the Shevchenko Scientific Society.

Along with the above-mentioned academic divisions, the mathematics-natural sciences-medicine section should also be included. This was first directed by Dr. Volodymyr Levytsky. The section edited its collections and reports from meetings in the German language. The collections included priceless works by such well-known scholars as I. Poluy, I. Verkh ratsky, I. Horbachevsky, I. Rakovsky, and others.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Aside from its contributions to scholarly and publishing work, the Shevchenko Scientific Society also played a very active role in the community.

Its activities were directed toward the national and political emancipation of the Ukrainian people, and at raising the national consciousness and cultural level of the people.

No significant community action took place in Lviv without the active participation of the Shevchenko Scientific Society. Having such a broad and serious forum as the journals *Zoria* (1885-97), and *Literaturno-Naukoviy Vistnyk* (1898-1905) edited by Hrushevsky and Franko, the Shevchenko Scientific Society had a direct and decisive influence on the leading Ukrainians on both sides of the Zbruch River.

Contact with intellectuals from eastern Ukraine was especially close. Protests against the Ems Ukase, the convening of the All-Ukrainian Congress in 1898 in Lviv in memory of Kotliarevsky, and the announced participation of intellectuals from Lviv in the archeological convention in Kiev in 1899 (which they did not attend after learning that the use of the Ukrainian language would be forbidden) — these are individual examples of the close liaison which existed between the two Ukrainian lands.

Ties with the Galician community were not limited to academic circles and matters. The Shevchenko Scientific Society, along with the political leaders of the era, played a leading role in the struggle for a Ukrainian university in Lviv. It took care of the students, provided the Academic Building for them, and helped them with scholarship aid.

The Shevchenko Scientific Society strove to promote itself as a Ukrainian academy of sciences, and in spite of powerful Polish maneuvers and threats by the Russian government, the society received a promise from Vienna that it would acknowledge the Society as an academy and create a Ukrainian university in Lviv. However, before this promise could be realized, World War I broke out.

DURING THREE OCCUPATIONS

Before the war, Hrushevsky, who in 1913 had given up his position as president of the Society, returned to Kiev, where he was arrested and sent into exile. After occupying Lviv, the Russians closed down the Society and expropriated its property.

The Society also experienced hardships during the occupation of Galicia by Poland. Having lost all government aid and being under constant harassment by the Polish government, the Shevchenko Scientific Society could not even approximate the activity it had experienced during its golden period. However, it continued its academic and printing activities and continued to be concerned about the development of Ukrainian scholarship and the work of Ukrainian scholars.

Not forgetting its attempts to establish a Ukrainian university, the Shevchenko Scientific Society helped organize the Ukrainian Clandestine University, which existed in 1920-1925. Most of the full members of the Shevchenko Scientific Society were professors at the university. The *Zapysky* of the Shevchenko Scientific Society were published infrequently during this period.

Until 1930, the Shevchenko Scientific Society continued to keep in contact with eastern Ukrainian intellectuals and with the All-Ukrainian Academy of Sciences in Kiev, and some members of the Shevchenko Scientific Society were named academicians of that institution.

In association with the Academy, the Society approved one universal system of Ukrainian orthography ("pravopys").

But the attacks on Ukrainian scholars and the entire Ukrainian community in the early 1930s broke off ties with Soviet-occupied Ukraine. It was only after World War II, when a considerable number of Ukrainian intellectuals from eastern Ukraine emigrated to the West, that they met with Ukrainian Galician scholars in Lviv and later in emigre settlements. Then, once again the Shevchenko Scientific Society united scholars from all parts of Ukraine.

The main and oldest Ukrainian serial publication of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in that period was the *Zapysky* of the Society. Today it is over 90 years old. Up to the outbreak of World War II, 155 volumes had appeared in print. Volume 156 was published in Munich in 1948. Currently, this publication has exceeded its 200th volume.

The Shevchenko Scientific Society worked in cooperation with other publishing companies, including the Ukrainian Publishing Institute which released a three-volume first *General Ukrainian Encyclopedia* edited by Ivan Rakovsky, who later headed the Shevchenko Scientific Society.

