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Front Cover and Frontispiece:

"Very Young Thomas and Lena Gushul," Coleman, AB, ca. 1918, Crowsnest Museum and Archives, 6005 Gush Glass neg.



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Fig. 1. Box with Letters from the Gushul Collection, Crowsnest Museum and Archives.

INTRODUCTION

In Volume 2, we are offering a selection of the Gushul's correspondence kept in the Crowsnest Museum in Coleman, AB (except for one letter). The archival collection comprises letters that Thomas and Lena Gushul had accumulated for decades. These are letters sent by family members, friends, political comrades, customers, business partners, as well as representatives of state, educational, and medical institutions in Canada, the USA, and Europe. The earliest letters in the collection are from the 1900s, while the latest were written in the 1960s. This volume includes just a small part of the collection. Additional letters can be accessed through the Sustainable Ukrainian Canadian Heritage (SUCH) network (https://suchnetwork.ca/lena-and-thomas-gushul-collection).

This Volume is arranged in five Chapters. Chapter 6 mainly contains letters written by Lena and Thomas Gushul. Chapter 7 includes correspondence of Dmyter Macko, Thomas's maternal cousin. Chapters 8 and 9 contain letters from Thomas's friends. We limited the selection to the letters from Michel and Natal, BC, two small towns located very close to each other. Chapter 8 includes letters by Steve Huculak, Ivan Turok, Mykhailo Fedoruk, Stefan Lazaruk, and Petro Vasylyshyn, the Ukrainian immigrants and miners who shared common political views and were good friends. Fred Michaluk, whose letters constitute Chapter 9, also resided in Michel for some time. Later on, Michaluk moved to the USA: he worked in Detroit, MI, studied in Effingham, IL, and settled down in New York after marrying. His correspondence with Thomas lasted for over twenty years and comprises the largest collection of letters from a non-family member. Chapter 10 offers an English translation of excerpts from a book on the history of Rozhniv written by Fedir Matsko, another of Thomas's maternal cousins. These excerpts tell us about the microclimate and life experiences of the villagers of Rozhniv where Thomas Gushul and his wife Lena Sawiek were born.

While preparing the letters for publication, we applied the following rules:

- All the letters are transcribed as precisely as possible without any corrections and changes in grammar or punctuation; in very few cases we added missing characters in square brackets; in cases of unusual grammar or punctuation use, we added (sic) to mark that it belongs to the original.
- Passages, phrases, or single words in English included in Ukrainian originals are given in italics.
- In the translation, all the misspellings and grammatical mistakes are corrected, including inaccuracies in personal and geographical names.
- If an envelope of the letter is available, we provide full information from the envelope including the address and dates indicated on the stamps (if readable). Data from a stamp we provide in a standardized way. If there were several stamps with the same information, we provided it only once.
- Editorial comments like {envelope}, {stamp} are given in italics in curly brackets.
- In case of abbreviations in the letters, we provided the full word(s) in square brackets or a footnote; if we were unsure how the author would have written the word, we kept it abbreviated. Abbreviations are also interpreted through translation.
- Page numbers of the letters are given in square brackets unless they are part of the original letters.
- Rare Ukrainian words are explained in footnotes. Their meaning is also evident through the translation into English.



Fig. 2. Thomas Gushul, ca. 1915, Crowsnest Museum and Archives, 6567 Gush Glass Neg.

Fig. 3. Lena Gushul, ca. 1915, Crowsnest Museum and Archives, 6567 Gush Glass Neg.

Fig. 4. Letter from Thomas Gushul to Lena Gushul, 10 July 1925, Crowsnest Museum and Archives.

Chapter 6

THOMAS AND LENA GUSHUL'S CORRESPONDENCE, 1914 TO 1936

The collection contains mainly letters from Thomas (Tymofii) Gushul to Lena (Olena) Gushul (née Sawiek) covering two periods. These are 1914 to 1917, when they met and started their family, and 1925, when Thomas undertook a trip to Doukhobor settlements.

The story of their arrival in Canada, initial epistolary and later personal acquaintance, as well as marriage, can be read in more detail in the first part of this edition (see Volume 1, Chapter 1). The letters in this collection tell us about the feelings and development of relations between the two young people. They also reveal the peculiarities of early immigrant life. Interactions in the Ukrainian community included diverse creative activities, such as amateur theatrical performances, and also featured active gossiping and rumor-spreading.

The letters from 1914 to 1917 explain Thomas's perspectives on his future wife as a partner in forthcoming projects. He emphasized the importance of character and intelligence rather than appearance, "tempting" Lena not so much with the material advantages of their marriage, but with the prospects of her personal development (and also with the opportunity to be proud of her extraordinary husband). The early letters reveal aspects of their misunderstanding when the bride did not show up to her own wedding. Here we also include a letter from Lena to her relatives in the Old Country, where she wrote about her plans to stay in Canada.

In the letters of 1925, Thomas and Lena appear as knowledgeable and reliable partners in the photography business. He shares news about the successes in dealing with Doukhobors and consults about the plans to continue. Thomas constantly asks Lena for assistance, referring to very specialized professional details that she must have known well. He also describes parcels with fruits and vegetables that he sends to Coleman. Tom takes care of Lena's outfits and rejoices in the achievements of their children.

Behind these letters we can see the life of an immigrant family, full of challenges and concerns for the future, but also their joy and satisfaction derived from their greater and lesser successes, from the fact that their chosen profession is needed by other people and allows them to earn a living.

Falling in Love, Getting Married

Letter 1. 7 March 1914, Thomas Gushul to Lena Sawiek

Coleman, Alta March 7th 1914

Любезна моя мила Оленко!

Отсим звіщаю Тебе, щом Твій лист нинї отримав за котрий Тобі щиренько дякую. Ідуже менї жаль що Ти знаходись ся в такім великім смутку, через свої злї товаришки. Отже: не журись і не трать надії, всьо має бути добре. так як ми собі уже постановили. Листїв жадних я єще не мав від них, а як будуть, то я Тобі пішлю і прочитаєш що они пишуть. І не бійсь і не страхай ся, я не подивлюсь ні на жаднії їх пльотки. Най би они аж потріскали, а я їм не повірю. Не журись і не сумуй і не трать свої любовної надії. Я уже раз постановив собі Тебе взяти за жону, а Ти мене за свого мужа. Я мислю що ми двої уже так як звінчанї, але тим часом єще ні бо тепер піст, а на повелиціїни то уже має бути. І дуже щиренько Тебе благаю що бесь собі нічо не робила, що они в Тебе в крали мою фотографію і коверту, за то Тобі посилаю аж дві свої фотографії. І будеш мати, аж доки не побачим ся. І доношу Тобі відомість, що минувший лист [2]

я від Тебе отримав в понеділок в вечер, і зараз їм від писав. Отже Ти мала отримати його в середу. Тож я день за днем так нетерпиливо очікував, що аж не міг собі дати ради, що сталось з Тобою. А нинії дістаю сей лист і читаю, а то таке і таке сталось. Отже я і віщував що щось мусить бути, бо мав їм дуже дивний сон сего тиждня. Десь ми обої були на війнії, і обої булим простріленії в серця. Та Ти гоїла мою рану а потім я гоїв Твою рану. Отже се маєш доконаний сон. І питай там за листом котрий мав бути в середу, а на писаний був єще в понеділок з начить на 2 марта 1914. І відпиши мені чи їсь його отримала, бо то був найважнійший лист. А з тими товаришками я можу зробити файний порядок, і я ся з ним здиблю десь колись і порахуюсь. На сім кіньчу своє писанє. Здоровлю Тебе щиренько і цілую Тебе щиренько посто тисєчу раз, до милого зобаченя.

Твій миленькій Тимофій

I сердечно Тобі дякую за Твою щиру і вірну любов. І чи можеш добре читати моє письмо

Coleman, Alta, 7 March 1914

My dear darling Olenka!

With this letter, I am letting You know that I just got Your letter, for which I thank You sincerely. I am very sorry that You are in such deep sorrow because of your evil girlfriends. So, do not be sad and do not lose hope; everything will be fine, just the way we have decided. I have not received any letters from them; when I receive these, I will forward them to You, and you will read what they write. And do not be afraid or scared, I will not be taking into consideration any of their gossip. May they crack in half, I will not believe them. Do not be sad, do not have the blues, and do not lose your hope in love. I have already decided to take You as my wife, and You have decided to take me as your husband. I think of the two of us as wedded ones; although we are not yet, since it is Lent right now, after Easter that will happen. I am asking You very sincerely to not do anything on account of them stealing my photograph and an envelope from You—I am sending You instead two more of my photographs. And you will have them until we meet. And I am letting You know that the previous letter

[2]

from You I received on Monday evening, and I immediately responded. So, You had to get my response on Wednesday. I was waiting impatiently, day after day, and could not stop myself

¹ Повелицїни—dial. "після Великодня," after Easter.

thinking of what happened to You. And now I got this letter and read that so-and-so has happened. I just sensed that something must have happened, since I had a very strange dream this week. We both were somewhere at war, and we both got shot through the heart. But You were healing my wound and then I was healing Your wound. Here you have a dream that came true. And ask there for the letter that should have arrived on Wednesday but was written back on Monday, i.e. on 2 March 1914. And write me back if you receive it, for that was the most important letter. As far as those girlfriends are concerned, I can manage them just fine; someday I will meet them somewhere and take my revenge. I will stop writing at this point. Sending You good wishes and kissing You a hundred thousand times. Till our lovely meeting.

Your darling, Tymofii

And I thank You warmly for Your sincere and faithful love. And can you read my writing well?

Letter 2. 12 March 1914, Thomas Gushul to Lena Sawiek

Coleman, Alta March 12th 1914.

Любезна моя мила Олено!

Отсим звіщаю Тебе, що дуже мене дивує що так довго немаю вістки від Тебе. Отже я до Тебе на писав на 7мого у суботу Рекомендирований лист, котрий Ти мала отримати в понеділок! А нині уже і четвер а від Тебе нема жадної вістки. Отже моя дорога мила, на пиши мені що з Тобою єсть? А може дехто що не брехав за мене Тобі? Тож прошу Тебе моя мила Оленко, на пиши мені що з Тобою єсть. бо мені так тяженько і геренько, що аж не можу витримати. І най я не трачу свої надії і любви з Тобою, бо їнакше я незнаю що я би зробив зі собою. Отже як мені відпишеш на сей лист, тоді я Тобі відпишу щось нового і веселого. І не дивись на бріхні як би Тобі хтось що за мене говорив.

Остаюсь Твоїм вірним Тимофій

I прошу відписати як найскорше, бо дуже не терпеливо очїкую вістки від Тебе. Hoping that—you will be able to give an early reply. Now l'am ending this letter because l'am going to the show.

Coleman, Alta, 12 March 1914

My lovely darling Olena!

With this letter, I am letting You know that I am very surprised that there is no news from You for so long. Well, I wrote to You on the 7th of March and sent a registered letter on Saturday, which You had to receive on Monday! And it is Thursday now, and there is no news from You. So, my dear darling, write to me what is going on with You? Maybe someone told You lies about me? I am asking you, my dear Olenka, write to me about what is going on with You, for I feel so depressed and bitter that I cannot go on. And let me not lose my hope and love for You, otherwise I do not know what I would do to myself. Therefore, when you reply to this letter then I will write You about something new and joyful. And do not listen to the lies someone might tell You about me.

Staying faithful to You, Tymofii

And I am asking you to reply as soon as possible, since I am anxiously waiting for news from You. Hoping that you—will be able to give an early reply. Now I'm ending this letter because I'm going to the show.²

Here and further text in italics was originally written in English by Thomas Gushul.

Letter 3. 13 March 1914, Thomas Gushul to Lena Sawiek

Coleman, Alta March 13th 1914.

Найдорозща моя миленька Оленко!

Твій щиро-вірний листочок я отримав нинї у вечер, отже заким я сей отримав, то до Тебе післав лист з запитанєм що єсьть такого з Тобою, що так довго нема від Тебе вістки. Тож я зробив помилку так як Ти, тож се нїц не шкодить, лиш то що будеш мати більше занятя при читаню. І вибачай менї за той лист, бо я мислив що Тобі хтось дещось за мене на брехав. Бо звідси поїхали два хлопції до Edmonton-u, і ми дали їм Савчукїв адрес, задля станьції. Отже тії хлопції зії мною тутка товаришували а оден такі був в нас на станьції, бо він єсть нам свояк, мого небіщика шваґра сестри син. І доношу Тобі відомість що я на 9того марта отримав лист з пльотками за Тебе, отже на їх пльотки я навіть нехочу і дивитись, се усьо пусте їх писаня, най они і подуріють, то я їм не дам віри, бо я не такий дурний як они розумнії. Отже за сё я їх тепер хочу покягнути перед суд, і почта сим ся хоче заняти, бо пльотки не вільно посилати почтою. Отже за се они мають бути остро в каранії. Отже я уже на писав до Едмонтоньского Почтмайстра лист в сій справі, тож як там прийде {unreadable since the paper is damaged} ...йний поліцяй питати за ними, {unreadable since the paper is damaged} дала [2]

Поліцеєви їх їмя і назвиска, перевідай де они тепер мешкають, і перевідай хто є їм такий приятель що такі пльотки на писав. І також скажи поліциєви як тому зайшов початок що они в тебе в крали фотографію і коверту з моїм адресом. То тодії буде тому вияснена справа. І будеш бачити чи я їх звідси не запакую до Іванової хати.⁴ І прошу Тебе киби Ти менії як найскорше могла на писати меньше більше хто би то їм ті пльотки писав, бож они незнають писати менії ся так здає. То тодії я би запакував їх писаря і їх. То би дуже файно тодії виглядало. І пишу що бесь ся сим не страшила, тобі за се ніц не буде, лиш я хочу їм показати, що я значу і що Ти значиш аби они немали тебе за дурну, бо мене серце болить за Тобою і жаль менії за Тобою, що би Тебе такі ґальонки брали на збитки. Ой нії: так не буде! Я їм покажу стежку в горох. І також нинії посилаю оден лист до Пана Злотніцкого і на писавєм файну історію про них, отже будеш чути і будеш знати що я за них там описав. Мислю що буде і досить сьміху, бо я уже знаю як за таких описувати. А сей лист з пльотками має бути яко сьвідок перед судом. Ти лиш чекай а усьо ся добре зробить.

Coleman, Alta, 13 March 1914

My dearest darling Olenka!

I received Your truly faithful letter today in the evening, but, before I got this one, I sent You a letter asking what happened to You, that there was no answer from You for so long. I, therefore, made a mistake just like You did but one that would not hurt, you will just have more to read. And forgive me for that letter, for I thought that someone has lied to You about me. For two guys left from here for Edmonton, and we gave them the Savchuk's address, so they could stay at their place. So, those guys were my buddies here, and one of them stayed with us since he is our relative, he is a son of my late brother-in-law's sister. And I am letting You know that I received the letter with gossip about You on 9 March; I do not even want to look at their gossip, that's all just their meaningless writing; may they lose their minds, and I will still not trust them, for I am not as stupid as they are smart. Now, I want to take them to court for that; the post office wants to deal with that too, for it is prohibited to spread gossip through postal services. So, they must be severely punished for that. So, I have already written a letter regarding this to the Edmonton Postmaster, so when ... {unreadable since the paper is damaged} a policeman comes to ask about them you need to give

³ Покягнути перед суд—*dial*. притягнути до суду, prosecute.

⁴ Іванова хата, "Ivan's house" is an idiom meaning "prison."

to the policeman their first names and last names; find out where they live now and find out who is the friend of theirs that has written such gossip. Also, tell the policeman how it started that they stole from you the photograph and the envelope with my address. Then the case will be clarified. And you will see how I will pack them back to Ivan's house. And I am asking You to write me more and as soon as possible on who could have written this gossip for them, since it seems to me that they cannot write themselves. Then I would report their scribe and them too. That would look very nice. And I am writing to you to not be afraid of this—you will not get in trouble because of this; I just want to show them what my weight is and what Your weight is, so that they would not treat you like a stupid one, for my heart is aching for You, and I feel sorry for You that such mutts cause you troubles. Oh no, it will not be like that! I will let them have both barrels. And now I am also sending a letter to Mr. Zlotnitskyi, and I wrote him a fine story about them, so you will hear and know how I described them. I reckon there will be quite some laughter, for I already know how to write about such people. And this letter with gossip should serve as evidence for the court. You just wait and everything will work out well.

Letter 4. 25 March 1914, Thomas Gushul to Lena Sawiek

Coleman, Alta March 25th 1914

My Dearest-Sweetheart-Leena.

Кохане моє солодке серденько!

Твій солодкий і меленький листочок я отримав, за котрий Тобі горячою любвою дякую. І то так я ся в тішив, що аж їм підскочив, як їм прочитав Твоє солодке писанє. Ах Боже сьвєтий Боже, коби то уже ся побачити, та щиренько ся привитати і поцілювати. Бо нема на сьвіті нічого милійщого від люби. Ти мене ся питаєш коли я приїду до Едмонтону! Отже я Тобі скажу вірну правду, що я можу приїхати там аж по Великодних сьвятах а їнакше менї не випадає. Тож не страхай ся сего, я сам знаю що Тиби рада як найскорше зімною побачитись, і я так само аж знираю, що бим уже хотів ся з Тобою побачити. Ну але щож зроблю? Як так не випадає. Але всьо рівно я знаю що Ти уже моя а я Твій! Хиба би Тебе хтось піддурив і за мене дещо Тобі на брехав. Ну але я Тобі кажу що як би ми ся не пібрали. То тоді я би з жалю умер і серденько би моє пукло як гарбуз. Ах моє серденько моє солоденьке коби я тебе уже мав під своєм боком на ліжку, поціїлював бим тя щиренько і до себе пригорнув. Ах люба мила моя Оленко де Ти є? най тя поціїлую в Твої пишненькі губки.

[2]

Від Злотнїцкого лист я отримав, і на зад їм від писав. І доношу Тобі відомїсть що нинї я маю дуже багато роботи, бо маю йти грати представленє в гали, отже я мислю що будеш розуміти що я се Тобі пишу, бо я є яко Аматор від преставленя. Так так Оленко як ся за мене віддаш, то будеш мати розумного чоловіка, анї якогось піяка або бакяра. 5 Як за мене пійдеш то так само научиш ся за мене щось доброго і просьвітного, боя не єсьть пустим буряном так як другі де котрі. Я Тобі кажу Оленко що як уже будем при купі жити, то будеш бачити як нам господарка пійде. На сім кіньчу своє щире писанє.

здоровлю Тебе щиро і цілую Тебе щиренько в тії пишненькі губки, познилічені рази до милого зобаченя.

Твій вірно-щирий і наречений Тимофій Thomas Gushul Coleman, Alta P.O. Box 209 Canada

І прошу скорий відпись Оленко!

⁵ Бакяр—батяр, batiar.

My Dearest-Sweetheart-Leena.

My beloved sweetheart!

I have received Your sweet and dear letter, and I am thanking You for it with burning love. And I was so happy that I jumped up after I read Your sweet writing. Oh, God, Holy God, how I wish for us to finally meet, and greet sincerely, and kiss each other. For there is nothing better in the world than love. You ask me when I will come to Edmonton. So, I am telling You the honest truth that I can come only after the Easter holidays and not sooner. So, do not be afraid. I know that You would like to see me as soon as possible, I myself am dying to see You, but what can I do if it does not work out? But still, I know that You are already mine, and I am Yours. Unless someone will trick You and tell You lies about me. But I am telling You that if we do not marry, I would die of grief and my heart would crack like a pumpkin. Oh, my sweetheart, how I wish to already have You here by my side in bed; I would kiss You sincerely and cradle You in my arms. Oh, my dear Olenka, where are You? I would kiss Your plump lips.

[2]

I have received a letter from Zlotnitskyi and replied to it. And I am letting You know that I currently have a lot of work to do, since I have to go to the hall to participate in a play; so, I think You will understand what I am writing about, for I am an amateur actor in the play. Yes-yes, Olenka, when You marry me, You will have a smart husband, not some drunk or reveler. When you marry me, you will also learn from me something good and enlightening, since I am not an empty good-fornothing like some others. I am telling You, Olenka, that when we live together, You will see how our household goes.

I will stop my sincere writing at this point. Sending You sincere wishes and kissing Your plump lips sincerely an uncountable number of times. Till the lovely meeting.