After the outbreak of World War II, western Ukraine was occupied by the Soviets, then the Germans and finally in 1944, once again by the Soviets. Neither enemy, as was the case during World War I, allowed the Shevchenko Scientific Society to function.

After the occupation of Lviv by the Soviets, the property of the Shevchenko Scientific Society was sealed, and the Society was forced to convene a final general meeting on January 14, 1940. The Society was disbanded at this meeting.

Protesting against this act and in order to save his life, Ivan Rakovsky, the last president, who had been reelected on June 28, 1939, emigrated to the West. A member of the Shevchenko Scientific Society, Dr. Roman Zubyk, who voted against this decision, was soon arrested; he disappeared without a trace.

Among other members arrested were Dr. V. Starosolsky, K. Kobersky and C. Levytsky. At the beginning of the war with the Germans, the one-time president of the Society, Studynsky, was exiled from Lviv; it is not known where he died.

A portion of the members who left for the West gathered in the Scientific Council at the Ukrainian Central Committee in Cracow and continued its activities under the direction of Rakovsky.

The most active sections were the historical-philosophical and mathematical-natural sciences-medicine sections. New members were nominated to the Society, including Y. Paneyko, M. Stachiw, M. Shlemkevych, D. Zaytsev and R. Osinchuk. Clandestine meetings took place, and lectures were given in secret. During this time, such works as J. Pasternak's *Kniazhiy Halych* and V. Kubijovyc's *Geography of Ukraine* were released.

Before the second occupation of Lviv by the Soviets in 1944, a large number of the members of the Shevchenko Scientific Society left for the West. Those who stayed behind were either killed or sent into exile. Among them was Metropolitan Josyf Slipyj, a full and honorary member of the Shevchenko Scientific Society.

The *Chronicles* of the Shevchenko Scientific Society show that 29 members of the Society were killed by the Soviets, and 15 to 20 were sent into exile.

On the initiative of Prof. Kubijovyc, the next general meeting of the Society took place on March 30, 1947, in Munich, and, thus, the activity of the Society was resumed. Ivan Rakovsky was elected to a fourth term as president and V. Kubijovyc became general secretary.

The Ukrainian Scientific Society, a society which was formed on October 22, 1945, in Munich on the initiative of Kubijovyc, who was aided by V. Shcherbakivsky, was incorporated into the Shevchenko Scientific Society. It was organized on the basis of the by-laws of the Shevchenko

Scientific Society, so it seemed natural for it to merge with the Shevchenko Society.

THE SOCIETY IN DIASPORA; 35 YEARS IN AMERICA

Relying on its Lviv by-laws, the long years of activity and tradition, the reborn Shevchenko Scientific Society began its work in its three traditional sections.

Taking into consideration that the Society's members were scattered throughout the West, the Society founded a Munich branch and branches throughout Europe, as well as other continents.

Six months after the renewal of the Society, a branch was founded in the United States. The center was in New York, and on September 29, 1947, at the founding meeting organized by Nicholas Chubaty, a presidium was elected. It included: Prof. Chubaty, president; Prof. Roman Osinchuk, secretary; the Rev. Lev Chapelsky, treasurer. Other members co-opted into the presidium included Roman Smal-Stocky, Jaroslaw Padoch, Mykola Shlemkevych, Lev Okinshevych, Volodymyr Sichynsky and Wasyl Lev.

At the end of 1950, Dr. Padoch took over the duties of secretary from Dr. Osinchuk.

Today, the Shevchenko Scientific Society is already in America 35 years old. Two years after the U.S. branch was formed, a Canadian branch was established. Its general meeting took place on October 1, 1949, and Yevhen Vertyporoch was elected president. Later an Australian branch was organized; it was headed by Yevhen Pelensky. In 1951 the center of the Shevchenko Scientific Society was transferred to Sarcelles, near Paris.

Because the Society was composed of so many branches removed from each other, the structure of the Society was reorganized, making the branches equal and establishing them as equal societies with separate officers.

However, they remain loyal to the original by-laws adopted in Lviv. Only with the consent of all the branches may the by-laws be changed.