Your faithful and sincere fiancé, Tymofii

> Thomas Gushul Coleman, Alta P.O. Box 209 Canada

And I am asking you to send me a quick reply, Olenka!

Letter 5. 31 March 1914, Thomas Gushul to Lena Sawiek

Coleman, Alta March 31st 1914

Любезна Моя Миленька Оленко!

Отсим звіщаю Тебе, щом лист від Тебе отримав, за котрий щиренько Тобі дякую. Оленко серденько моє, Ти мене просиш аби я приїхав до Тебе тепер, що бим був єще на польскі сьвята. Отже я щиро дякую Тобі панови Злотніцкому і пани Злотніцкі, за їх щиру прозьбу, що они такі щирі для мене, і хотіли би мене так щиро приймити і побачити. За се їм зложую всім листі горячо-щиру подяку, за їх щирі відносини до мене. Отже прочитай їм сей кавальчик листка, та нехай почують, мої вдячні відносини до них. А тепер Тобі на пишу, щось иньшого та цікавого! Ми тепер на Колмані знов урядили відограти Преставленє, в трох актах «хто винен». Так ся оно називає. Отже ми тепер вчимось і хочем відіграти другий день по Великдиневи в понеділок. То уже буде з музикою і танцем. Отже як би нам Пан Бог поміг уже злучитись до купки, то бесь і Ти навчилась грати Преставленє, боя знаю хоч їм єще Тебе не видів, що

Ти будеш до того складна. Бо пізнаю по Твоїм характері і особі, що можеш брати участь в Ателіґенції⁶. Отже я лиш за таким шукаю.

[2]

Отже як ся віддаш за мене, то будеш мати розумного чоловіка, і будеш мати ским пійти меже люди. І єще Тобі щось на пишу але кобись ся на се загнївала. Приміром так є: як би я приїхав до Edmontonu, і Ти мене побачила, тай бись сказала менї я Тебе не хочу, і не люблю, а я Тебе би собі дуже такі сподобав. Ну щож би тодї було? Отже я тобі тепер розтолкую як то є! Ти знаєш сама що я Тебе єще не бачив і Ти мене нї так само. Але ми пізнали одно другого по характерї і розумови. Ми ся не дивимо які ми виглядаємо, лиш ми хочемо мати добрий розум, і аби можна потїм легко жити. Бо нинї мудрі люди жиють з доброго розуму, анї з їх красоти. Я мислю що Ти се добре зрозумієш і даш менї на се відповідь. Отже Оленко серденько моє дорогеньке, яби з Тобою не наговорився, так Ти менї улюблена в серцю. А може єще буду видїв, може би якось трохи скорше приїхав, за се то я би Тобі на писав лист, як бим їхав, то бесь вийшла проти мене на стацію. Правда що так? Оленко.

{The letter does not have ending}

Coleman, Alta, 31 March 1914

My Dear Darling Olenka!

With this letter, I am letting You know that I have received Your letter, for which I am thanking You sincerely. Olenka, my sweetheart. You ask me to come to You now, so I would be there on Polish holidays. I, therefore, am thanking You—and Mr. Zlotnitskyi and Mrs. Zlotnitskyi for their sincere invitation, for being so nice to me, for they would like to sincerely host and see me. For that, I am thanking them wholeheartedly in this letter, for their genuine attitude towards me. So, read this part of the letter to them, let them hear my grateful attitude towards them. And now I am writing to You about something different and interesting! We again here in Coleman decided to stage a play in three acts, Who is To Blame. That's the title. So, we are now rehearsing, and we want to stage it on the day after Easter, on Monday. It will contain music and dancing. So, if the Lord would help us to finally be together then You would learn to perform in a play as well, since I know, although I have not met You yet, that You will be apt to it. For I am getting from Your character and personality that You can belong to the intelligentsia. And I am looking just for that.

[2]

So, when you marry me, you will have a smart husband, and you will have someone to go out with to mingle with people. And I will write You one more thing, just do not get angry. For example, what would happen if I came to Edmonton and you saw me and told me, "I do not want you and I do not love you," but I still liked you very much? Well, what would happen then? So, now I will explain to you how it should be. You know Yourself that I have not seen You, and You have not seen me either. But we have learned each other's character and intelligence. We do not care how we look like; we just want to have good intelligence in order to be able to live together easily! Nowadays, wise people choose good intelligence over good looks. I hope You understand it well and will give me an answer to this! Therefore, Olenka, my dear sweetheart, I wish I could have endless conversations with You—that's how dear You are to my heart. But I'll see, maybe I could come a little sooner—then I will send You a letter. If I come, you will meet me at the station. Will you, Olenka?

{The letter does not have ending}

⁶ Ателіґенцїя—інтелігенція, intelligentsia.

Letter 6. [1914], Thomas Gushul to Lena Sawiek

{This letter does not have beginning}

Ну і як би я приїхав до Тебе там, ну і де би я спав? Чи був би в Злотнїцкого пляц на мене. І чи Ти би мене приймила на нїч до себе до свого руму? Ну я мислю що Ти би не була така уперта, бож меменький [sic] як приїхав тож треба приймити. А як би Ти приїхала тут до мене, то я уже власне маю всьо готове. Рум маю готовий ліжко є готове подушки готові, в крити ся так само є. Шпріньґ моцний а матарас мягкий ах Боже сьвятий лиш жити. І перепрошаю Тебе щиро не противитись сим великим жартам. Бо сама знаєш читати і всьо добре. А знаєш сама що як поберем ся, то маєм якійсь жарти провадити, бо наші літа молоденькі, і хочеся жартувати. На то ся побирають щоби весело йшло в супружестві. Отже я мислю що Ти знаєш що се значить, і сподіюсь що даш мені на се всьо відповідь. І єще раз прошу Тебе серденько моє не загнівайся на сей лист. І доношу Тобі що мої мама здорові і тішять ся дуже Тобою що будуть єще бачити за свого житя молоденьку невістку. Так само і сестри тішять ся Тобою і радії би уже Тебе побачити

[4]

Отже мама і сестри за прошають Тебе що би Ти сюди приїхала скорше чим я до Тебе. І зробимо прикупції сьвята. На сім кіньчу своє писанє бо йду спати

здоровлю Тебе щиренько моє дороге серденько познилїченї рази до милого зобаченя.

Твій вірно-щирий наречений милий

Тимофій

P.S. І прошу від пиши менї чи був там у Вас тайний поліціян в справі того листа що я отримав з пльотками.

Тож прошу Тебе моє серденько від пиши як найскорше.

Тепер кіньчу писанє

Бо йду спати.

Як Бог допоможе дочекати,

То колись обої будем лягати.

Good night

My sweetheart—Leena

I wish to have you

in here by me in

bed, but it is little too

fareway (sic) from me. Thom.

{This letter does not have beginning}

And if I would come to You, where would I sleep? Would Zlotnitskyi have a place for me? And would You accept me in Your room for a night? Well, I think You would not be that stubborn, since your darling has come and you need to accept him. And if You would come to me over here, I have everything ready. I have a room ready, a bed is ready, pillows are ready, as well as a blanket. The springs are mighty, and the mattress is soft—oh, Dear God, all one needs is just to live. And I am asking You sincerely to not take these gross jokes seriously. Since You can read this by Yourself, everything is fine. And You know yourself that when we get married, we have to make some jokes, for we are young and there is a desire to have fun. People get married to have a joyful married life. So, I hope You know what it all means, and I hope that you would give me an answer to all of that. And I am asking You once again, my sweetheart, do not get angry at this letter. And I am letting You know that my mom is healthy and is very pleased with You—pleased that she will live long enough be able to see a young daughter-in-law. My sisters as well are pleased with You and would be happy to finally meet You.

[4]

So, my mom and sisters invite You to come here sooner than I will come to You. And we will all together arrange the celebrations. I will stop writing at this point, for I am going to bed. Sending You good wishes, my dear sweetheart, an uncountable number of times. Till our lovely meeting.

Your faithfully sincere fiancé and sweetheart Tymofii

P.S. And I ask you to write to me whether you had a secret policeman there regarding the case of the letter that I received with the gossip.

So, I am asking You, my sweetheart, to send me a reply as soon as possible.

Now I will finish writing

For I am going to bed.

If God helps this to happen

Then some day we will go to bed together.

Good night
My sweetheart—Leena
I wish to have you
in here by me in
bed, but it is little too
fareway (sic) from me. Thom.

Letter 7. 4 April 1914, Thomas Gushul to Lena Sawiek

Coleman, Alta April 4th 1914

Любезна моя мила Оленко!

Подаю Тобі отсим до відомости, що прошу Тебе дуже ласкаво, що бесь вийшла у понедїлок у вечер на стацїю. А там зобачиш мене, як я буду з ваґона вилазєти. Ти сей лист маєш отримати у понеґілок, тож як прийдеш з роботи, то збирись і пійди на стацію. А там уже Тобі хто небудь скаже в котрі годинії колєя приходить, з Кальґар. І пишу Тепер що не дай Боже аби Ти ся кому похвалила, що я маю приїхати. Навіть і Твої хатнії аби ніїц всім (sic) не знали, і навіть своєму вуйкови абесь анії словечка не писнула що я маю приїхати. Най Бог Боронить аби Ти кому за се що пріпімнула, бо я маю в Едмонтонії тепер богато ворогів, а я так хочу аби я ся навіть з ними не бачив. Бо я там буду тілько через пять шість день, а тодії вернусь на зад до Колман, бо на тілько служить менії тикит. Отже уважай аби Ти нікому анії писнула що я маю приїхати [2]

І старай ся там, аби я мав станьцію в пана Злотніцкого, лиш не вимовся що я маю приїхати. А мене на стації раз два пізнаш, бо я буду мати в руках нову валізку, поківаю на голові три рази капелюх, так що би Ти мене зараз пізнала. Тож тоді можеш йти до мене сьміло. Тож тоді маєм ся перший раз поцілювати в уста одно другого, се так буває всюди так в сім краю, за се встиду нема, бо се єсть наша любов. Тут я Тобі нічого злого не пишу.

I ще раз Тобі пригадую що бесь нікому не вимовилась що я маю приїхати.

На сім кіньчу своє писанє

здоровлю Тебе щиро і очікуй терпеливо так веселої хвилі побачитись з своїм меленьким Тимоском

> Бувай здорова. Тимофій

My dear darling Olenka!

With this letter, I am letting You know that I very kindly ask You to come Monday evening to the station. And there you will see me getting out of a train carriage. You will get this letter on Monday. So, when you come home after work, get dressed and go to the station. And over there, someone will tell You at what time a train from Calgary arrives. And I am writing you now to warn: God forbid You tell anybody that I will be coming. Not even anyone in Your house should know; do not even drop a word to your uncle that I will be coming. God forbid You mention to anyone about it, since I now have many enemies in Edmonton, and I would not like to see any of them. I will only be there for five or six days, and then I will go back to Coleman, for that's how long my ticket will last. Make sure, therefore, to not mention to anyone that I will be coming

And try to make sure I can stay at Mr. Zlotnitskyi's place, just do not mention to him that I will be coming. You will recognize me at the station immediately, for I will carry a new suitcase, and will tip my hat three times for You to recognize me at once. You can then come straight to me. Then we will kiss each other on the lips for the first time, it is common everywhere in this country, there is no shame in it, it's just our love. I am not writing You anything bad here.

And once again I am reminding You to not mention to anyone that I will be coming. I will stop writing at this point. Sending You my sincere wishes; wait patiently for the merry moment when you will meet your darling Tymosko.

Stay healthy. Tymofii

Letter 8. [1914], Thomas Gushul to Lena Sawiek

(Fig. 5). {postcard}

Miss Leena Sawiek 709 Lorne st. Norwood Ave 113 Edmonton, Alta

Дорога моя мила Оленко!

Лиш придивись тутка на сей образок як она його просить аби щось єму солодкого шепнути. Отже спадіюсь, що Ти і менї щось будеш шептати солодкого, як уже побачимся. А як уже будеш моєю женою, то тодї буде шептаня без рахунку. Твій миленький Тимофій

My dear darling Olenka!

Just look here at this image, how she is asking him to whisper something sweet. I, therefore, hope that You too will be whispering something sweet to me when we meet. And when you will be my wife, then there will be whispering non-stop. Your darling Tymofii

16



Fig. 5. Postcard from Thomas Gushul to Lena Sawiek, 1914, Crowsnest Museum and Archives.

Letter 9. 2 May 1914, Thomas Gushul to Lena Sawiek

Coleman, Alta May 2nd 1914

Дорога Краянко Олено!

Се вже буде перший і послідний лист від мене! Отже прошу ласкаво перечитати уважно. Головне питанє єсть таке: чому ти мені тоді не відповіла як я єще був в Edmontoni? Пощо ти мене тримала заким я аж не відіхав? Я би був ся ніколи не гнівав як би ти була мені такі на разу відповіла. Ну ї хто сему тепер винен? Я чи ти? га я зрадник чи ти зрадниця? І хто сей встид на робив? Я чи ти? га Правда що тобі там тепер не приємно, а через кого? Через мене чи через тебе? е е е пані краянко так горячо не брешіть бо не вдає ся. я знаю куда зтешка (sic) в горох. Ти мені пишеш за заручини! що їсь нікого не бачила! А ти кого би хотіла була бачити! музики в піст. Я тобі скажу як заручини йдуть. Отже так як ти мені даш вірне слово а я тобі і як влюбі і в щирости, то тоді се ся називає заручини. А як мені не віриш то я тобі пішлю 10 центів і пійдеш подивитися на мувінь пікчер, і тоді будеш знати як йдуть заручини. Еге панії Савєк.

2

Я не знаю звичаїв цаганьских але тутейших еге пані Савєк. Ви єще замало в канаді і мало бачили, і мало читали. А я а я пані Савєк. Ти мені пишеш що я тобі зичу пекла. Я пекла нікому не зичу але як хто собі заслужить, ну а ти собі заслужила рай і небо тепер бо то ніби я тебе зрадив а ні ти мене. е е е пані Савєк опустіть ніс в долину. Ганьба і встид за се, бути винною, і єще тоді робити ся сьвятою. А я а я пані Савєк. Ви ся шпотаєте на обі нозі еге правда що так. Ви мене змодрували а ні я Вас. Еге. Бог буде сьвідком над сим хто сему винен. А ти ніби єще ся на бога покликаєш що Бог сьвідок. То се так приходить що ти Бога хочеш одурити і маєш Бога за дурака. Не бійсь Бог сьвятий видить хто є сему винен ти чи я і хто кого здурив. Ти сильно шпотаєш ся, на свою вину і фальч покликаєш Бога на сьвідка. Ну ну і куда сему вихід пані Савєк? Прошу не мати Бога за тото що мене, бо Бог сьвятий лиш на тебе спустить одну їскру і вже по тобі. А може ти там уже загоріла і не памятаєш що говориш

3

І прошу тебе дуже щиро що бесь ся на фальчивість і вину не покликала Бога на сьвідка. Бо Бог не є твій патнер в фальчивім дїлї. Чуєш, прошу прочитати церковнї книшки. І прошу не мішати Бога з болотом, бо за се я можу тебе файно уписати в ґазетах і єще післати до Краю аби знали всї що донька Грицька Савєка вирікла ся Господа Бога в Канадї. Ти менї пишеш що тебе серце не болить що мої очї плачуть. Ну то єсть правда хто Бога не знає той в своїм серцю совісти не має. І видите краянко як я Вас штучно зловив, і пізнавєм що за щира ви є Христїянка еге. Ти менї пишиш що я начав варити місяць передом, ну і на що так гладко брехати, таж то єще нема місяць як я приїхав. Ми на чали варити у понеділок Великодний а весілє було в неділю провідну. Ну і такі було весілє бо стороньскі люди по приїхували а музика єще в суботу приїхала і весілє відбулось але без молодої. Ой Ліно Ліно нічо уже тобі не кажу бо тебе се так ся бере як горох стїни

1

Я нинї лежу на смерній постели з жалю і встиду. А ти єще кажеш що Бог буде сьвідком що я не винна. Ну куда ти се плитеш. На що виступаєш на протїв Господа Бога? Га і в тебе ϵ любов Христїянка? Другого підпалити, і єще до неба влїзти по смерти! Через тебе я поніс великий встид моя родина і мої краяни за се тобі встид і ганьба проклята зрадниця за се тебе чекає пімста і кровавая месть. Ти зробила не приємність для нас усіх і для своїх родичїв в краю. Будеш знати кого за ніс водити. Я абим двіста долярїв стратив а сей кошт маю випроцесувати в твого тата. Ти не думай що я ϵ дурний. Не бійсь я усьо знаю, ну але лиш в собі тримаю. Колись ся не сподївано здиблемо в Edmontoni. На сім конець, бо пишу нинї лист до своїх краянок в Edmontoni.

Ну остань здорова побожна Краянко.

Тимофій з Рожнова

⁷ Змудрувати, змодрувати—dial. ошукати, обдурити.

[5]

Ти мені писала чого я тебе кличу заручина. Ну а ти менї перстїнь завернула? Як ти так ся розумієш на заручинах то може бути. кавалєрови відмовити а перстень тримати в себе. Дуже добре розумішся на заручинах бігме ну як вовк на звіздах. Як ти так ся розуміла добре на сім то перший раз треба було завернути перстень. Чуєш божя зраднице. Прошу перстень прислати до тижня аби я часом щось не зробив тобі. Дай прочитати до Джова Пікарда. [6]

This is the last letter from me. Please to return ring at once. If not I'll be there shortly and I ask you how it should be. You are calling me now blackhead, but that is nothing. You will be remember me forever. I'll be there shortly just for the revenge. You are nice carrion and garbage. You just remember that what you was writing to me in former letters. No more to batray me again. I want to get beck my ring at once, Miss L. Sawiek.

Thomas Gushul

Coleman, Alta, 2 May 1914

Dear Compatriot, Olena!

This is going to be the first and last letter from me! So, I am kindly asking you to read it carefully. The main question is this: Why did you not give me an answer when I was still in *Edmonton*? Why did you wait till I left? I would never have gotten angry if you would give me an immediate answer. Well, who is to blame now? Me or you? Am I a traitor, or are you? And who has created this shame? Me or you? It is true that you are now uncomfortable over there, but because of whom? Because of me or because of you? E-e-eh, Miss Compatriot, do not lie so blatantly, for it will not help. I know how to let you have both barrels. You are writing to me about the engagement! That you have not seen anybody! And who would you like to see! musicians during Lent. I will tell you how an engagement party happens. So, when you give me a faithful word, and I give one to you, and when it's done in love and sincerity, then that's what is called an engagement. And if you do not believe me then I will send you 10 cents—go see a moving picture, and then you will know how an engagement party goes. Yes, Miss Sawiek.

2

I do not know the Gypsy customs, but I know the local ones. Yes, Miss Sawiek, you have not been long enough in Canada, and you saw little and you read little. Yeah-yeah, Miss Sawiek. You are writing to me that I wish hell on you. I do not wish hell on anyone, but some people deserve it; and you deserve heaven and sky as if I betrayed you and not how you betrayed me. E-e-eh, Miss Sawiek, don't have your nose in the air. Disgrace and shame for this, for being guilty but pretending to be a saint. Yeah-yeah, Miss Sawiek. You limp on both feet, indeed. It's You who cheated, not me. Yes. God will be a witness of who is to blame. And you still dare to summon God to be your witness. Then it looks like you want to trick God and consider God to be a fool. Do not worry, Holy God sees who is to blame and who's tricked whom. You stumble hard, for you summon God to be a witness of your own guilt and falseness. Well-well, where does it lead to, Miss Sawiek? I am asking you to not take God for what you take me, since Holy God will just shoot one spark and that would be the end of you. Or maybe you are already aflame over there and do not realize what you are saying.

3

And I am asking you very sincerely to not summon God to be a witness of your own guilt and falseness. For God is not your partner in the bogus business. Do you hear me? I am asking you to read the church books. And I am asking you to not mix God up with mud; otherwise I can very well write about you in the newspapers, and I can also write to the Old Country to let everybody know that the daughter of Hrytsko Sawiek has denounced the Lord in Canada. You are writing to me that your heart is not aching over my crying eyes. Well, that's true, for she who does not know

God would not have conscience in her heart. You see, compatriot, how skillfully I have caught You and revealed what a true Christian you are, yeah. You are writing to me that I began cooking a month ago. What a blatant lie, for there is not even a month passed since I have returned. We started cooking on Monday after Easter, and the wedding was on Commemorative Sunday. And the wedding did take place, since people from different towns arrived, and the musicians arrived on Saturday; and the wedding took place but without the bride. Oh, Leena, Leena, I will stop telling you anything, for it is as effective as throwing peas against a wall.

4

I am now lying on my deathbed from sorrow and shame. And you are saying that God is a witness of your innocence. What rubbish you are talking. Why are you rebelling against the Lord? And you possess Christian love? To set another person on fire and yet intend to crawl into Heaven after death. Because of you, I faced a great shame, as did my family and my countrymen—shame and disgrace on you for that, damned traitor; you will face vengeance and bloody reprisal for that. You caused troubles for all of us and for your relatives in the Old Country. You will know whom to lead by the nose. I have spent around two hundred dollars, and I must recuperate that money from your dad through a court. Don't think that I am stupid. Don't worry, I know everything, but I just keep it to myself. Some day we will suddenly meet in *Edmonton*. This is the end, for I will now write a letter to my hometown ladies in *Edmonton*.

Well, stay healthy, devout Compatriot.

Tymofii

from Rozhniv

[5]

You wrote to me, why do I call you fiancée? But have you returned the ring to me? If you are so well informed about engagements, then how is it possible to refuse the suitor but keep the ring. You are as knowledgeable about engagements as a wolf is knowledgeable about the stars. If you know the rules so well then first of all you should return the ring. Do you hear me, God's traitor? I am asking you to send me the ring within a week, or else I will do something to you. Give the letter to Joe Picard to read.

[6]

This is the last letter from me. Please return ring at once. If not I'll be there shortly and I ask you how it should be. You are calling me now blackhead, but that is nothing. You will be remember me forever. I'll be there shortly just for the revenge. You are nice carrion and garbage. You just remember that what you was writing to me in former letters. No more to batray me again. I want to get beck my ring at once, Miss L. Sawiek.

Thomas Gushul

Letter 10. 1914, Lena Sawiek to her uncle and aunts⁸

Edmonton dna 12, r 1914

Дорогий мій Вуйку і Вуйни⁹

Слава на віки. Дякую вам за лист котрий я отримала може тому місяц буде то прошу негнівай те ся що так пізно від писала бо тут була почта заперта то листи нейшли і незнаю чи тепер піде але уже пишу і прошу негні вайте ся шо трохи забарила бови мені ніц непи сали завойну атут

The letter is probably written before the wedding in September 1914 as Lena gives her address in Coleman where she plans to move. Ultimately, the letter never reached the addressees and was returned to Lena by the "Dead Letter Office" on 29 January 1915.

⁹ It is unclear why Lena used "вуйна" ("an aunt") in plural here.

дуже біда ся наробила через войну бо луде забрали довой[ни] а чилідь вмісті місто неробит бонема кому нема лудий і я сама неробю другий місяц а докраю я хотіла їхати сеї осени але тепер сего року непоїду бонема як через войну а Стефан як непоїхав довойни то най ся женит немає чого чекати намене адодому я тепер непишу затри дні напишу і ви тогди мені напишите як неня листа гістанут бо там щось має

[2]

бути нового і виселого а я хочу і хати¹⁰ вітси і даю вам иньший адрес що бесте насей лист писали більше немаю що писати і поздоровля ю вас усіх сердечно бувайте здорови. і ро[3] веселіт най ся нежурят я заних низабула але мені дуже тяжко бовчу жім краю амушу терпі ти

Бувайте здорови

[3] Ms. Lena Sawiek Coleman Alta PO. Box 209

adres

Edmonton on day 12, of the year 1914

My Dear Uncle and Aunts,

Glory be to God forever. Thank you for the letter that I received about a month ago; I am asking you to not be angry that I am replying so late, for the post office here was closed and the letters were not sent out; and I do not know if this one will be sent, but I am still writing it and asking you to not be angry because I am a little late, since you have not written anything about the war. Here the war has caused a lot of misfortune, since people were taken to the war while the women and girls stayed in the city. The city is stalled since there are no people; and I myself am not working for the second month already. I wanted to go to the Old Country this coming autumn but now I will not go, since I cannot because of the war. Since Stefan has not gone to the war, he must marry and not wait for me.¹¹ I am not writing home; I will write in about three days, and then you will write me back. And when my mom gets the letter, there will be something

[2]

new and cheerful. And I want to leave from here and I am giving you another address so that you would reply to this letter. I have nothing else to write about, and I am sending my heartful greetings to all of you. Stay healthy, and cheer them up;¹² they should not worry. I have not forgotten about them, but it is very hard for me since I am living in an alien country and I have to endure.

Stay healthy

[3] Ms. Lena Sawiek Coleman Alta P.O. Box 209

address

¹⁰ І хати—їхати.

¹¹ Another possible reading is "If Stefan has not left before the war, he has to marry and not wait for me."

¹² She probably means her mother whom she addresses in plural "ви".

Letter 11. 3 September 1917, Lena Gushul to Thomas Gushul

(Fig. 6)

{envelope}

Return to

box 209

PO Coleman Alta

mr. Thomas Gushul

Box 3658 (st B)

Winnipeg man.

{on the back of the envelope}

Nick [Te]shniar

567 Manitoba ave.

Wpg. Man.

{stamp}

Winnipeg, 5 September 1917

Coleman September 3/1917

Дорогий мужу Тимоську.

Отсим тебе повідомляю що сей лист пишу гарієви равлукови він тебе просит що би ти пішов відознати чи пришла єго жінка зфармїв чи ні (до Юрка Сеник 4039 ave прічард стріт). Як буде уже жінка там топрошу позич єї яких 10 долярїв що би она дещо купила собі я пішлю єї гроший але аж взавтра на дорогу. Тепер прошу тебе томку так як би не було жінки аж до десятого доки ти там будеш то возми гроші і лист і привези мені бо я боюся що би непропали гроші там. Як небуде жінки то купи мені пару шматя спідного грубе вовняне. А як буде жінка то прошу тебе поможи єї спакувати усо і настімі нє відвести бо я знаю що єї буде дуже прикро здїтми малими. А як буде жінка тонекупуй шматя жінка мені купит білше немаю що писати і поздоровляю тебе

бувай здоров щаслива дорога писала Олена Ґушул

Coleman, 3 September 1917

Dear husband Tymosko.

By this letter I am letting you know that I am writing this letter on behalf of Harry Rawluk. He is asking you to go and check if his wife has arrived from the farms (to Iurko Senyk at 4039 Ave and Pritchard Street). If the woman is already there, please lend her some 10 dollars so that she would buy something for herself; I will send her money for the road but only tomorrow. Now I am asking you, Tommy, if the woman does not show up till the 10th of September, while you will be there, then bring the money and the letter to me, since I am afraid the money can disappear over there. If my wife is not there, then buy me a couple of undergarment pieces made of thick wool. But if my wife is there then I am asking you to help her pack everything and take it to the steam train, for I know that it will be hard for her with little kids. And if my wife is there then do not buy the clothes, she will buy them for me. I do not have anything else to write about and am sending you my regards.

Stay healthy. Have a safe trip. Was written by Olena Gushul.

Fig. 6. Letter from Lena Gushul to Thomas Gushul, 3 September 1917, Crowsnest Museum and Archives.

Dogramen min Muchocky. Amuni ompurenacia miam lig mede zepapenile kompun gysue mene kimum mo moor man mak godpe ca nologu Hypuca muchocaky gopotra i gimorku i nacy mir zgoroli komporo zgoj obicia mori zumen, a njounene enypica d mym mak cacy godpe an voscogsny necunic ni somo nivo zacuene hazmu zuero dod podpo godpe yco ak www worky ani mak ak gryn nordrough odos i naykunun rekomu zgaz mak sek pik nacion zgoj mede unepo zgimorkanu nicupso cen uncon Lyban zgopole

guluca kynu ky M. F. B. 265. 700 rms.—7-16. H. Q. 1772-39-304.

Fig. 7. Letter from Lena Gushul to Thomas Gushul, Crowsnest Museum and Archives.



Fig. 8. Nadia and Evan Gushul, ca. 1920, Crowsnest Museum and Archives, 6241 Gush Glass neg.

Letter 12. Undated, Lena Gushul to Thomas Gushul

(Fig. 7).

Дорогий мій Тимоську.

Я нині отримала лист від тебе зфармів котрий дуже мене кішит що тобі там так добре ся поводит нежурися тимоську

я здорова і діточки і мама ми здорові котрого здоровля і тобі зичим. А про мене нежурися я тут так само добре ся обходжу несміє ніхто нічо замене казти злого боя робю добре усо як лиш можу ані так як другі а ми сисе лішім се усо пусте як прийдеш то собі поговогим обоє і поцілуєм ся файно боуже мені ся наукимило¹³ чекати здаєся так як рік насім здоровлю тебе щиро здіточками і цілую сей лист бувай здоров

[2]

дивися купи куфер і так само сібі шматя спідного і верхного і тїє желіза до пєца 3 кавалкі малі аоден великий і він буде добрий як будеш мати досит гроший то купи мені ковт ти знаєш який і мамі черевики назиму сейз 5 і пів а мій наковт 36 або 38.

My dear Tymosko,

Today I got a letter from you, from the farms, and I am very happy that you are doing well over there. Do not worry, Thomas.

I am healthy, and the kids and mom, we are all healthy and wishing you to stay healthy as well. And do not worry about me, I am doing just fine here, nobody can say anything bad about me, since I do everything as well as I can, unlike some others. Let's skip the empty things, it does not matter. When you come back, we will talk to each other, and kiss each other nicely, for I am sick of waiting. It seems like a year has passed. I and the children are sending you our sincere regards, and I am kissing this letter. Stay healthy.

[2]

Make sure to buy a trunk, as well as undergarments and clothing for yourself, and also iron for a stove, three small pieces and a big one, and it will be good. And if you have enough money then buy me a coat, you know which one; and buy winter boots for mom, size 5 and a half; and my coat size is 36 or 38.

Letter 13. Undated, Lena Gushul to Thomas Gushul

(Fig. 8)

посилаю тут тобі пару квіток котрі я поцілува здітми і ти їх поцілуй то так буде як бими усі поціливалися

Бувай здоров. твоя жена Елена Gushul.

I am sending you here a couple of flowers which I have kissed together with the children and you kiss them too, so it would be as if we all kissed each other.

Stay healthy. your wife Elena Gushul.

Т. Ґ.

¹³ Наукимитися, навкимитися—*dial*. набриднути.

Travelling in Doukhobor Villages

Letter 14. 8 July 1925, Thomas Gushul to Lena Gushul

{envelope}

Return to: Thos. Gushul Brilliant, BC

Mrs. Thos. Gushul, Blairmore, Alta.

> Brilliant BC Лугове 8[™] [липня] середа 1925

Дорога мила солодка і щаслива!

Тілько кілька веселих лінійок до тебе.

До Ґренд Форкс я поїду з готовими фотоґрафіями треба зробити їх так: 150 Д. з №39, а 150 D. з №40. Я думаю що 300 штук то ще і за мало буде для Ґренд Форкс але як забракне то я заберу закази. Я начав вчере ходити по селах і вже зїбрав поверх сотки заказів. Всї беруть одну дві і є вигляд що яких пятнайцять сот заказів збереть ся. Єслиб я вже мав яких 5 сот (250 з 39 а 250 з 40) тоби міг сей час попродати по

2

далеких глухих закутинах. Всї домагають ся сей час фотоґрафій. Треба як найскорше їх прінтувати а то «молодий» от от має приїхати і всьо пропаде. Черби як день так ніч, прінтуй а прінтуй. До Кальґар як я тобі писав що я післав по 200 фолдерс D і два ґроси паперу. Отже тепер я ще посилаю по 200 фолдерс D і по кільканайцять S, а по папір не посилаю бо маєш там 4 ґроси а як буде впадати то замовляй прямо телєґрафічно. Яби хотів вже з 500 фотоґрафій мати а то щось

3

може перешкодити наші роботї. Для Дмитра замовляй сама фолдерс і папір. Се що я замовляю то єсть для ВС

3 памятника також треба зробити з найліїпших позицій з 100 а то я би вже продавав. До Ґренд Форк як буду їхати то треба з собою взяти яких 100. Я посилаю по 100 5х7 мавнтів до Калґар для памятника. Я маю тепер коло себе \$54⁵⁵ і завтра пішлю тобі \$50 долярів абесь мала на C.O.D.¹⁶ Я тепер єсть 7 миль від Бріліїянт на Луговим (Pass Creek). Тут так як в раю. Ну я тілько посуваюсь з села в село. Попрацюй щиро так як я тобі пишу і за пару тиждніїв

4

будемо щасливі і вільнії від усіх довгів і зажиємо веселим щисливим житєм. Вигляди на наше щастя дуже добрі. Тілько треба поспішати поки ще «той» не приїхав. На памятник випробуй папері і замов по ґросови. Тілько я не знаю як зробити що памятник не зареґістрований і нема часу чекати. Треба буде на кождій фотоґрафії писати чорнилом COPYRIG[H]T APPLIED FOR 1925. З №41 не прінтуй без ордеру. Настасії тут нема, она десь [в] альберті. Там нікому не хвали ся як нам йде. Кажи що ще не знаєш. Твій залуплений залуплени

[&]quot;The young one" is Peter Petrovich (Chistiakov) Verigin, Peter Vasilievich (Lordly) Verigin's son, who arrived in Canada from the USSR in 1927 to become the Doukhobors' new leader.

¹⁵ A gross, a group of 144 items, a dozen dozen.

¹⁶ C.O.D.—"cash on delivery" or "credit on delivery." Canada post services.

Anastasia Fiodorovna Holuboff (1885–1965), Peter (Lordly) Verigin's female companion. Anastasia was hoping to replace Peter Verigin as the Doukhobor leader. After Verigin's son was chosen as his successor, she bought land in Alberta and moved there with her supporters in 1926 (Friesen, "Pacificism and Anastasia's Doukhobor Village," 14–19). See Volume 1, pp. 126-131.

¹⁸ Залуплений—*dial*. гоноровий.

5

Бабі шепни у ліве ухо що наше щастє усьміхаєсь. Як тобі потрібно їхати де коли до Колмен то їдь тексою і не трать часу. Для №39 можеш зужити тії мавнті S, що маємо від давна, на чорта їх дальше тримати. Уважай там тримай добрий рахунок.

Дмитрів рахунок тримай окремо а мій також окремо. За билдами і ресітами за С.О.D. і експрес треба домагати ся кождий раз від express аґента. Черешнї і огірки вже тут єсть тілько сарака я не маю часу з ними заходити ся. Купи там дїтям 1 баскет і скажи що я прислав.

[6]

Довжників попроси най зачекають ще пару тижднів а то їм заплатить ся всьо з гори.

Моя стала адреса:

Thos. Gushul BRILLIANT,

BC

Бай-бай X X X X X X X X X ¹⁹

Бабі на пиво даю \$1⁰⁰ екстра

Brilliant, BC Luhove, 8 July, Wednesday 1925

My dear, sweet, and happy!

Just a few merry lines to you.

I will go to Grand Forks with the completed photographs, and they should be done this way: 150 D. from #39 and 150 D. from #40. I think 300 photographs will not even be enough for Grand Forks, but if I run out of them I will collect orders. Yesterday, I started walking around villages and collected over a hundred orders. Everybody orders one or two photographs, and it looks like there should be around 1500 orders. If I had about five hundred photographs (250 from 39 and 250 from 40) then I could sell them immediately

in the most remote places. Everybody demands photographs these days. We should print them out as soon as possible, for "the young one" is about to arrive and then it's going to be finished. Work day and night, print and print again.

As I wrote to you already, I've ordered from Calgary 200 D folders, 2 grosses of paper. So, now I am ordering again 200 D folders and several dozens of S, but I am not ordering paper now since you still have 4 grosses. If you run out of it then order directly via the telegraph. I would like to have about 500 photographs ready otherwise something

might interfere with our work. Order folders and paper for Dmytro yourself. Whatever I am ordering—that's for BC

It would be good to make about 100 photographs of the monument from the best shots, I would be selling those already. When I go to Grand Forks, I should have about 100 with me. I am sending 100 mounts 5x7 of the monument to Calgary. I now have \$54.55 and tomorrow I will send you 50 dollars so that you will have it for C.O.D. I am now 7 miles away from Brilliant, in Luhove (*Pass Creek*). It's like a paradise here. I am walking from village to village. I am telling you, work hard and in a couple of weeks

4

we will be happy and free of all debts and will be living happily ever after. The prospects for our happiness are very good. But we should hurry before "that one" arrives. Try out paper when printing

^{19 &}quot;Chain of kisses," a common epistolary convention of the time.



Fig. 9. Thomas, Nadia and Evan Gushul, ca. 1920, Crowsnest Museum and Archives, 6213 Gush Glass Neg.

the monument and place an order for a gross of each. I just don't know what to do about the monument: it has no registration number and there is no time to wait for it. It would be necessary to write in ink on each photograph: *COPYRIGHT APPLIED FOR 1925*. Do not print out without an order from #41. Nastasia is not here; she is somewhere in Alberta. Do not brag to anyone over there about how things go for us. Say that you do not know. Your magnificent,

5

Whisper in granny's left ear that luck is smiling at us. If at any time you need to go to Coleman, take a cab and do not waste your time. You can use those *S* mounts that we've been having for the longest time for #39, why the hell keep them any longer. Take care and keep a good eye on orders. Keep Dmytro's orders separately from mine. Ask the *express* agent every time for the bills and receipts for the *C.O.D*. They already have cucumbers and sweet cherries here, but, unfortunately, I have no time to deal with those. Buy one basket for the children and tell them that I have sent it. [6]

Ask those we owe to wait a couple more weeks, and we will return everything at once.

My permanent address:

Thos. Gushul BRILLIANT, BC

Bye-bye X X X X X X X X X

I am sending an extra \$100 cash to granny for beer.20

Letter 15. 10 July 1925, Thomas Gushul to Lena Gushul

Crescent Valley July 10th, 1925

T.G.

Дорога моя Доле!

Засилаю Тобі нинї \$50[∞]. До нині зібрав заказив поверх 200 великих 4 і 5 голов, а кільканайцять малих. Всї закази я тобі виробив на формі №1. Отже маєш виповнити ордери так як я подав Тобі на формі. Тобі даю \$50[∞] а собі лишаю \$22[∞]. в мене кождого дня прибуває. Нинї я післав до Калґар ще по дві великі феротайпи. Коби ти могла виробляти денно хоч по 100 штук [2]

всїх до тепер мавнтів для мене, я замовив 400 D, 20 S і 100 5х7. Не задовго я ще пішлю по мовнти, щоби до повнити тії закази, що єсть на формі. Ти тілько прінтуй і прінтуй. Єсли я получу від Тебе всї семплс з памятника як я побачу то тоді тобі напишу яку позицію маєш виробляти закази.

Твій муж і щирий голуб, Тимофій Моя стала адреса: Brilliant, BC

[3]

Тобі би добре фотоґрафії менї післати в мої малїм куфрі, але треба приправити скобу, щоби замикав ся на тую колодку, що була в Блейрмор. Замок в тім куфрі не здалий. А то до Гренд Форк як поїду, то би взяв з собою того куфра з фотоґрафіями. Фотоґрафії треба пакувати тїсно і не класти лицем до лиця. Я також за ордерував 100 5х7 мавнтів. [4]

²⁰ Probably from Polish "napiwek"—tips.

Crescent Valley, Alberta. 3 July 9º 1925

Посилаю тобі закази і прошу виробляй з сих нумерів як найскорше

з №39—210 D

№39—14 S

№40-230 D

№40-27 S

3 4 і 5 головов а решти знимки сіх нумерів на другій стороні. Тілько роби і роби і роби і роби і роби і фоби і фоби і ще роби. Не святкуй недїлї не розпадай ся, що там хтось приходе тебе морочити на пост-картку.

Crescent Valley, 10 July 1925

My Dear Destiny!