All four branches of the Shevchenko Scientific Society are presided over by a general council, which is headed by the president of the Shevchenko Scientific Society. The presidium of the general council is made up of the president, general secretary, and treasurer. The council also includes representatives from each branch and the directors of the Society's sections.

Until 1982 there were five sections: history-philosophy, philology, mathematics-physics, chemistry-biology-medicine and history of

Ukraine. These sections are the main uniting factor of members, i.e., full members and member-correspondents of the four Society branches. At this time, the sections have their central offices in New York.

In 1982, the Encyclopedia Institute in Sarcelles was granted the rights of a full section; therefore, now there are six sections.

Today the heads of the four branches are: Europe: — Prof. Kubijovyc, Canada — Dr. B. Stebelsky, Australia — Dr. R. Mykytovych, U.S.A. — Dr. J. Padoch. The Presidium of the general council includes: Dr. Padoch, president; Vasyl Lencyk, general secretary; and Dr. Stebelsky, treasurer. The vice presidents of the Shevchenko Scientific Society are Prof. Kubijovyc and Dr. Mykytovych.

Honorary members of the Society include Patriarch Josyf Slipyj, Metropolitan Mstyslav Skrypnyk, Prof. Kubijovyc and the late Prof. Ivan Rakovsky.

Today, the Society has much to be proud of. Each year, it presents Ukrainian sessions at general American academic conventions, and two years ago it sponsored its own independent session at the second world congress for Soviet and East European studies held at Garmisch-Partenkirchen in Germany under the sponsorship of the International Committee for Soviet and East European Studies.

Among the extraordinary goals attained by the Shevchenko Scientific Society is the publication of over 200 volumes of *Zapysky* of the Shevchenko Scientific Society. But the Society's most important achievement is the *Ukrainian Encyclopedia*. This colossal work, the first of its kind, will be released in both Ukrainian and English in 20 volumes. The English-language *Ukraine: A Concise Encyclopaedia* (two volumes, 2,600 pages), financed by the Ukrainian National Association, is still a best-seller.

THE SOCIETY'S CONTINUED IMPORTANCE

Recently, Vieslava Bednarska, a Polish professor at Wroclaw University, wrote a lengthy article about the Shevchenko Scientific Society before World War II. The article, printed in the official journal of that university, praised the Society as a high-level learning institution which was known not only in Lviv, but in Prague, St. Petersburg, Cracow, Moscow, Irkutsk, Paris and, of course, in Kiev. The article underlined that during the period of tsarist ukases, when Ukraine was silenced, the Shevchenko Scientific Society took over the role of Kiev.

Kiev and Lviv at the present time, are under harsh occupation. Any kind of free Ukrainian academic activity is prohibited; and Ukraine's status is that of a third-rate province. Kiev has a role of a "younger primitive brother" whose only role is to obey his "older brother."

At this time, when Ukraine has no free word, no free academic studies, the necessity of the 110-year-old Shevchenko Scientific Society,

PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE SHEVCHENKO SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY
IN AMERICA



Nicholas Chubaty



Roman Smal-Stocky

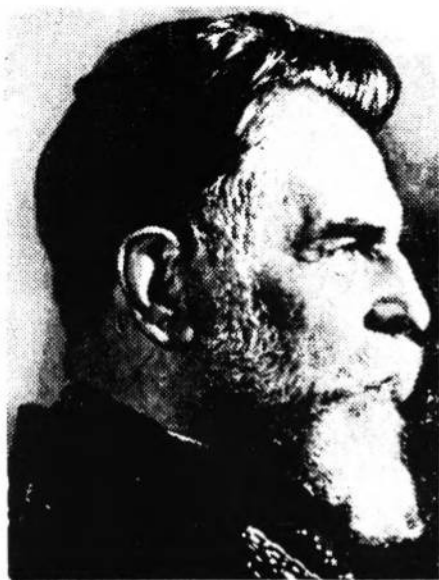


Matthew Stachiw



Joseph Andrushkiw

HONORARY MEMBERS OF THE SHEVCHENKO SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY
IN THE DIASPORA



Patriarch Josyf Slipyj



Metropolitan Mstyslav Skrypnyk



Ivan Rakovsky



Volodymyr Kubijovyc

the Society of Hrushevsky, Franko and a series of other Ukrainian leaders, becomes even more urgent.

In response to the enemy of Ukraine, a Ukrainian Free Academy must emerge. Because free scholarship in Ukraine has been eradicated by the Soviets, Ukrainian scholars in the Free World must continue to pursue their work. They must defend the good name of our people and must defend its right for freedom and sovereignty, both spiritual and political.

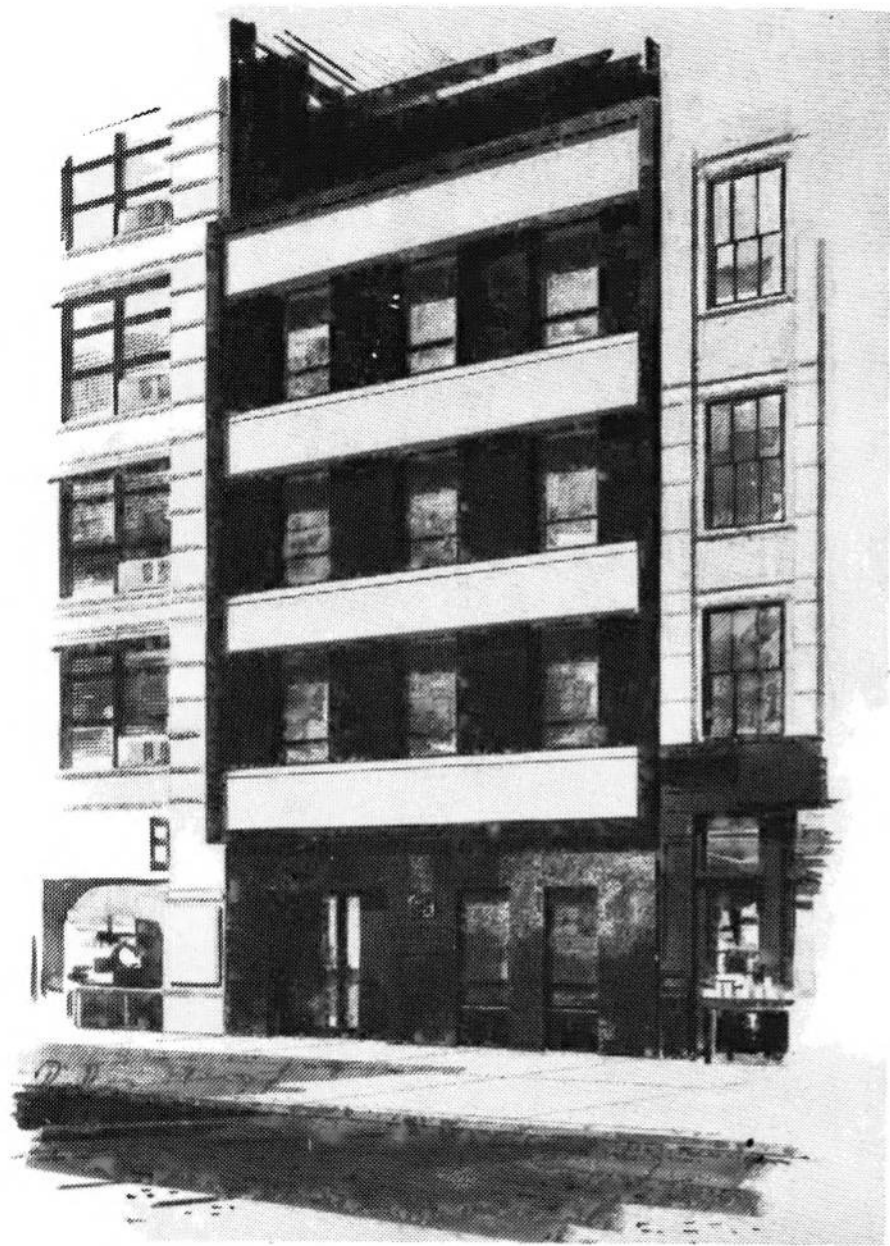
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