Sending you today \$50[∞]. So far, I have over 200 big orders for 4 and 5 portraits and several dozen small ones. I indicated all the orders for you on Form #1. So, you are to process the orders in the way I indicated on the form. I am giving you \$50[∞] and I am keeping \$22[∞] for myself. Each day I am getting more. I just sent an order to Calgary for two big ferrotypes. I hope you could make at least 100 mounts daily

[2]

for me, I have ordered 400 *D*, 20 *S* and 100 5x7. I will send you shortly a mount for each one to complete the orders indicated in the Form. You just print and print. When I get all the samples of the monument from you, I will see and then let you know which shots you should print.

Your husband and sincere dove, Tymofii My permanent address: Brilliant, BC

[3]

It would be better if you send me the pictures in the small case, but the lever needs to be fixed so that the case could be locked using the bolt we had in Blairmore. That case has a lock that is good for nothing. When I go to Grand Forks, I would take that case with the photographs with me. Photographs should be packed tightly and not face-to-face. I have also ordered 100 5x7 mounts. [4]

Crescent Valley, Alberta. From 9th July 1925

I am sending you orders and asking you to print the following numbers as soon as possible:

From #39—210 D

#39—14 *S*

#40-230 D

#40-27 S

From 4 and 5 heads and the rest of the photographs from these numbers are on the reverse side. Just print, print, print, print and print again. Do not celebrate Sunday; if someone comes to mess with your head about a post-card, do not get into it too much.

Letter 16. 12 July 1925, Thomas Gushul to Lena Gushul

Глейд, Б.К.

Недїля 12™ [липня], 1925

Високоповажна і любезна моя мила жено!

Я вчора прибув до Глейд і на чав збирати закази ну і нинії вечером вже закіньчив. Тут я дістав около 50 ріжного сорта заказів. Значить всьо пішло так як по маслії. Завдатки майже всії дають але знаходять ся і такі, що ніяк не виплачеш завдатку. Я вже маю коло себе \$57⁷⁰ і незадовго

тобі вишлю з \$50 зелених, щобесь мала. Я думаю що сих 50 зелених треба буде дати Іванові Войцєховочеви хотяй я приобїцяв \$100¹⁰⁰ то нехай за більше вибачає, або най ще зачекає. Ти знаєш що він нам помагав тож треба і його послухати. Тут велика спека я парю ся прямо як в лазни. Ти не думай що то лиш ти там париш ся ой нїнї моє кохане серце. Я обійшов одну кольонїю кругом пішки закази дають в кождїм домї навіть і независимі фармарі (Духобори) дають закази і завдатки тільки всюди наказують щоби я не підманув. Я приобіцюю що патрити буду доручувати за два тижднї. Духобори кажуть, що я ще лиш пройшов четвертий пай

їх кольоній. А тут я вже около 300 заказів маю в книжції іобійшов тілько найбіднійщі кути а що буде як почну збирати закази в самім Бріліянт і на Утішенію? Таж се сама столиця. Прінтуй сарака якнайскорше та уважай як маєш дивелопувати. Тут менії Духоборскі проводарії придложили ще одну пропозицію зложити на одну карту 4 голові і памятник Батюшки насерединії. Ся пропозиція дуже користна і для нас бо можна буде утиснути ще одну тисячу долярів. Тут всії хотять фотоґрафувати ся і чорт знає як то буде! Однак, нікого не буду фотоґрафувати поки не закіньчу се що начав. Я здоров. Не жури ся і дуже радію що наше діло так йде як ми думали. Пришли менії як най скорше 3 фотоґрафії на показ з 39 40 і 41 в картках D. Сі семпелс що я тут маю вже розпадають ся. Пришли менії тіро або тайро. Кемера має дєри. Прінтуй тільки скілько я тобі подав в формі з 10[™] July.

[3]

Завтра рано вирушаю до Тарас і Трамс, а звідси тілько три мили до Бріліянт. значить я зачав з Бріліянт і обійшов пішком одну кольонію кругом і назад повертаю до Бріліянт з другої сторони. Менії дуже добре поводить ся я здоровий на нерви а то я тішусь що діло йде так як я думав. Менії скучно за дітьми і жалко, що не можу нічого прислати а то я був від желізної дороги зовсім в боку і не мож було щонебудь післати до дому. Огірки тілько що цвитуть і за два тижднії. Тут були огірки, але під парниками. З памятника не прінтуй поки я тобі не скажу котра позиція найліпша.

[4]

Писав би дещо більше та не знаю що маю писати.

От кіньчу і цїлую дуже щиро. Тимофій.

P.S. На пиши менї як там Дмитрови йде?

Старай ся його закази виповнювати як слїд. Всяку роботу яку там маєш домашну і фотоґрафічну можеш відложити а тримай ся сеї роботи стало, поки не закіньчиш.

[5]

Парсели і письмо від тебе нинї отримав. Памятник вийшов досить добре. Тілько №46 не дуже добре допрінтований голуби і дашок прямо сивї і чоки. Також одна з 45 була не допрінтована і в мавнт заложена криво так як би хотів памятник перевернути ся. Уважай на все. №47 ОК. Дмитрови я нинї вислав з памятника 3 [на] показ. моней ордер на суму \$50[∞] засилаю. Фільми посилаю завтра.

Т. Ґушул

Glade, BC, Sunday 12 July 1925

My Highly Respectable, Lovely, and Dear Wife!

I arrived yesterday in Glade and started collecting orders, and by tonight I finished with that. I have received here around 50 orders of all kinds. It means everything went on swimmingly. Almost everyone gives deposits, although there are some people you would not beg a deposit from. I already have \$57⁷⁰ and soon will send you around \$50 green ones so that you would have money. I think those 50 bucks should go to Ivan Voitsekhovych, although I promised him \$100⁰⁰. So, let him excuse me or else he should wait longer for the full amount. You know that he was helping us, so he too should be listened to. It is very hot here, and I am steaming like in a sauna. Don't think that it is only you who is steaming over there, oh, no-no, my honey. I walked around a whole colony by foot; every household places orders, even the independent farmers (Doukhobors) place orders

and give deposits, but everyone warns me not to cheat on them. I promised them I'd hand in the portraits in a couple of weeks. The Doukhobors say that I've covered only a quarter

[2]

of their colonies. I already have around 300 orders in my book, and I have only been to the poorest places. What is it going to be like when I start getting orders in Brilliant itself or in Utesheniye? That's the very capital. Print out, poor thing, as soon as possible, and be careful when you develop. The Doukhobor guides here suggested I do one more thing: to have on a photograph four portraits with a monument to a priest in the center. This suggestion is very profitable for us, since we could make another thousand dollars. Everyone here wants to be photographed and only the devil knows how it is going to be! Yet I will not photograph anyone before I finish first what I have started. I am OK. I am not worried but very happy that our business progresses as we expected. Send me as soon as possible 3 photographs to show [customers] from #39, 40, and 41 in D photographs. The samples I have here are already disintegrating. Send me tiro or tyro. The camera has holes. However, print out only many I listed in the order from 10 July.

[3]

Tomorrow I will travel to Tarrys and Thrums, and there are only three more miles from here to Brilliant. It means I have started from Brilliant and walked over one colony and now return to Brilliant from a different direction. I am doing very well; I am not nervous and am happy that the business is progressing the way I thought it would. I miss the children and feel sorry I cannot send anything: I was way too far from a railway, and it was impossible to ship anything home. Cucumbers just started blooming over the past two weeks. There were cucumbers here but only from greenhouses. Do not print the monument [shots] till I tell you which shot is the best.

[4]

I would write more but don't know what to write about.

So, I stop here and kiss you very sincerely. Tymofii.

P.S. Write me about Dmytro, how is he doing?

Try to do his orders thoroughly. Any work you have around the house or around other photographs, put it aside and stick to this work till you finish it.

[5]

I just got parcels and a letter from you. The monument turned out pretty good. Only shot #46 is not printed out well enough—the doves and roof are grey and chalky. Also, one of #45 was not printed out well, and it was inserted into the mount crookedly, so it looks as if the monument is about to tip over. Pay attention to everything. #47 is OK. I just sent 3 photographs of the monument to Dmytro for him to have a look at. I am sending you a money order for \$50\omega. Will ship the films tomorrow.

T. Gushul

Letter 17. 13 July 1925, Thomas Gushul to Lena Gushul

(Fig. 10)

Castlegar, BC, July 13th, 1925

Дорога жено!

Нинії я вислав до тебе моней ордер на \$50[∞], а собі оставив щось 6 долярів, думаю, що буде тим часом. На нашого Івана я вислав нинії баксу малинів поштою до Колман і баксу черешень 20 фунтів експресом також на Івана. Памятники досить добре вийшли тілько треба уживати правильний папір, щоби верх дашок і голуби не були дуже чокі, а спід аби не був обгорений. Ти можеш се справити на Ґравнд Ґлесії. №48 я з канцелював тому що там єсть така позиція і мягке сьвітло значить флетлайтінд. №48 запробуй принтувати на мягкім папері F №2 і

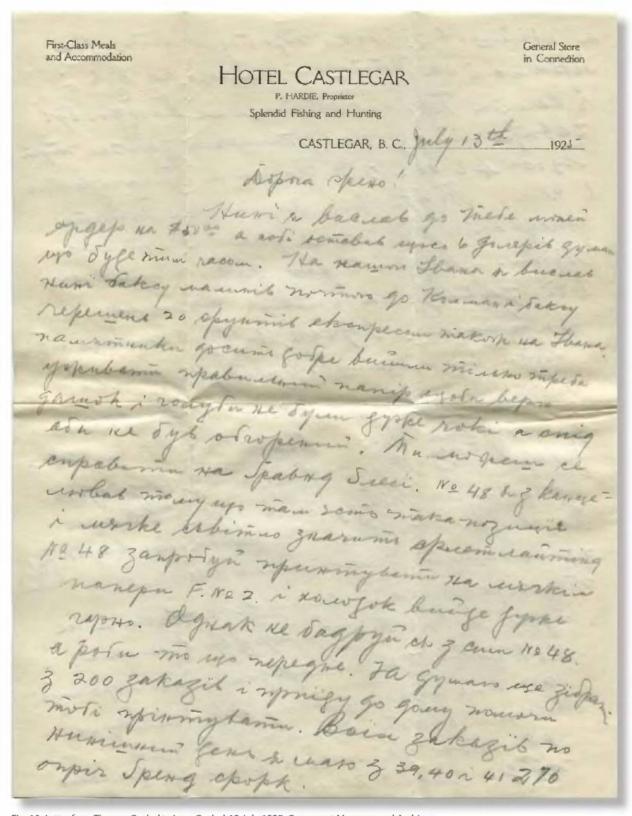


Fig. 10. Letter from Thomas Gushul to Lena Gushul, 13 July 1925, Crowsnest Museum and Archives.

холодок вийде дуже гарно. Однак не бадруй ся²¹ з сим №48, а роби то що передне. Я думаю ще зібрати з 200 заказїв і приїду до дому помочи тобі прінтувати. Всїх заказїв по нинішний день я маю з 39, 40 і 41 270 опріч Ґренд Форк,

²¹ Бадруватися—dial. перейматися, заморочуватися.

[2]

а обійшов тілько трету часть. На Трамс і на Утішенію я ще не був і в самім Бріліянті ще не всюди був завтре пійду на Утішеніє. Здається, тут щось 40 сел ϵ а за сим Благодатне 6 сел. Тут всї Духобори хотять рисувати ся і я не знаю що то має бути. Перший раз закіньчимо сі всї закази, а опісля начнемо рисувати. Однак я думаю що і Ти сюди приїдеш прінтувати бо інакше нічого не зробим. По \$3 50 за тузин пост-карт то такі назбираєсь \$. Пост-карти з надворю дуже легко пійдуть в прінтованю. До Duffin Компанії я писав ще в суботу 10^{ro} July за мавнтами і натискав їх щоби телєґрафували єсли дечого в них не буде виповнити ордер для нас. Коксови за енларджмент порахуй 2.50, але скажи йому, аби нікому не казав, бо то коштує 40. Я тобі напишу, як мені дальше пійде. Твій залуплений

Castlegar, BC, 13 July 1925

My Dear Wife!

Today I sent you a money order for \$50 $^{\circ\circ}$, and I left for myself about 6 dollars, I think that will be enough for me. I sent a box of raspberries to our Evan's address in Coleman and also a box of sweet cherries by the express to Evan. The monuments turned out well, but you need to use the right paper so that the roof tops and doves would not look too chalky while the bottoms would not look burnt. You can fix that through the ground glass. I've cancelled #48, since there is such a shot plus there is soft lighting meaning there is flat lighting. Try to print out #48 on a soft paper F #2, and the shadow should turn out very well. But do not bother yourself about that #48; do what's more urgent. I plan to collect about 200 more orders and then will come home to help you with printing. Up to now, I have altogether 270 orders including 39, 40, and 41—that's beside Grand Forks, [2]

and I have only walked around a third part so far. I have not yet been to Thrums or Utesheniye, and I have not even been everywhere around Brilliant. Tomorrow, I will walk to Utesheniye. It seems there are about 40 villages, and after that there will be 6 villages of Blagodatnoye. All the Doukhobors here want to do the retouching, and I do not know how it is going to work. First, let's finish with all these orders and then begin with the retouching. I think, however, that you should come to print out here, otherwise we will not manage. Charging \$350 for a dozen post-cards will bring quite a bit of money. The post-cards with the outside images will be very easy to print out. I wrote to the *Duffin* Company back on Saturday, *July* 10th, [asking them] to send me the mounts, and I pressed them to telegraph me if they would be short of something to complete our order. Charge Koks 2.50 for the enlargement, but warn him not to tell anyone because it costs \$400. I will write to you how it will be going for me. Yours magnificent

Letter 18. 14 July 1925, Thomas Gushul to Lena Gushul

Brilliant, BC July 14, 1925

Дорога жено!

Нинї посилаю Верігінови до Blairmore баксу черешень яку я тут купив. Сі черешні я не посилаю на бізнес але на те щоби попоїли ї знали що я за них не забув. Як сей лист отримаєш так їм скажи як я тут на писав. Вчера я вислав другу баксу черешень до Coleman на нашого Івана. [2]

А нині посилаю одну баксу огірків (6 Доз.) до Coleman, на Іванову адресу. Тілько на пиши менї яка оплата від бакси, а то яби ще післав не задовго та не знаю чи оплачуєсь.

Твій муж Тимофій Василеви Веріґінови на горі жінка померла, нинї має бути похорон. Се єсть той чоловік до котрого Веріґін писав лист.

[3]

Ще раз тобі даю до відома що я ще пісилаю черешень до дому і огірків враз з сим листом, маєте отримати 4 баксі черешень, 2 баксї огірків і одну баксу малинів. Старайся ті черешнї якось на класти у слоєки щоби не попсули ся. Я тут за них платив 10 за фунт

[4]

а ти можеш і продати дещо з них як не з можеш у слоєки на рядити, то так зроби аби вони не попсули ся, огірчики на квасте. Я нинї начинаю збирати закази на Утішенїю. Закази люди дають. Їдь до дому тексою а не ходи пішком.

Brilliant, BC, 14 July 1925

Dear Wife!

I am sending a box of sweet cherries that I have bought here to Verigin in Blairmore. I am sending those cherries not for business but for them to eat and know that I have not forgotten about them. Upon getting this letter, tell them exactly as I wrote here. Yesterday, I sent a second box of sweet cherries to *Coleman*, to our Evan's address.

[2]

And today, I am sending a box of cucumbers (6 dozen) to Coleman, to Evan's address. Just let me know in a letter how much you paid for a box, for I would ship another one shortly but don't know if it is worth it.

Your husband, Tymofii

The wife of Vasyl Verigin, who lives on a hill, has died; today is supposed to be her funeral. He is the man to whom Verigin was writing a letter.

[3]

I am reminding you once again that I am sending sweet cherries and cucumbers home together with this letter. You should be getting 4 boxes of cherries, 2 boxes of cucumbers, and one box of raspberries. Try to somehow can those sweet cherries in jars so that they will not be wasted. I paid ¢10 a pound for them here

[4]

so you can even sell some, if you can't make preserves of all of them; just make sure they don't rot. Pickle the cucumbers. I am about to start collecting orders in Utesheniye. People do place orders. Take a taxi on your way home, do not walk.

Letter 19. 29 September 1925, Thomas Gushul to Lena Gushul

{envelope}

Mrs. Thos. Gushul, Blairmore, Alta.

Середа рано

Brilliant, BC Sept[ember] 29th 1925

Дорога жіночко!

Твоє письмо отримав вчера увечер на котре тобі відписую що я здоровий і веселий. Посилаю тобі в сїм письмі почтовий переказ на суму 50 долярів що робить разом <u>одна тисяча долярів</u>

 $(\$1000^{00})$. Нинї я сьвяткую до полудня а то утратив трина котрий йшов рано до Таґум. Так як я думав то і так зробилось значить понинїшний день я зїбрав тут $\$1000^{00}$ долярів. Кілько ще вдасть ся зібрати не можу знати бо богато ходу а мало користи та все-ж я такі не дарую. Тут нинї холодно і дощик мирчить а по горах сніжок

[2]

білії ся. Нинії мушу купити черевики а то в сих дурних робурах можна застудитись. Тут тепер також вже показує на осінь. Терентикови можеш зробити пост-карти. Його ордер нам заплатив ся. Ну я не знаю як Дмитрови пійде, а то вже зима.

А тепер прошу моя дорога і вірна жіночко о одну річ: (Тільки не смій ся). Купи собі там файний петі-ковт бо я знаю що ти ще носиш той грубий і дуже не файний а то я як приїду то я тебе хочу бачити у файнїм петі-ковті. Я думаю що Ти заробила на цей кавалок. Ти знаєш що як спідне тїло гарненько прикрите то і гаврило буде чіпурити ся як скажений.

[3]

{at the upper right corner, upside down}

Бабі шепни у ухо що вже дійшов до тисячі.

Іванови і Надії відписую також нинї. Іванів лист дуже менї милий і зворушаючий. Він дуже добре пише а то коротко і зрозуміло. Надїя також бересь не зле а першого листа від неї я не міг розїбрати а сей другий то вже був богато лїпше на писаний я міг прочитати і розумів чого она хоче. А Іван як пише та все тато знає тато знає. Ну се нїчого що він так призвичаїв ся але диктованє його дуже ясне і коротке. Наш Івась хароший молодчина. (Fig. 11) Тішу ся ним [4]

з цїлою душею. Шкода що я ще не отримав №36. Заким прийде тут то я вже буду на закїньченю свого дїла. Тут будуть поминки на 29[™] Octobra на другий місяць то думаю що можна буде ще богато продати фотоґрафій. Побачим пізнїйше як маєсь зробити.

Твій щиро-вірний муж-Тимофій.

Всякого сушеного фруту маю около 160 фунтів, і привезу може ще чистого меду і варенія. Фрут я дістав за фотоґрафованє і фотоґрафії з памятника. Міняв.

{on the back of the envelope}

Чи ти вислала менї оверковт? Єсли ні, то присилай скоро.

Wednesday morning

Brilliant, BC, 29 September 1925

Dear wife!

I got your letter yesterday evening, and now I am replying to you that I am healthy and merry. I am sending you in this letter a money order for 50 dollars, and all together it will make <u>a thousand dollars</u> (\$1000^{\infty}). I am killing time today till noon, since I missed a train that headed to Taghum. Everything turned out the way I expected it; meaning that I have collected here \$1000^{\infty} dollars so far. I don't know how much more I will be able to collect, since there is a lot of walking to little effect but I am not quitting. It is cold here and raining, and one can see snow on the mountains.

[2]

I have to buy myself shoes, for I can catch a cold in those stupid rubber ones I have. It is now turning to autumn here as well. You can make the post-cards for Terentyk. His order got paid. Well, I don't know how it will be going for Dmytro but it's winter soon. And now, my dear and faithful wife, I will ask one thing of you (but don't laugh). Buy yourself a fine petticoat, for I know that you still wear the one that is rough and not pretty; when I come back, I want to see you wearing a fine petticoat.

I think that you have earned that. You know that if the bottom part of the body is covered nicely even Havrylo will be beautifying himself like crazy.

[3]

{at the upper right corner, upside down}

Whisper to granny's ear that I have reached a thousand.

I am also writing to Evan and Nadiia today. Evan's letter was very nice and touching. He writes very well, succinctly and clear. Nadiia also writes pretty well, yet I could not make out her first letter—but the second one was written much better, I was able to read it and understand what she wanted. And when Evan writes, "Dad knows, dad knows." It is OK that he is used to saying that, but his writing is very clear and succinct. Our Evan is a good fellow. I am enormously

[4]

proud of him. It's a pity that I still have not received #36. By the time it gets here, I will be finishing my business here. Next month, on *October* 29, there will be a funeral repast here; so, I think I will be able to sell many more pictures. We will see later on how to arrange that.

Your sincerely—your faithful husband, Tymofii.

I have all kinds of dried fruits, about 160 pounds, and I will also bring pure honey and jam. I got the fruits for photographing and for the monument photographs. I got paid in kind.

{on the back of the envelope}

Did you send me the overcoat? If not, send it promptly.



Fig. 11. Evan Gushul, ca. 1925, Crowsnest Museum and Archives, 6042 Gush Glass neg.



Fig. 12. *Unknown Photographer. Dmyter Macko*, 1918, Crowsnest Museum and Archives.

Fig. 13. Letter from Fedir Matsko to Dmyter Macko, 8 November 1930, Crowsnest Museum and Archives.

Chapter 7

DMYTER MACKO'S CORRESPONDENCE, 1916 TO 1938

Dmyter Macko (Дмитер, Дмитро Мацко; D.O., Demetrius, Dan Macko) (about 1896–9 to March 1938) was Thomas's maternal cousin. He was born to the family of Onufrii and Paraska (née Yurakh) in the village of Rozhniv (now Ivano-Frankivsk region in Ukraine). He was the oldest among his six siblings (Nykolai, Pavlo, Vasyl, Mykhailo, Fedir, and Maria). When his mother passed away, his father remarried with fourteen-year-old Maria Radysh and had another five children.²² Dmyter attended grade seven in Rozhniv and wanted to go to continue his education, but his family could not afford it.

Macko arrived in Canada in 1912. In 1916, he was employed as an interpreter ("allied interpreter," "assistant censor") at the internment camps in Banff and Lethbridge, AB, and Kapuskasing, ON. This service eventually helped him build a successful career. The Ukrainian community condemned Dmyter for his collaboration with internment camps where thousands of guiltless Ukrainians were imprisoned. Macko denied these accusations, stating that his intention was to help and support the Ukrainian prisoners (see his letter of 10 August 1920 to Thomas). During subsequent years, Dmyter graduated from high school in Calgary. From late 1918, he worked for the Canadian Bank of Commerce in Fernie and Vancouver. Macko moved to California no later than 1923 and worked there as an accountant at a large factory in Richmond. In 1925, Dmyter was employed by the accounting department at Stanford University. The following year he came back to Coleman, AB to become a "pictorial photographer" at the International Coal Co.23 He was married two times. His first marriage lasted from 1921 to 1925 or 1926. We do not know much about Dmyter's first wife. In 1930, Macko married Lillian Jenkins, a Coleman hospital nurse.²⁴ In the late 1920s and early 1930s, Dmyter had serious health problems that required hospital treatment.²⁵ In 1932, Dmyter resigned from his job at the International Coal Co. in Coleman to undergo treatment for tuberculosis. Later, he and his wife relocated to Edmonton where he worked as a chief accountant for Marshall-Wells Co. for two years. In 1935, the couple moved to a new apartment in downtown Edmonton (9629–106 St). He died of tuberculosis in 1938.²⁶

Dmyter Macko was a man of many talents. He mentioned writing poetry and a plan to write a comedic play in Ukrainian; he also translated texts on the history of Ukraine into English and worked on an English translation of the play *Oi ne khody Hrytsiu na vechornytsi* [Oh, don't go, Hryts' to the evening parties], which was one of the most popular plays in the repertoire of Ukrainian Canadian amateur troupes. Macko himself acted in theatrical performances of this type. He also visited and participated in concerts, sang in church, and played mandolin.

²² Gushul, Rozhniv i rozhnivchany, 8.

²³ Coleman Journal, 27 January 1927, 1.

²⁴ Blairmore Enterprise, 26 June 1930; Coleman Journal, 3 July 1930 and 10 March 1938.

²⁵ Coleman Journal, 26 September and 1 October 1929; 10 December 1931.

²⁶ Coleman Journal, 10 March 1938; Matsko, Istoriia sela Rozhnova, 127.

Macko was a big sport enthusiast too. For some time, Dmyter lectured on accounting. He planned to write and publish a textbook on this subject. One of Macko's letters to Thomas Gushul reveals his political ambitions (10 August 1920). Macko was also a master of making up stories about himself which are sometimes difficult to verify. For example, he told people that he could speak more than 10 languages.

Dmyter had certain successes in photography, too. From around 1925 he belonged to the California Camera Club. Macko's photos were published in professional journals, won awards, and received positive reviews.²⁷ Several of his photographic works are published with his letters in this collection. Dmyter also published several papers, for example a review of the Polish photo magazine Światłocień in the authoritative American journal *Photo-Era.*²⁸

Dmyter's letters tell us about his impressions of the Stanford University campus and his encounters with Indigenous people in Morley, Alberta. He wrote about the history and culture of California and discussed the development of Ukrainian university education and Ukraine's representation in academic journals (2 January, 24 May, and 30 May 1924; 19 March 1925). He believed in a future free Ukraine and expressed his willingness to return and contribute to the liberation of his native country. An avid reader himself, Macko truly believed in the power of education and knowledge. As he wrote to his nephew, "knowledge is worth more than the greatest riches . . ." (7 September 1926).

This chapter's selection includes mostly Dmyter's letters to Thomas, but also to his nephew Evan; an answer from Evan; a letter from Fedir Matsko to his brother Dmyter with a description of his wedding; and finally, a telegram from Dmyter's wife Lillian to Thomas. Altogether, the correspondence forms a detailed twenty-year-long story of the "works and days" of Thomas Gushul and Dmyter Macko, two prominent creative persons, united by family ties.

Letter 1. 16 September 1916, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

(Fig. 14)

Castle Camp, Sept[ember] 16 1916

Dear Cousin!

Permit me to write you the following few lines.

I am well, and hope you and your wife and family are enjoying a good health. I may say that I was sick and was in Hospital for two weeks, fortunately I recovered, and am pleased to see this beautiful world once again. I am back on my duty again, and feeling much better.

Dear Cousin, I am very sorry to disappoint you again, about that little sum which I promised to loan you, however, I am obliged to ask you that you will forgive me such a great delay. I have cheque for \$77⁵⁰ comining (sic) through from Ottawa, and as

2

soon as same is received I will send you then for sure all I could spare. Regarding those pictures that you sent me in your last letter, well I may say that they are well finished and are unimpeachable.

²⁷ Photo-Era 53, 5 (1924): 276, 280, 290; 55, 3 (1925): 152; 58, 5 (1927): 247, 274; 60, 1 (1928): 34.

²⁸ [Macko,] "What in a Polish Photo-Journal?" 164.

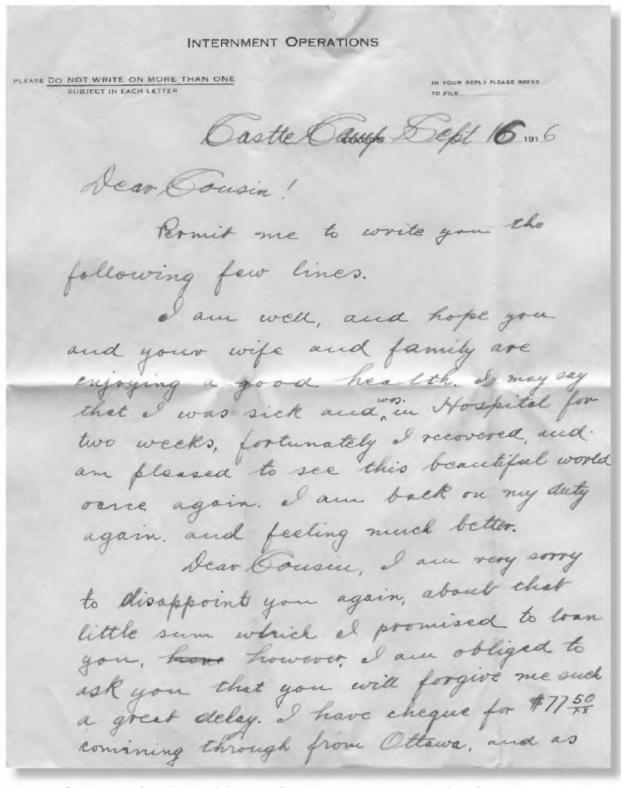


Fig. 14. Letter from Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul, 16 September 1916, Crowsnest Museum and Archives, first page.

If you desire I may send you some instructive books which when throughly (sic) read you will find that they will lead you to best results and success in Photos line.

I may also state that I am in opinion of going to High School soon. Last time when I was in Calgary I investigate all necessary details concerning High School. Finally I choose one good School, Mount Royal College at Calgary Major Rev. G.W. Kerby, B.A.D.D. Principle. I suppose you know what B.A.D.D. mean (sic)

3

if you do not, then I shall tell you B.A.D.D. Bachelor of Arts Doctor of Divinity. Major Rev. G.W. Kerby went through English, French, Latin, Greek, and German University, so this man can certainly manage to put any person through Academic or Commercial Course. It will cost me \$500⁰⁰ per year, and I should receive good Education. I tell you my dear Cousin what I wish to go in for. I wish to go through Academic first, so as to learn English, Literature, Memorization, Composition and Rhetoric, Grammar, Leading Events of Canadian History, Bible History, Mathematics, Geography, Art, Agriculture and Physics, Science, Religious Knowledge, Arithmetic and etc. also I must learn Latin, French, Greek, German, and History. when all these will be completed then if I can I may go to English University.

4

In such circumstances I shall need lots of \$ \$ \$. Principal of Mount Royal College told me personally that I must have Parents or Gardian (sic) who should sign some documents also an application Form, also some referrences (sic) I must have as to conduct and morality. Mr. C.W. Brown Principal of Banff Public School will give all necessary referrences (sic) and go good for me. Major G.A. Birney C.E.F. at Calgary Staff Officer will give good Recommendation also Major P.M. Spence Officer Commanding Internment Operations at Castle. Major General Sir W.D. Ottor, O.C.I.O.R.O. of Attawa (sic) Military Internment Affairs will give me good recommendation, and several others I have in view who will go good for me.

5

Will you kindly read this letter carefully and take this under consideration. Oh! I may also state that I was Examined, and passed phisical (sic) Exsamination (sic), and was accepted right at that time to Academic Grade 9th, so you see I am doing not bad at all. Write me a letter and tell me all about you think of it, and if you wish I may come down for Xmas, and will talk with you about the matter closely. Well I must ring off it is too late at night so good Bye.

Remaining Yours and ever Loving Brother Dmyter DOMacko (over)

{on the right margin}

Dear Tomciu pleace (sic) reply soon if possible, without any unreasonable delay. Yours as B.4. DOMacko.

Military Camp

Castle Camp

Alta²⁹

[6]

Як думаєш чи Мацко колись не буде трошка лучше поступати як колись з автомобілєм? Ха! Ха! Ди! Ти увидиш що моя рука трошка зла на укр. писаню але не цілком зла на Angl. (sic)

Пиши що хоч, рузумієсь на Angl. а не на икр. (sic) бо се би мене дужи до науки привадило. Брате я маю много до писаня а також маю власно-укладних пару віршів, ну коли ти на мене знинавидів чогось. Тішся, а я також буду, і чей бог по може що не будем шуфлювати³⁰ во вік.

Прошу дуже щиро о Відпис Дмитер

{on the left margin}

Skazy Grophyni chay napyshe do mene paru sliw, chay ne bude "silence."

Твій во вік DOMacko S.I.I.C.C.A.

Student of acadmecal (sic) Science.

²⁹ This part of the letter was originally written in English.

³⁰ Шуфлювати—from German "zu schaufeln"—to shovel.

[6]

What do you think: will Macko ever learn faster than he once learned to drive with his car? Ha! Ha! Look! You will see that my handwriting in Ukrainian is a bit worse but not that bad in English. Write me anything, obviously in English, not in Ukrainian, for that would very much turn me to studies. Brother, I have a lot to write, as well as a couple of my own poems—but if you are mad at

me for some reason... Be proud, and I will be proud as well. And maybe, God willing, we will not be working menial jobs forever.

Asking very sincerely for a reply, Dmyter

{on the left margin}

Tell Grapyna to write a couple of words to me, and not her keep "silence."

Yours forever,
DOMacko
S.I.I.C.C.A.
Student of Academical Science.

Letter 2. [...] Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

{the first pages are missing}

3

I do not know what I will do yet, but nevertheless you will see me at Coleman pretty soon. I have an offer to go East, but I don't feel like departing so far from you Tommy. Once more, I wish to see this berg Banff next summer, where I expect to home s-s-s-o-o-o-m-m-m e-e-e t t t-i-i i-m-m-e-e (sic) I wish you could have some of this life Tom. I am not forgetting you and some-

4

day we sure go out for a time. The only trouble would be that you are married and we cannot step out with the right spirit.

Well, wherever I will be I will let you know.

Remember me to all, Your loving Brother, D.O. Macko Address me as usual. I will always get my mail

45

Letter 3. 20 January 1917, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

{envelope} Thomas Gushul, Esq. Box 209 Coleman, Alta {on the back of the envelope} DOMacko

Banff, Alta Jan[uary] 20, 1917

Dear Cousin:

Banff Alta

Why on the earth don't you drop me a line? I am thinking of taking a trip down to Coleman, but your disageedunce (sic) prevents me from it. However, I shall be there unexpectedly and we shall talk much faster than we can write.

I wrote to Graphina that was going down to Calgary and so I was, but I did not think it was worth while taking a ride to Coleman then. You want to bear this in your mind that I am coming and when I come there will be something doing around that berg.

I am writing this note while I think of you. I should have written previous to this but you know the young people's time.

2

I am very sorry to have cause you such a great disappointment for not being able to answer your favorable call for Christmas holiday. It is rather a miracle that I cannot get off for holiday. When I come I want you to put your work aside for a day or two and talk to me frankly re- ****.

I beg you (sic) pardon I forgot that you do not understand the shorthand method of writing unexpressive phrases. Ha! Ha! Ha!

Oh! Say! I passed the first examination for the entrance of High School (Grade VIII) and I may go ahead with the proposal if I don't go to the front.

I know that you would criticize my idea upon my arrival in Coleman, but you will see how fast I can fulfill your demands. Faster than North Amer-r-r-rican.

3

Did you know that Proc was going to Canada and when on the steamer, which begane (sic) to sink, he tried to sell a watch for \$150 which cost him \$20000 on dry land?

You must not leave Coleman until such time in which I will arrive there. Rember (sic) that this is not a joke. I am expressing this frankly and expect you to act accordingly.

Well, I shall have to bring this letter to a conclusion with my heartiest wishes to all.

Your loving little sweetheart, Demetrius

Who puts me in my Little bed.

My Dear

[4]

A prompt reply is necessary to this letter.

Say! Tell me where live now so that I may know where to go.

Your Big Brud.

46

Letter 4. 26 January 1917, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

{on the back of the envelope}

Mrs. J. Beveridge Bush Town D.O. Macko Banff, Alta.

{stamp}

Alta, 28 January 1917

Personal and Confidential D.O. Macko³¹

Banff, Alta Jan[uary] 26, 1917

Dear Thomas:

You did not leave yet for Toronto, have you? I suppose you are quite busy packing up all personal effects. Say, take the kitchen <u>utensils</u> with you, because you may have to do some cooking there. Well, you should be ready to depart by now, are you not? I suppose you could not not (sic) be at <u>liberty</u> to <u>drop</u> me a <u>line</u> before your departure, <u>are you</u>? I know it is hard to answer. However, I now realize that you are in a stampead (sic) these days.

I was planning a trip dow[n] to Coleman but I shall not trouble now. "No use to go where you not wanted" is the old saying.

2

When are you going? Say, listen, do you think you would be at liberty to see me if I should come to Coleman? That is if you not gone yet, then. I would feel somewhat surprised if you could spare a moment to glance at you (sic) cousin. You have always made some excuses for not writing and I believe you would make an excuse for not seeing me while I am there. No! that would not do. I feel very much like saying that you are no longer my cousin; but, for your former services and evil suggestions I still wish to call you my cousin. Should I get an answer to this letter stating that you are in Coleman yet. I will depart the very same day and the following day will be the day of "Resorection" (sic).

3

Should you be away by this time, I would feel as though I was a person from myself and never have had relatives. Do you realize what the world is? Do you know how to use your fellow relation? However, I am expressing my final request to you, and that "Be reasonable". Try to follow my directions if you cannot judge for yourself. Enough said.

Please answer as soon as you think is reasonable delay, or rather long enough you have carried my letter in your pocket not answered.

P.T.O.32

4

How is everybody at home. Kindly give my heartiest wishes to every body and oblige.

Sincerely yours, D.O. Macko

Try and answer soon because I may be away for a few days soon and may around Coleman.

Good Bye! D.O. Macko

From to-day—"Mudus-vivendi" (sic) (Latin)³³

³¹ These two lines are written in red ink.

³² P.T.O.—please turn over.

³³ This line is written in red ink.

| Enents : | | Attractions: |
|--|--|--|
| Bonspiel Fancy Skating Skating Races Swimming Races | Hockey Matches Snow-shoe Racing Ski Jumping Boxing Bouts | Swimming in Hot Springs Dancing Illuminated Ice Palace Fireworks Tobogganing Trap Shooting Ice Boating Sleighing |
| Committees: | Treasurer: S. M. | Armstrong. Secretary: T. W. Balderston |
| Finance: | | |
| S M. Armstrong | | |
| L. S. Crosby | | 2 1017 |
| L. C. Orr | | BANFF. 1917 |
| Advertising : | | ALBERTA |
| N. K. Luxton Byron Harmon | 1 | 0 |
| D. M. Soole | Do you | chink I am a by |
| lce Palace : | 1 | |
| J. T. Child | 200 | ell, I cannot say |
| S. J. Clarke | | |
| Dave White James I, McLeod | that I am not because I | |
| Ewen Stewart | and a will have | |
| Curling: | 5'11/2" and that must be que | |
| R. B. Martin | | |
| James McCowan | tall all right. | |
| L. C. Off | 11 0 | |
| Hockey and Skating: James Simpson | I am f | breparing to come |
| Wm. Mather | | |
| Wm. Alexander | down | on the 16 th on so |
| Tobogganing: | | |
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| James Boyce Gordon Standish | 1 1 |) oxblain unemach |
| Ice Boating: | une to | explain yourself |
| Dr. R. H. Brett | | |
| John Standly | e nyself | wish to see your |
| W. Warren | | |
| Trap Shooting: | some | personal affairs. |
| J. I. Brewster Hugh Gordon | . / | 00 |
| Hugh Ritchie | 1 | 4. 1 |
| Rifle Club: | · an | a very sorry to hea |
| Ewen Stewart | | |
| T. T. Layog R. G. Holmes | that nor | e are sick, and |
| Swimming: | 1 10 | 0 |
| Joe Brown | I habe | you get betier by |
| Dave Murray | -700 | 1. |
| C. McCaulay | 16th so | that we may spen |
| Entertainment: | | |
| D. C. Bayne, | a lew de | aus with pleasure |
| and Banff Citizens | | ays with pleasure |
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| | a mile o | |

Fig. 15. Letter from Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul, 8 February 1917, Crowsnest Museum and Archives, second page.

Letter 5. 8 February 1917, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

(Fig. 15)

{envelope}

Thomas Gushul Esq. P.O. Box 209 Coleman, Alta.

{on the back of the envelope}

D.O. Macko Banff

Banff, February 8 1917

Dear Tom:

Received your letter for which please accept my thanks. I am well and hope you are the same. Photograph, which you sent to me with your letter, is certainly good. I think it is a slight (слайд) copied of some picture in a book, it is not a real photo.

I have a Carnival on these days and we are all keept (sic) pretty busy. I go out every night for sport. Tomorrow night there will be a fancy dress dance and I will have to attend it too.

2

So you think I am a big man, well, I cannot say that I am not because I am 5'11 1/2" and that must be quite tall all right.

I am preparing to come down on the 16th or so and you will have enough time to explain yourself. I myself wish to see you resome (sic) personal affairs.

I am very sorry to hear that you are sick, and I hope you get better by the 16th so that we may spend a few days with pleasure. Do not be afraid to spend a little of money on Doctor and have yourself in good

3

physical condition. Health is life.

So I noticed that you have informed every body of my arrival or visit rather. I wish you would meet me with some friends (if possible) at the Depot. However, I will wire you when I am coming down so that you may meet me if you wish.

Say! What is wrong with Graphina? She did not write me for a long while. I wish you would see her and explain the circumstances to her. Tell her that she need not be so sore at me and if she does, I would not come to see

4

her while I am there.

How is mother and other relatives? Give them my best regards, please.

Say, you did not say whether it is cold down there. You better tell me, so that I may know what clothing to wear while there. I hope it is better than last year.

Well, I am sure sleepy. Have not slept more than 50 hours in last 2 weeks.

I will certainly have something to say when when (sic) I arrive there. So you will answer this as soon as you possibly can.

Good Bye! D.O. Macko

Letter 6. 23 April 1917, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

Banff, Alta. April 23, 1917.

Monday Evening

Dear Cousin:

Your letter received for which accept many thanks. I am well and hope this will find you just the same. Give my kind regards to your wife and family.

From reading your letter one would realize that it is me that is causing all this discontent, byt (sic) nevertheless, I fully appreciate your favorable ???????? (sic) speech.

However we now shall "Let the Matter drop" And if you should scrape up enough time to drop me another line within a reasonable lenght (sic) of time I shall thank for it. over

2

You will not do as I would like you to do, so I shall do the least of all I was intending to do for you. You need not get peeved about it at all old boy. If I you think that I am not reading enough of educational books and papers I shall be very pleased if you would accept my: "Thank you!" Moreover, if you think that you have overpowered the Christian Religion you are very ill speciment of a human being. What would you advise me to read? R. N. is one, and I am reading it too. I just bet you any amount of plunks that you have not even got a simplest idea of the educational resources. Do you know and can you name me some publication that you have experienced yourself that is any good? Hah? I guess you cannot. Let your next letter direct me to read some

3

publication that you can personally recommend, of course, you will have to suggest one written in the English language. You are just as bad as the man who "Sticks his nose where his hair grows" Take your tip from me old sport, don't hesitate, you mean more than you can imagine.

I am through with my course in Commercial English and now, I am taking the high school subjects. As soon as I get my Dimloma (sic) for the first course I will go to Calgary for to be examined by P. of A. S. Board.

Enclosed herewith you will find an advertisement of our Programme. We had a good concert on, on the 11th insl. *inside denotes that I took part in. I acted in "Raw Recruit" & "Between the Lines". It was very nice. The audience appreciated very much.

4

When are you intending to go to Toronto? Hail! New Russia!

I Remain, With Love & Kisses Your loving Cousin Demetrius

P.S.

Permit to ask you whether it would be reasonable enough on my part to expect a reply from you by 1918?

Mit³⁴ presure (sic), D.O.M.

Mit—probably from German, "with."

Letter 7. 21 September 1917, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

{postcard}
Thomas Gushul, Esq.
Box 209
Coleman, Alta.

{stamp}

Kapuskasing, ON, 21 September 1917

Sept[ember] 21, 1917

Dear Tom,

Surprised at your silence. Are you well? Please write me. Oh, say, please would you kindly let me have the address of that firm that make those beautiful pictures for you. I wish to have a few made and also if possible to make a few \$ \$. This is too far from Coleman so don't worry about me interfering with your business. I may also assure you that I shall not give this address to nobody. I am taking some pictures and that would help me quite a bit. Please send it on Tom. Remember me in the morning

Remember me at night

Remember me at all times

And don't forget to write.

Loving Brother D.O. Macko

Letter 8. 25 December 1917, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

(Fig. 16)

{envelope}

Monsieur

Thos. Gushul

La frainçias cârte

25 Décembre, 1917.

Avec les Méilleurs souhaits pour un heureux Noel et de bonhéur por l'année 1918 de Demetrius

O. Macko

ASSISTANT CENSOR

Internment Station

Kapuskasing, New Ontario

25 December 1917.

Wishing you a merry Christmas and a happy new year in 1918. Demetrius O. Macko,

Assistant Censor

Internment Station

Kapuskasing, New Ontario



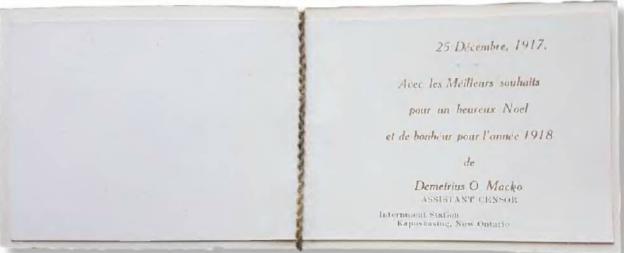


Fig. 16. Postcard from Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul, 25 December 1917, Crowsnest Museum and Archives.

Letter 9. 31 August 1918, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

Aug[ust] 31, 1918

Дорогий Брате:

Всївши до трина вчера вечер, я взяв спально до Calgary через Lethbridge. Тут приїхав нинька о 8^{25} рано. І на жаль моєї знакомої приятельки в Calgary мама померла і я трошка смутний через то—ну але щож дїяти?!

Пізнійше, я пішов по Second-hand склепах, та знайшов много cameras, але нема того що ти хоч, бо ниньки вже не роблять Kodaks з дублтовими лентсами—але всі поєдинї. Так сказати, що дрантя є доста

2

а доброго нема нігде. Я вже навет дальше не буду шукав, бо вже тут нема где—хиба в Vancouver, але не сподійся, бо я не знаю чи там буду мав час так як нинька.

Я ще єно з театру прийшов (5 година) дуже гарний шов був на "Pantages" живий, of course. Єще раз скажу, що не сподійся camera, бо трудно добре знайти. Я бим приніс щось дуже дешевого та тобі неудалобся ніц. Єще напишу колись. Завтра о 5 рано їду до Banff. So Long.

ДОМ

{notes on the back of the letter presumably by Thomas}

Оголошеня старі (ті що ми мали з собою) і трохи нових (прислані з Вінніпеґу стоять на шафі)

Ключі в великій валізці (Велику валізку замкнути і надати на пошту)

Коверти в двох пачках в нашій кїмнатї

Ноти (до сьпіву)

Листи єсли є які для мене

Палицю (з вужем) єсли т[овариш] Ткачук подарує (завинути в папір)

"District Ledger" Бодай два примірники (послідне число)

також "Fernie Free Press"

{second column}

Копію інкорпорації Укр[аїнського] Роб[ітничого] Дому

Не забути усїх наших річий

Цеголки Старі і ті, що прислали з Вінніпеґу

Картки

Тикети

\$20000 в тов. Мінцюка

{notes by someone else not related to the previous ones}

1 Position 4

2nd Position 4

3rd Position 4

31 August 1918

Dear Brother,

Yesterday in the evening I caught a train and had a sleeping berth to *Calgary* via *Lethbridge*. I arrived today at 8²⁵ a.m. Unfortunately, my Calgary lady-friend's mother died, and I am a bit upset because of that—but what can you do?!

Later I went to the *Second-hand* stores and found many *cameras*, but none of them are what you want, since they no longer make *Kodaks* with double lenses—only single ones. I can say that there is a lot of junk

2

but nothing worthy is anywhere to be found. I will not continue looking, because there is nowhere to look here—maybe in Vancouver, but do not entertain any hopes: I do not know if I have time there like today.

I just came back from a theatre (it is 5 p.m.); there was a very good show at "Pantages." Live, of course.

Once again, do not hope to get a *camera*, for it is hard to find a good one. I could have bought something very cheap, but you would not be able to make any good photographs. Will write to you again someday. Tomorrow at 5 a.m., I am leaving for *Banff*. So long.

DOM

{notes on the back of the letter presumably by Thomas}

Old announcements (the ones we had with us) and some new ones (the ones sent from Winnipeg; they sit on top of the shelf)

The keys in the big suitcase (the big suitcase should be locked and delivered to the post office)

The envelopes in two bundles in our room

The music scores (for singing)

The letters if there are any for me

The stick (with a snake) if comrade Tkachuk would give it as a gift (should be wrapped in paper)

"District Ledger" At least two copies (the latest issue)

Also, "Fernie Free Press"

{second column}

A copy of the Incorporation document of the Ukrainian Labour Temple

Do not forget all our things

Bricks, old ones and those shipped from Winnipeg

Postcards

Tickets

\$20000 from comrade Mintsiuk

{notes by someone else not related to the previous ones}

1 Position 4

2nd Position 4

3rd Position 4

Letter 10. 10 September 1918, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

Rosebud Creek, Alta Sept[ember] 10, 1918

Dear Tom:

Arrived here last night to my dearest mama. She certainly welcomed me! The camera was shipped yesterday to your address. Please send the \$70 to me here for I am buying another camera & I need the money, you know that. Don't delay, old tap! I am needing it badly. Say, I wrote to Graphina to express my mandolin, will you see that they send it at once? Help them to pack it up & send at once. There is very few people in this world that have been as good to me as my mama is. She takes the best of care of me & feeds me well. I am sorry I did not come here & don't

ว

go to Coleman at all. You see the way Graphina treated me I should not write to her and absolutely disown her. She is not mine cousin any more, you may be sure of that. You are the only folks I will

ever care for. Don't tell her this, but believe me I am through with her, alright. I should have come here when I first got sick and I would have been all fixed up a month ago. I am feeling very good now. I will come back [to] Coleman in a few weeks or so. Regards to all in the house. Send the pictures here—Box 45.

Brother Demetrius Send the mail if you have any {the last words are unreadable}

Letter 11. 2 October 1918, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

Calgary, Alberta. Oct[ober] 2, 1918

Dear Tom:

I am here for good & intend to go to school. I quit the job for various good reasons, health in particular. Don't say anything about this to anybody. Keep quiet for I don't want to have those senseless folks in Coleman to talk about me. Graphina will give you my present address. I got the money you sent me in Ontario, thanks. Don't say anything to mother for she will publish the news like a telegram. I will write you again. Graphina will tell you all other news, or show you my letter if you care to read it.

Good Bye! Brother.

{on the back}

Thomas Gushul, Esq., Coleman

Letter 12. 5 October 1918, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

Calgary, Alberta. Oct[ober] 5, 1918

Дорогий Брате;

Отсим повідомляю Тебе, що я знаходжусь здоров і не задовго буду робити початки в школі. Вже я записався, але єще не йду бо, щось менї єще перешкоджає. Ну, але очевидно треба вже взятись до науки.

Тепер тобі напишу в який спосіб я сквітував роботу. Як мене там не було, то в мене в Комнаті була визита і забрали скілька важних книжочок та пару чисел часописи, ти вже знаєш якої. Се все значить, що мене хтось підозрівав, а я ся на то злостив і подякував за роботу. Що просили, що не робили, але я такой не дався, бо я мав добру причину. Добре я зробив, бо Ти вже знаєш, що ся стало! Ґрапинії я так не писав бо я знаю, що они не любять просьвіту, і я їм написав инакше. Ти вже знаєш чому. Отже Ти з сим тихонько диши, а ніц не кажи нікому. По дорозі бувєм в Д[окто]ра Сушки і він мене просив, щоби Ти старався поперти «Україну». Зроби так як можеш.

2

Я знаю, що Тобі тепер не так дуже спосібно тому, що все пішло на протів Твої, так й иньших, роботи. Щож тут робити, право мусить ся сповняти! Я би Тобі більше написав, та не знаю чи Ти є в добрім положеню. Напиши по пару рядків на мою сталу адресу Р.О. Вох 1643—Calgary. Прямо жаль менї кінчити сей лист, та ей Богу не вагаюсь бо не знаю Твоє положенє. Прошу напиши менї где що ато умру з розпуки. Не кажи нїц про мене, тимчасом.

Твій Любящий Брат Дмитер

Dear Brother,

With this, I am letting You know that I am healthy, and I will start school soon. I have already signed up but I do not go to school yet, since there are still some obstacles. Yet, it is obvious that I need to finally start classes.

Now I will write You about how I quit my job. While I was away, my room had a visit, and several important books were taken, as well as a couple of the newspaper issues, you already know which ones. It all means that someone suspected me. And in response to that, I was angry and resigned. No matter how they pleaded and what they did, I did not give in, since I had a good reason. It is good that I did it that way, since You already know what happened! I did not write to Grapyna this way, since I know that they do not like enlightenment, so I wrote her differently. You already know why. So, keep quiet about it, do not tell anything to anyone. On my way here, I visited Dr. Sushko, and he asked You to try to support "Ukraine." Do as you can.

I know that it is not as convenient for You now, since everything goes against Your and other people's work. What can we do, the law should prevail! I would write You more, but I do not know if You are in a good condition. Write me a couple of lines to my permanent address: *P.O. Box 1643—Calgary*.

I feel really sorry to end this letter, but I swear to God, I do not dare to write more, since I do not know Your state of affairs. Please write me something, or I will die of despair. Meanwhile, do not say anything about me.

Your Loving Brother, Dmyter

Letter 13. 21 October 1918, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

(Fig. 17)

{on the back reverse of the postcard}
Thomas Gushul, Esq.,
Box 209,
Coleman, Alta

{stamp}

Lethbridge, Alta, October 21 1918

Leth[bridge] 21 Oct[ober] 1918

Дорогий Брате;

Щиро дякую за Твій лист. Не жаль мені за роботою, але жаль менї, що наша надія ушкоджена через собаків. Др. Сушко писав до мене, що нове право не боронить «Україні» єї напрямів. Він писав до правительства, отже попріть «Україну»! Не кажи нїц где я є, мовчи. Я не знаю где буду єще, але Ти пиши до ме[не] на сю адресу. Я звідси виїзджаю за пару день, як удасьться. Піду до Віннїпеґу, або до Америки: що ся стане то не знаю, але хоронитись треба—і чорт бери все.

Твій Брат, Дмитер. Y.M.C.A. Lethbridge.³⁵

³⁵ Lethbridge Young Men's Christian Association started in 1910.



Fig. 17. Postcard from Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul, 21 October 1918, Crowsnest Museum and Archives.

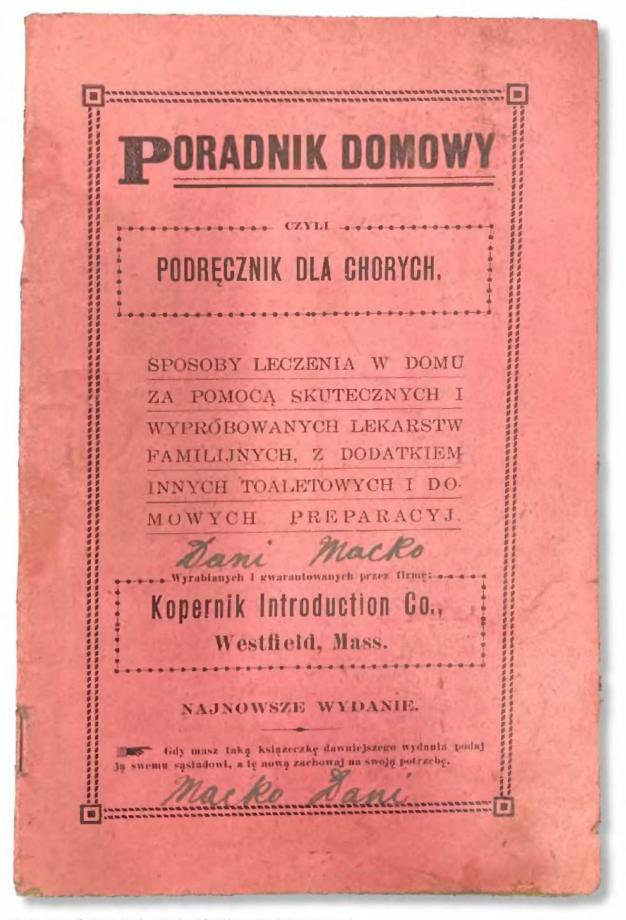


Fig. 18. Cover of a "Home Guide, or Textbook for Sick People" which Dmyter Macko Sent to Thomas Gushul, Crowsnest Museum and Archives.

Dear Brother,

Thank You sincerely for Your letter. I am not sorry about the job, but I am sorry that our hope is damaged by the dogs. Dr. Sushko wrote to me that the new law does not prevent "Ukraine" from choosing her ways. He wrote to the government, so support "Ukraine!" Do not say anything about my whereabouts, keep silent. I do not know yet where I will be, but You write to me at this address. I will leave in a couple of days if I can. Will go to Winnipeg or America. I do not know what is going to happen, but I need to protect myself—and to the devil with everything. Your Brother,

Dmyter. Y.M.C.A. Lethbridge.

Letter 14. 29 November 1918, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

(Fig. 18)
{envelope}
Thomas Gushul, Esq.
Box 209
Coleman, Alta.

{stamp on the back of the envelope}
Y.M.C.A. Lethbridge, 30 November 1918

Nov[ember] 29, 1918

Дорогий Брате:

Щиро дякую за Твій лист з дня 28го. Дуже мене тішить то, що Ти поняв що я писав і приймив моє перепрошенє. Але одно мене смутить, що ти хорий. Пісьля Твоєї описки, я довідуюсь, що Ти маєш «Нервову Диспепсїю» (Nervous Dyspepsia). Я Тобі казав сего літа, що Ти захоруєш єсли Ти не перестанеш ходїти ночами. Чоловік так як сьвічка—горить вночи а в день гасне—а чоловік також повинен робити в день а спочивати в ночи. Часом як сего ся не стереже то тая сьвічка буде горіти з обох кінцїв і скорше вигорить. Так і людский орган, як не спочиває в ночи, але робить, то нищить силу своєго орґану. Памятай що робота ментальна є труднійша фізичної, і тому нищить цілий людский орґан два рази скорше. Отже Ти возьми мій приказ, бо я знаю як то ся діє, бо я сам таку недугу мав минувшого літа. Правда спати не можеш, неспокійний, живіт завше повен, надвір не пускає, коло серця тисне, серед живота під самими грудьми щось там ийби цьвях, їсти хочеться, та не панує,³⁶ голова тяжка, а часом навет щось забива ϵ голову і очи болять. Се ϵ диспепсія. Від перепрацьованя ментального оно повста ϵ , а також від нерегулярної їди. Послухай мене і не їдж капусти, цїбулї (ні смажениї, вареної й сирової) моркви, жадного ситого, або масного, бо масьть то ϵ нетревала і забива ϵ живіт. Не їдж ніц печеного, все що їсиш мусить бути варене а ні печене. Не їдж мяса, не пий каву, ніц солодкого або кислого—бураки також шкідливі. Також перестань курити, бо куреня є дуже шкідливим підчас непорядку в животі. Пий дуже гарячої води перед снїданком і перед 2

спанєм, оден пугар, але уважай щоби вода була так кипляча щоби Ти не міг пити як гербату, але по т[и]шка. Їдж реґулярно, рано о 7 до 8 години, обід 12 до 1шої, вечера 6 до 7мої години. Так уважай щоби межи їдою Твій живіт мав від 5 до 6 годин спочинку. Не їдж нїц межи годинами їджєня, то значить не «перекушуй» собі там та не там, то є не реґулярнїсьть, псує Твій апетит і нищить живіт. Не їдж сирових овочїв, а властиво яблок, але варених та їдж скілько смакує, але

³⁶ Панити—*dial*. подобатися, бути корисним.

лише підчас призначе[но]го часу їдженя. Не переїдай ся, їдж так, щоби єще трошка голоден вставав від стола. Коло їди сїдай просто, не згинайся і проходжайся денно на сьвіжїм воздусі до яких 4-5 годин, але як ходиш то йди просто і вистав груди перед себе. Не стискай живота паском, хай Твій живіт буде вільний. Не журись, не думай, не сумуй, не злосьться, не сварись, не читай і не з

студїюй, але читай щось сьмішного щоби Тебе забавляло і вдоволяло Твої нерви. Йди до лїжка в 10 годинї найпізнійше. Окрім сего, Ти сам спрактикуй, що Тобі не шкодить в їдї, але тимчасом то все буде шкодити, і буде Тебе вдувати, бо жолудок не буде добре роботу свою робити— тревати. Одно уважай, що Ти мусиш жути³⁷ Твою поживу найменьше 50 разїв, то значить що пожива в роті має так бути з жувана, що виглядалоб що в роті маєш молоко ані твердії куски поживи. Жуй поживу аж Ти вже не можеш знайти ніц цїлого і що все перемінилось на рідкісьть, доперва пролиґай. Я не знаю чи се Тобі сподобаєсь, але я ґарантерую, що Ти виличиш ся, однак памятай, що то не за оден ані два дни Ти будеш здоров, то возьме до яких 7—до 24 місяців. Бач я вже 7 місяців хорий і єще не здоров. Слабісьть не пришла за

оден день, тож так скоро й не відійде. Часом може треба буде йти на операцию як живіт вже так знищений, що не можна єго направити. Уважай! Я нераз Тобі се казав, що Ти їсиш дуже неуважно. Дивись щоби Ти наніч мав вікна одчинені, і щоби сьвіжий воздух був всюда. Оно не тілько що руйнує Твоє здоровля але єще дітей Твоїх воведе до сухотів та иньшої небезпечної зарази. Уважай на себе і на цілу фамілію Твою. Спробуй но, а переконаєся, або лутше спитай ся лікаря. Коли би се що я призначив не дало помочи після реґулярного уживаня, так йди до лікаря, раджу йти до Dr. Olivier, бо в нього суть апарати і він довідаєсь скорше про діяґноси, чим безапаратний лікар. Все що я Тобі тут розяснив, то я в сім переконаний. Як лише коло серця Тебе болить, то оно є небезпечне, мабудь сухоти з браку воздуху сьвіжого в помешкани. Йди до лікаря сейчас! Не думай, що се я но так пишу, але прийми се за щиру правду.

Що до мого побуту, то лише одно маю на відповідь, що біда. Я вже такого дійшов щом мусїв заложити Bond за \$100[∞]. Тепер то я вже не знаю як оно вийде але вже мусів підписати вексель на 2 місяцї. Як потрафлю від-дати так мій Bond пропаде, ну але вже хай й пропаде, то я все таки защидив своє житє від голоду. За оден тиждень то я пійду до роботи до банку, там где Мойсюк робив, в Fernie. Вже все маю зладжено і лише чекаю на відповідь від президента з Ванкувер. Они випитувались всяких інформацій

а навет і фотографію вз[я]ли від мене. Трудно дістатись до банкової служби! Я мусїв дати їмя і занятє моєго дїда, вуйків, цьоткїв, і всіх свояків. Таку, брате, метрику зібрали, що я аж не знав звідки то я надумав так много. Навет питали, чи я не є інтерестний в соцїялізмі і чи виберу городжанскі папери, але я їх всіх втуманив і вже й роботу дїстав. Я колись тобі прочитаю всю інформацию, яку від мене забрали, бо я то все точно нотую яко реферату. Вже се тягнесь оден місєць, і чесьть сьвятим, вже все приймлено, но еще мушу чекати аж відповідь прийде на моє принятє до служби. Бач они дали мені оферту на платню, отже як я ся згодив на то, то они дали знати перезедентови, аж тогди як він відпише то я вже піду

до роботи. Трудно до банку впхатись, я не знав, що оно так трудно, але вжем переко нався. Тепер щож Ти над сим думаєш? Я думаю, що не зле, за мала плата але обїцяли підвижки як я переконаю їх, що я заслужив єї. Они мені дають $$75^{83}$ на мїсяць, се дуже добре на початок. Майже кождий новопринятий дістає меньше. \$50 на мїсяць то є досить, але я їм вкрутив що я є знаменитий писар і що володїю 10-ма мовами а єще знаю Книговодства та всї обичаї в Канцеляриї. Бач що я сим то придбав собі. Я знаю що я як возьмусь до науки то скоро научус Числярський Курс, або Accountancy, як то звесь в Анґ. мові. А аccountant to наименьше має $$175^{20}$ на місяць. Може якось я ся впхаю на якогось начальника і по можу свої лихі доли. Щож Ти думаєш?

³⁷ Жути*—dial*. жувати.

³⁸ Лиґати—dial. ковтати.

7

Не кажи ніїц нікому, що я роблю аж пока я не стану до роботи, а тоді то похвались Твоєм браткам банкерем, але не кажи за платню ніїц, лиш можеш казати, що я беру яких \$175⁰⁰ на міїсяць, бо я певний, що до Весни то я заслужу собі на таку платню, я буду дуже старатись. От вдарить она Баранюка, скаже от з нього зробився чудак. Чи Ви ходите однії до других, і щож де про мене говорять? Чи Віра єще на Coleman? Я думаю, що я дам Тобі телеґрафічно знати коли я буду їздив через Coleman до Fernie і Ти прийдеш на станцию бачити мене—га?

Що до бізнесу, ось так брате, я задумую йти до В.С. і взяти фарму там где овочі родять, і завести пасїку і сад. Диви но, я ся переконую з мудрих людий, що на тїм можна скоро заробити, а в додатку чоловік на фармі, межи рожами на сьвіжім воздусі здоровий як цьвях! Я читаю аґрїкольтурну літературу, і вже дїстав з Ottawa много книжочок та иньших добрих інформацій. Я так хочу, щоби Ти старався а я також і щоби ми сьпільно купили яких 10-20 акрів поля в Okanagan District, ВС і щоби Ти забрався на фарму з фамілієв і там господарував, а я буду кувати грошей на розвиток. Отже тимчасом то ми пробуймо так 8

щоби мати готівку, а пізнійше то будем шукати за фармою. Але може Ти знаєш о чімось ліпшім, то напиши що. Але мене тягне до пасїки і саду. Правда що і иньше занятє може мені сподобатись. Я до Краю не задумую їхати, бо там нема добра тепер тай не буде, аж за скілька літ, отже пока що, а ми би збили суму тай вернулись на Україну вільну. Оно возьме пару літ, але без стараня то ніц нема.

Я прошу Тебе о скорий відпис і опиши все докладно що до Ґрапини, Параски і Твого дому. Не забудь сего бо я щось жалую що не чую про Вас всїх більше. Опиши все, але уважай на себе, роби що можеш і вихуруйся.

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Маю я щодо писаня, але не пишу, бо ми поговорим незадовго.

Отже здорови від мене Антона і Ґрапину, Параску і Юзя, Маму та цїлий дім. Желаю Тобі скорого виздоровленя.

Твій брат ДОМ

Y.M.C.A. Lethbridge, November 29 1918

Dear Brother,

Thank you so much for your letter from the 28th. I am very happy that You have understood me and accepted my apologies. The only thing saddens me—that you are sick. According to what you have described, I assume that you have Nervous Dyspepsia. I told you this past summer that you would get sick if you kept walking at nights. A man is like a candle that burns at night and then extinguishes during the day—the same way a man should work during the day and rest during the night. If this rule is not observed then the candle will be burning from both ends and will burn out quicker. The same way is a human organism: if one does not rest at night but works then he ruins the strength of his organism. Keep in mind that mental work is harder than physical work, and that's why it ruins the human organism twice as fast. Therefore take my advice, since I know how that works—I myself had this sickness last summer. True, you cannot sleep, you are restless, your stomach is always bloated, you cannot have a bowel movement; something is pressing against your heart; in the middle of your abdomen, it is as if there is a nail stuck there; you have an appetite but food has no taste; your head is heavy and at times something blocks the head and your eyes ache. This is dyspepsia. Mental overwork causes it, as well as irregular eating. Listen to me and do not eat cabbage, onion (neither fried, nor boiled, nor raw), or carrots; nothing heavy or greasy, since that grease is not nutritious and bloats the stomach. Do not eat anything baked; all you eat should be boiled, not baked. Do not eat meat, do not drink coffee or take anything sweet or sour; beets are also bad. Also, quit smoking, because smoking is very harmful when you have stomach problems. Drink very hot water before breakfast and before

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going to sleep, one glass, but make sure the water is really hot, so that you would not be able to drink it like tea but sip little by little. Eat regularly, breakfast between 7 and 8 a.m.; dinner between 12 and 1 p.m.; and supper between 6 and 7 p.m. Also make sure that Your stomach has about 5 to 6 hours of rest between meals. Do not eat anything between the eating hours meaning do not "snack" here and there—that would cause irregularity; it spoils your appetite and ruins the stomach. Do not eat raw fruits, especially apples, only cooked ones, and eat those as much as you please but only during the designated meal hours. Do not overeat, get up from the table when you still feel a little hungry. When you eat, sit straight, do not bend, and walk daily spending outside about 4–5 hours; but when you walk move straight, with your chest up and forward. Do not suppress your abdomen with a belt, let it be free. Do not be upset, do not think, do not feel sad, do not be angry, do not quarrel, do not read or

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study, but read something funny that would entertain you and settle down your nerves. Go to bed at 10 p.m. the latest. Beside this, find out empirically which food does not harm You, but in the meantime all food will be harming, and you will be bloaty because the stomach will not do its work—food digesting—well. Keep in mind that You should chew Your food at least 50 times, that is the food in Your mouth should be chewed so well that it feels like milk, not solid food. Chew Your food till You cannot find any solid piece and everything is liquified, then swallow. I do not know if You will like it, but I guarantee that You will get well; yet remember that it will take more than a day or two to heal—it will take some 7—to 24 months. You see, I've been sick for 7 months and I still am not well. It took the illness more than

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one day to appear, so it will not leave soon. Sometimes it so happens that one has to have a surgery if a stomach is wrecked beyond repair. Be careful! I told you many times that Your eating habits were careless. Make sure to keep windows open at night, so that fresh air circulates everywhere. It's not just Your health that gets ruined, but Your children might get tuberculosis or some other dangerous sickness. Take care of Yourself and all Your family. Try what I advised and You will see Yourself or better ask a doctor. If what I advised does not bring relief after regular use then go to a doctor; I suggest You go and see *Dr. Olivier*, since he has various equipment, and he will find out a diagnosis faster than a doctor without the equipment. All I told You here, I believe in that. If You have a pain near the heart, it is dangerous and might be tuberculosis due to the lack of fresh air in the apartment. Go to a doctor immediately! Do not think lightly of what I am writing, take it for the truth.

As for my everyday life, I can say only one thing—calamity. I have reached such a state that I had to pawn the *Bond* for \$100¹⁰. I do not know how it will turn out, but I had to sign a promissory note for 2 months. If I do not repay it, I will lose my *Bond*; but even if I lose it I still have saved myself from hunger. In a week, I will start working at the bank where Moisiuk used to work, in Fernie. Everything is already arranged, and I am just waiting for an answer from the president in Vancouver. They collected all kinds of information,

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even took my photo. It is hard to land a job at a bank! I had to give them the name and occupation of my grandfather, uncles, aunts, and all the extended family members. Brother, they have collected such detailed metrics that I do not know how I got all of that. They even asked if I was interested in Socialism and if I was getting citizenship documents, but I spread a mist over them, and have

obtained the job. Someday I will read You all the information they collected about me, since I've been keeping precise notes like a reference list. All that has been happening for a month and, thank the saints, everything has been accepted, but I still have to wait until the answer comes that I've been accepted for the job. You see, they gave me an offer of wages, and when I accepted, they then informed the president, and as soon as he replies I will start

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the job. It is hard to squeeze into a bank—I did not know how difficult it was, but now I know. Now, what do You think about it? I think that it is not bad; the wages are low, but they promised to raise them when I prove to them that I deserve it. They give me \$75⁸³ a month—it is quite good for a start. Almost every new hire gets less. \$50 a month—that's enough, but I have embellished that I am a great scribe and I know 10 languages and how to do bookkeeping and know all the chancellery customs. You see what I have gained by doing that. I know that if I start studying I will quickly learn the Calculating Course, or *Accountancy* as it's called in English. An *accountant* gets at least \$175¹⁰⁰ a month. Maybe I will climb up to a superior position and change my hard luck. What do You think?

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Do not tell anything to anybody that I am employed till I start working; then brag about Your brother the banker; but do not tell anything about the wages, just say that I am paid some \$175⁰⁰ a month, for I am sure I will be earning that by the spring, I will be trying hard. Baraniuk will be struck by that; he will say that I have turned into a weirdo. Do you visit each other, and do you know what others talk about me? Is Vira in Coleman yet? I think that I will let you know via telegraph when I will be stopping at Coleman on my way to Fernie, and You will come to see me, won't you?

Speaking about business, brother, I have in mind to go to B.C. and buy there a farm where fruits grow, and organize an apiary and orchard. Look, from wise people's experience, I am convinced that one can make good money on that quickly; besides, a man on a farm, surrounded by roses and in the fresh air, is as sturdy as a nail! I've been reading agricultural literature and already got many books and other good information from Ottawa. I want very much that You would work hard and I would too, and we together would buy some 10-20 acres of land in *Okanagan District, BC*, and You would move there with Your family and work, and I would gather money for the development. Therefore, in the meantime let's try and collect

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currency, and later on will look for a farm. But maybe You know about something better than this; if so, write to me. I gravitate toward an apiary and orchard, yet some other business might also be appealing to me. I do not plan to go to the Old Country, for there is nothing good there now and will not be for some time; so, we would save up a good sum of money and return to free Ukraine. It will take a couple of years, but nothing can be achieved without hard work.

I ask You to give me a quick reply, and describe everything in detail about Grapyna, Paraska, and Your home. Do not forget about this, for I feel sorry that I do not know more about you all. Describe everything but take care of yourself, do what you can and get well.

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I have stuff to write about but I will not, for we will talk soon.

So, say hello to Anton and Grapyna, Paraska and Yuzio, Mother and all the family. Wishing You a speedy recovery.

Your brother DOM

Letter 15. 10 December 1918, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

(Fig. 19)

Fernie, B.C., Dec[ember] 10, 1918

Дорогий Брате:

Щиро дякую за Твій лист. Я сказав Тов[аришам] про Твою слабісьть, они жалують ся з всяких причин. Справа тих, що Ти писав, вже скінчилась, заплатили по \$75⁰⁰ кошту. Я знакомлюсь з нашими денно в банку і поза банком.

Що до роботи то скажу Тобі щиру правду, що менї йде дуже добре. Тут ε оден хлопець і одна дївчина, які почали робити в банку рік перед мною, але я старший від них в банку. Бач менї дали роботу за книговодця і вже завтра я перебираю всю тую роботу на себе. Мала плата, але я маю нагоду «рости» тому що мене урядник ставить на передї і також він казав, що я маю дуже добрий "chance" доробитись на менаджера за рік або два. Мене уживають дуже добре, і як так на далії буде то я щось зкористаю. Наколи я прийшов до Летбрідж, я купив собі рахункову книжочку і так студіював щоби я перейшов акзамент. Коли я вже переконався, що я удам здати

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акзамент, тодії доперва я почав писати до Банку по роботу. Отже так велось 6 тижднів, а я не спав, але дальше учився високих рахунків. Тяжко до банку дістатись, я мусів йти до лікаря на єкзаминацію і всіїлякі питаня відповідати. Оно велось, як я казав 6 тижнів, і майже що третий день то мене покликали до банку в Lethbridge. Розумієсь они проводили ціїлу справу через банок їхний в Leth[bridge]. так що помилки жадної не можна би зробити. Ти знаєш що я рахунків добре не знав, а єще тутейших, але учивємся так що аж дурів! Тепер то беру курс високих торговельних і банкових справ. Отже бачиш як я доробився. Я знаю що мені завидують люде, але хай они так завидують, я на се тяжко працював колись і слухавєм учених. Всего я не годен Тобі розповісти на папери. Колись то задам собі розповісти все особисто.

Дуже мене тішить, що Ви всі здорові, але жалую Тебе. Що до Christmas, то щиро дякую за Твоє щире серце, але я не можу відси відіхати, тому що не маю лиця просити о урльюп³⁹ так скоро а друге мушу стерегчись і не пустити нікого на

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моє місце. Однак колись то я приїду до Вас а часом може і буду в банку на Coleman. Чи то Commerce банок в Coleman? Як так, то я можу там перенестись дуже легонько. Ну але вже все хай ся тяни так тимчасом. Напиши коли Ти тут приїдеш аби я знав, тому що я хочу щоби Ти щось для мене привіз від Ґрапини. Не забудь сего, прошу. Тут дивуються дуже декотрі, а навет декотрі думають що я тутка післаний на пересьлід, але я сего остро заперечую.

Тобі не треба їхати до Рочестер, як Ти послухаєш мене і зробиш так як я Тобі писав з Lethbridge. Я вірю в тоє бо я сам на собі спрактикував.

Ага, я познакомився на Lethbridge з Mr. Dicken, який походить з Fernie і якого сестра учителькою ґімназиї тутка на Fernie. Єго родичії суть тут і він тут приїде на Різдвяні Свята. Отже він мене запросив на Сьвята до єго родичей, то я певно піду там.

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Тимчасом не маю що до писаня, отже прошу вибачити на сей коротенький листок. Прийміть мої щирі желаня і зістаньтесь всї в найліпшім здоровлю.

Твій щирий Братъ Дмитерь

⁹ Урлюп—відпустка, from Polish "urlop."

Please address all communications to "The Manager"

The Canadian Bank of Commerce

Calle Address:

Dernie, B.C. Dec. 10, 1916.

Dopomii Jefame; Woods gakyn za Albin wech. E chegel Those hos Albon weadientes, our openigrants in g binkud operun. Enpaba muse, un The nucal, byte eximence, zameanimen no \$75 00 kouny. E znakoewence z neuwen genno b danky i nega sankoun. Uso go po some ma ekoopy Mose writing upatgy, us were uge gypte godpe. Myre & ogen seconeus i ogna gibrina, aki noracen podurem & Sanky pik nepegunon, and a empuni big mue & sanky. Terr meni garin forsony y knurstogak i byte zabripa a nefeduparo ben negro po soring na ceda. Muca necessa, aux à mais norogy "poener" many wo were yagunk emabune na nepezi i nrekosp bin Kozab, uzs & men gyske godfine chence gopo Summer na menagpepa za fit aso god. Mene yspendamin gypte gothe, isk nick ha greet dyge nis a work zkopu crean. Hakociu a nquimos go demospiga, a keput co si pasynkoly knusporky i niek enuggiobale uzo su a nepeinnal akzamenne. Name a tope nepekonader, was a game zgame

Dear Brother,

Sincere thanks for Your letter. I told Comrades about Your illness; they complain for various reasons. The cases of those You wrote about are closed, they each paid \$7500 in expenses. I become acquainted with our people daily, both at the bank and outside of it.

As far as the job goes, I will tell You the truth: I am doing really well. There is a boy and a girl here who started working at the bank a year prior to me, but I am above them at the bank. You see, they gave me the job of a bookkeeper, and tomorrow I will take over that position. The pay is low but I have an opportunity to "grow" because the boss puts me in the front, and he also said that I have a very good "chance" to move up to a manager within a year or two. They use me very well, and if things continue like this I will have some profit from it. When I arrived at Lethbridge, I bought myself a calculus book and studied it in order to pass an exam. When I was sure I would be able to pass

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the exam, I started writing to the bank regarding a job. So, it's been like that for 6 weeks, and I did not sleep, for I studied the advanced calculations. It is hard to get a job at a bank; I had to go to a doctor for an exam and answer various questions. As I said, it's been going on like that for 6 weeks, and almost every third day was I called to the bank in *Lethbridge*. Obviously, they were putting this whole thing through their bank in *Lethbridge* so that there would not be a single mistake. You know that I did not know calculations well, especially those used here, but I was studying like crazy! Now I am taking a course on high commercial and banking operations. So, you can see how much I've achieved. I know that people envy me but let them envy—I worked hard for that job and I listened to educated people. I cannot tell You everything on paper. Someday I will tell everything in person.

I am very happy that you all are healthy, but I feel sorry for You. As far as *Christmas* is concerned, I sincerely thank You for Your kind heart but I cannot leave here, for I am not brazen enough to ask for vacation so soon; and then I have to be alert and not let anyone else

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take over my place. Yet someday I will visit You, and later on I may come to your bank in *Coleman*. Is that the Bank of *Commerce* in *Coleman*? If yes, then I can easily transfer over there. But in the meantime, let everything be like it is. Write to me when You'll be coming here, for I would like You to bring me something from Grapyna. Don't forget about it, please. Some people here are surprised, and some even think that I was sent here to spy, but I sharply deny that.

You will not have to go to Rochester if You listen to me and do what I wrote You to do from *Lethbridge*. I believe in that, since I have tested it on myself.

Oh, I got acquainted in *Lethbridge* with *Mr. Dicken*, who hails from *Fernie* and whose sister is a teacher at the gymnasium here in *Fernie*. His relatives are all here, and he will come here for the Christmas holidays. So, he's invited me for the holidays to his relatives; I will probably go.

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Meanwhile, I have nothing else to write about, therefore I apologize for this short letter. Accept my sincere wishes, and stay all of you in the best of health.

Your sincere Brother, Dmyter

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Letter 16. 9 March 1919, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

{envelope}

Thos. Gushul, Esq., Box 209, Coleman, Alta

> Fernie, BC Mar[ch] 9, 1919

Дор[огий] брате:

Твою вчерашну картку отримав за що дякую щиро. Я не знаю чому Ти кажеш що я скоро не відписав до Тебе. Я картку рано дістав і сейчас питав по Drug Stor[e]s за Тазол а в перши годині одписав Тобі. Тож я скорійше не міг сего вчинити, а тому що почта не відходить що години я не винен. Моя картка пішла вечером, а ти її дістав рано, тож я на се не нарікаю і не мислю, що я ϵ причиною

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єї запізненя. Бач ось що то Твоя картка прийшла нинька і я вже пишу до Тебе навет 5 мінут єще нема як я її отримав. Я мало маю часу, Том, я студїюю а також ходжу на всілякі забави, та на лижви а також мушу доглядати до моєї приятельки, часами навет до дуже пізної нічної пори. Знаєш банкерам то час йде як блискавка, всі люди хочуть їх забавляти, а дївчата то аж дуріють.

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Завтра вечер я йду до забави (Snowshoe party). Я ϵ найлутший snowshoer тутка отже мене зато всі тягнуть. в Вівторок то маю йти до школи на мандолинї і до сьпіву, я сьпіваю в церкві. В Середу танець (masquarade), в четвер маю грати на лижвах. В пятницю школа знов а в суботу то аж не знаю що робити. Дуже трудно, дуже мало часу я маю. Приятелька хоче мене в гостину, ба се, ба то і субота минесь як би й не було.

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На 17^{th} St. Partrick's Day Айрішське велике сьвято, а моя приятелька є айриш, тож треба до неї зайти на їхне се велике сьвято на забаву. Ату єще буде великий танець того самого вечера. Прийдесь скочити в воду через брак часу. Окрім сего я студіюю философію і економіку банкерску вечерами часом до 4 години ранку. Я би Тобі всего не розповів за два дни. В неділю то я маю 20 до 30 листів

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писати ату й того не дадуть виповнити бо другі хлопці з банку зайдуть до мої комнату з дівчатами та як зачнуть гнути бандигі⁴⁰ та се та то, то я беру і тікаю і они мене ловлять і беруть десь до їх домів то ми танцюєм граєм на пяно і набуваємся знов. От що хвилька минула, дівчина знакома телефонувала до мене щоби я ся ставив в 3 годині в єї домі з моєю приятелькою і принести

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мандолину з собою бо ону хочуть забавлятись. Ах! Оно дуже гарненько але сі забави то ведуть мене до лінивства в студїюваню. Ах як би Ти знав які то забави тут і всюда, ті з визшої кляси справляють! Брате, я не годен Тобі розповісти.

Вибач що так нестаранно пишу і так мало але я дуже занятий. Я сему не винен, бо

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як я не буду ся з ними всїма окружляти, то они мене відцураються. Банк хоче щоби ми з всїма жили як з братами і щоби ми товаришували як найбільше. Отже се я роблю за мус, але оне не зле.

Прийміть мої щирі желаня Ваш Брат Дмитерь

⁴⁰ Гнути бандиґі—*dial*. плести нісенітниці.

Dear brother,

I received yesterday's card from you and thank you a lot for it. I do not know why You say that I delayed my response to You. I got the card in the morning and immediately asked at drug stores regarding Tazol, and at one o'clock I wrote back to You. So, I could not make it any faster, and it is not my fault that the mail is not being dispatched every hour. My card was dispatched in the evening and you got it in the morning; I do not complain about that, and I have no idea what is the reason

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of it being late. You see, Your card just arrived and I am writing You a letter, and it's not even been 5 minutes since its arrival. I have little free time, Tom, as I study and go to various parties and skating; and I also have to visit my lady acquaintance, and sometimes I stay at her place till very late hours. You know, bankers' time flies like lightning, since everybody wants to entertain them; and as far as the girls are concerned they simply lose their minds.

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Tomorrow in the evening I'll go to a party (*Snowshoe party*). I am the best *snowshoer* over here, that's why everybody invites me. On Tuesday, I am going to a mandolin class and choir practice, I sing in church. On Wednesday, there will be a dance (*masquerade*); on Thursday, I am supposed to play hockey.⁴¹ On Friday, the school again, and I am not sure yet what I will do on Saturday. It is very hard; I have very little free time. My lady acquaintance wants me to visit her, this and that, and Saturday will pass like it never existed.

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On the 17th it is *St. Patrick's Day*, a big Irish holiday, and my lady acquaintance is Irish, so I have to pay her a call on their big holiday. And that very evening, there is going to be a big dancing event. I will have to jump in the water because of the lack of time. Besides that, I study philosophy and banking economy at nights, sometimes till 4 in the morning. I would not be able to tell you everything I do in two days. On Sundays, I need to write between 20 and 30 letters;

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and I cannot do it, for the guys from the bank come to my room with girls, and start talking such nonsense that I run away and they catch me, and then bring me to one of their houses where we dance, play piano, and again have a nice time. Just a minute ago, a girl I know called me so that I come at 3 p.m. to her house together with my lady acquaintance and bring

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the mandolin, for they want to have fun. Oh! It's very nice, but those parties make me lazy in my studies. Oh, I wish You knew what kind of entertainment people from the upper class have here and elsewhere! Brother, I cannot describe that to You.

Excuse me for my careless and short writing, but I am very busy. It is not my fault, since

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if I do not mingle with all of them they will disown me. The bank wants us all to be like brothers and keep as many friendly contacts as possible. Therefore, I have to do it, but it is not bad.

Sending you my sincere wishes Your Brother, Dmyter

⁴¹ It may also mean skating.

Letter 17. 9 September 1919, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

{envelope}

Thomas Gushul, Esq., Box 209, Coleman, Alta

{stamp}

Coleman, Alta, September 9 1919

Fernie, B.C. Sept[ember] 9th, 1919.

Dear Tom,

Just returned from a trip down to the good old East and found two of your letters which are rather disappointing. I wrote to you that I could not possibly write while I am away and therefore I thought that you will excuse me and wait until I return, but you evidently got the wrong inpression (*sic*) of my epistle. No, I am not angry at you at all, I am just so busy that I hardly have time for my meals. I had a fine time on my holidays and believe me I have made quite a hit with some dames. Don't be surprised if you should receive an anouncement (*sic*) of my engagement or even a marriege (*sic*). I am enclosing \$6.00 to cover the last and the balance due you for the photo work. I lost the bill you sent me and therefore I am not quite sure if this is the right amount, but if it is not you let me know and we will fix the difference at once. I am sorry that I did not settle long before this, but you know, I was so darn busy and did not have enough cash for the trip took several hundreds out of my pocket.

How is everybody? Kindly convey my best regards to them. I will be in Coleman when I have an opportunity and it will be soon I hope.

With brotherly love, Your big brother, Demetrius



Letter 18. 16 November 1919, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

(Fig. 20)

{postcard}
Thos. Gushul, Esq.
Box 209,
Coleman, Alta

{stamp}

{text on the postcard}
Is it my fault, that you are leaving
Me and looking for another man,
That you fill up my soul with
Despondency and despair,
Is it my fault?

Nov. 16—1919. Дор[огий] Брате!

Fernie, BC, 16 November 1919

Дякую за Твій лист. Що Ви до мене беретесь так не приязно. Як Ви до мене не пишете, то певно я до Вас не буду. Я не маю часу бо студїюю. Хай сї фернійскі Тов[ариші] не нарікають бо не мають чому. Я їм нічого злого не вчинив а як я з ними не латаюсь то се мій бізнес. Я не хочу волочитись з піяками та иньш.

Дмитро

Желаю щастя в College Tom.

16 November 1919.

Dear Brother!

Thank You for Your letter. That You approach me in such an unfriendly way. Since You do not write to me then I probably won't write to You. I do not have time, since I study. May these Fernie Comrades not complain, for they have no reason to do so. I did not do anything wrong to them; and if I do not connect with them, it is my business. I do not want to associate with drunks and such.

Wishing you luck with the College, Tom.

Letter 19. 21 December 1919, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

{envelope}
Thomas Gushul, Esq.,
Box 209,
Coleman, Alta

{stamp}

BC, December 22 1919

Fernie, BC Dec[ember] 21, 1919

Дор[огий] Брате:

Щиро дякую за Твій лист яким Ти мене надзвичайно потїшив. Ато мабудь тому, що Ти не побирав на мене безсердечно і безпідставно. Вибач щом скорше не відписав але я не годен Тобі розяснити чому мені часу не вистарчає бо Ти не віриш мені.

Що до батька і ього листа, то прошу Тебе щеренько пішли мені їх лист хай сам перечитаю, бо вже 5 лїт відколим листа від них не бачив навет. Також подай мені як я можу до них писати на яку почту, край і т.д. Я може до них напишу незадовго. Я[к]-Ти до них пишеш то пиши хай до мене напишуть на мою адресу в Фернї, скажи їм що я в банку.

2

Мені щось так видаєсь, що мушу повернути домів на якийсь час та старатись о вивільненє Укр[аїни]. Поляки не мають до дїла з нами, отже ми не хочем мати з ними.

Що до Ґрапини і Антона, то я сам не знаю, що почати. Я до них писав а они мені відповіди не дали за що я ся трошка жалую і не хочу писати, але нинька напишу до них пару сьлів.

Коли вже Ти до школи поїдеш? Я учусь денно то на банкера, то на писара драматичних штук. Чи би Ти менї поміг где що в разї як би я почав писати по укр[аїнськи]? Я хочу якусь драматичну штуку написати для укр. народа. Мойсюк так мені радить. Він робить в нашім банку на Hafford, Sask[atchewan]. Мені по одно перескоджає, ато —

3

я не володію укр[аїнською] мовою достаточно а друге не знаю на яку тему писати. Щось мені видаєсь, що комічна штука удасьть ся мені дуже добре. Що Ти на се скажеш?

Як вже Тобі звістно, що я учусь музики а головно на мандолині, то Ти знаєш що мені час впливає так що аж хвильки не зістаєсь вільної. Наразі я мушу чатити (sic) часописи як також мушу провадити кореспонденцію з моїми приятелями.

Ага, Мойсюк жениться в Jan[uary] 1920 бере Анну Епішевську з чиєю сестрою я проваджу любу кореспонденцию, звесь Юлія. Она сейчас в дорозії з театром званий "Ukrainian Echo" і тепер суть в Edmonton. Мойсюкова наречена також була з ними але через якусь сварку вернулася до В[і]н[ніпе]ґу. Ти мабуть се все знаєш.

4

Сьвята ближаться а я не знаю где то їх перемучити. Я щось занедбав забавами як й танцями отже як в Пятницю буде сьвято, то може приїду до Коломан. Чи приймете мене? Наразї желаю Вам всїм великих сьвят і щастливого Нового Року.

Ваш позавсігди вірний Брат Дмитер

Незабудь прислати той лист від батька скоренько. М

Dear Brother,

Sincere thanks for Your letter that has brought me huge consolation. That's probably because You did not reprimand me heartlessly and groundlessly. Forgive me for not replying sooner but I cannot explain to You why I am short of time, because You do not believe me.

As far as father and his letter are concerned, I am asking You sincerely to forward me their letter, I want to read it myself, for it's been 5 years since I have received a letter from them. Also, give me his address that I can write to them, which post office, country, and so on. I will probably write to them soon. When you write to them, ask them to write to me at my Fernie address; tell them that I am at the bank.

2

It looks to me like I must go back home for some time and fight for Ukraine's liberation. The Poles do not have anything to do with us, so we do not want to do anything with them.

As far as Grapyna and Anton are concerned, I myself do not know what to do. I wrote to them, but they did not reply; and I feel a little sorry for myself and do not want to write anymore, but I will write a couple of words to them today.

When will You go to school? I study every day to become both a banker and a theatrical playwright. Would You help me out if I start writing in Ukrainian? I would like to write a play for the Ukrainian people. Moisiuk advises me that I should. He works at our bank in *Hafford, Saskatchewan*. One thing that impedes me is that

3

I do not know Ukrainian well enough, and the other thing is that I do not know which topic to choose. Something tells me that I would be really good at comedy. What would You say about it? As You already know, I study music, mainly mandolin. So, You know that the time runs by, and I have not a spare minute left. Now I have to read newspapers, and I also have to correspond with my friends.

Oh, Moisiuk is getting married in *January* 1920 with Anna Epishevska, with whose sister I have a lovely correspondence; her name is Yulia. She is currently away with a theatrical group called *Ukrainian Echo*; they are in Edmonton right now. Moisiuk's fiancé was with them as well, but, because of some quarrel, she returned to Winnipeg. Maybe you know all of this.

4

The holidays are coming, and I do not know where to suffer through them. I somehow have neglected parties and dancing, so when there is a holiday on Friday I might come to Coleman. Will you accept me?

In the meantime, I am wishing You all great holidays and a Happy New Year.

Your forever faithful Brother, Dmyter

Do not forget to forward that letter from my father soon. M

Letter 20. 10 August 1920, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

{envelope}

Thomas Gushul, Esq. Box 209 Coleman, Alta

{stamp}

Coleman, Alta, August 11 1920

Aug[ust] 10, 1920

Дор[огий] Брате:

Щиро дякую за Твій лист.

Я щиро Тобі дякую що Ти розяснив людям в W[inni]p[e]g що мїж Тобою а мною є велика ріжниця і що Ти не відвічуєш за мене, бо що я завинив то річ моя і нїхто не має права пхати носа там де не треба. Я знаю що я робив і кому не удалось то хай іде на мене або до заряду правительного єще лучше.

2

Нема з великої хмари дощу. Жорстоко не відносився я до нікого. Котрі мене вразили заболючо то єще відпокутують. Мені жаль що в Wpg. в У.Р.Д.⁴² повірили опісьля того, що я виповняв і страдав для нашого хруньства. Нераз дописи були в часописи яких нїхто би був не пустив лише дурак я. Страдав, старався, а єще они мене доносами сами псували. Не всї але були такі одиницї що я їм добре зробив а они донесли перед очи собак. Через що я стратив таку службу і втїкав як теля в глубину Захїдної Канади? Чи ти не

3

пригадуєш собі Sept[ember] 1918? Як то заперли Роб[очий] Народ⁴ і взяли все під жорстоку опіку? Чи тов[ариші] в W[inni]p[e]g подуріли? Правда всїм вгодити не годен сам Чорт з хвостиком і я признаюсь, що були покривджені деякі особи, але не з моєї руки а більше з самої свої дурної патріьотики.

Щиро дякую Тобі Томку за твої щирісьть, що ти мені все розяснив, бо я думав щось, а від нинька не хочу мати ніц до діла з жадними тов[аришами] в W[inni]p[e]g і відошлю їм членьску книжечку і подякую за їх хитрісьть. Перепрошувати не буду, бо я заслужив товаришскої подяки, а не ганьби.

4

В мене сьльози прямо льють ся підчас сего писаня, що я так страдав єже захорував, бо сам знаєш, а они на мене так ворожо від казують. Чекай но!!!! Я вже ніколи в житю не поможу нашому робітникові. Від нинька, Томку, понад Тебе в мене нема приятеля між нашими, а всі вороги і я буду їх числив такими аж до кінця моєго духа, Амінь! Жаль і розпука велика мені що за мою щиру працю бо я на сумлінє нераз вліз так глубоко за добром для плінників, що моє житє висіло на волоску. Чому то они неберуться до Тих що таки

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передачно мучили. Чи я не знаю Рудніцкого, Константину Бабій, Юсь Норман та десятки иньших котрі брали гроші від кождої голови що замкли в неволю. А чи Рудніцький знає читати по укр. а він перечитував листи в Morrissey⁴⁴! Ах, якеж то горе! Але їх не чипляються, бо они не укр. а я свій то можу вибачити. Чи се правда Томку? Я знаю більше що ся робило підчас війни чи[м] хто иньший і я знаю

⁴² Wpg. в У.Р.Д—Український робітничий дім (Ukrainian Labour Temple) in Winnipeg.

⁴³ Working People ("Робочий народ")—newspaper, official organ of the Federation of Ukrainian Social Democrats; appeared in Winnipeg from 1909 to 1918.

⁴⁴ Morrissey, town in BC near Fernie where an internment camp was located between 1914–1919.

6 що говорю.

Та то шкода часу на таку марницю. Наші люди ніколи не зробили нічо доброго, бо мають велику завісьть, отже они мені завидують а я їм за се не дам того чого мені думка занесла перед Твоїм листом. Хай від нинька робітники знають, що втратили Товариску руку від мене яка колись думала збудувати щось такого, що робітники за ним страдають. Не дам і не перешкоджу, але возьмусь політики і колись покажу що я є.

Прошу о відпис Брат Дмитер

10 August 1920

Dear brother,

Sincere thanks for Your letter.

I sincerely thank You for explaining to people in *Winnipeg* that there is a big difference between You and me and that You are not responsible for my actions; What I am guilty of is my business, nobody has a right to stick their noses in what is not their concern. I know what I was doing, and those who dislike it let them come to me or better yet go to a government institution.

2

No rain comes from a big cloud. I was not cruel to anyone. Those who caused me pain will yet atone. I'm sorry that in *Winnipeg* at the Ukrainian Labour Temple they believed that after what I did and suffered for our piggishness. Many times there were entries for publication that nobody would have allowed, and only stupid I permitted them. I suffered, worked hard, and they still harmed me with their denunciations. Not all of them—but there were such people that I did good for them, and they denounced me to the dogs. Why did I lose such a good job and run away like a calf deep inside Western Canada? Do You

3

remember September 1918? When they locked up The Working People and took everything under strict control? Have the comrades in Winnipeg gone crazy? It is true that even the devil with a tail himself cannot please everybody, and I confess that some people got screwed; but not because of me, rather because of their own stupid patriotics.

Thank You a lot, Tommy, for your sincerity while explaining everything to me; I was thinking something but now I do not want to have anything to do with the comrades from *Winnipeg*, and I will mail back my membership card and thank them for their cunning. I will not beg pardon, for I deserve their comradely thanks, not their shaming.

4

Tears are streaming down my cheeks as I am writing this; you know that I suffered so terribly that I got sick, and they are so hostile toward me. You just wait!!!! Never again in my life will I help our workers. From now on, Tommy, You are my only friend among our people, the rest are enemies, and that's who they will remain for the rest of my life, Amen! I feel pity and deep despair that I've got that for my conscientious work, since many times I tried so hard to do good for the prisoners that my own life hung on a hair. Why would they not confront those who

5

tortured them badly. Don't I know Rudnytskyi, Konstantyn Babii, lus Norman, and dozens of others who took money from all those locked up.⁴⁵ And is Rudnytskyi able to read in Ukrainian? But he was reading letters at *Morrissey!* Oh, what a misfortune! But they do not confront them because

The name Constantine Babij (also Baby) appears in archival documents in relation to the Lethbridge Internment Camp. In October 1914, the Minister of Justice from Ottawa requested that Constantine Babij enter the service and assist the Provost Marshall in the City of Montreal, QC, as Investigator of Alien enemies. Babij started this job and expected to stay in the Montreal office. However, in May 1916 the Department of Justice at Ottawa ordered Babij to "leave Montreal immediately and report to the Commanding Officer of Internment Camps at Ledbridge (sic) Alberta." He worked there until March 1920. Before WWI and after coming back from Alberta, Babij ran a business as a licensed steamship ticket agent and foreign exchange broker (Library and Archives Canada, RG13-A-2, Volume number: 308, File number: 1926-1734).

they are not Ukrainians, and I am one of their own so I can excuse them. Isn't that right, Tommy? I know more about what was going on during the war than anyone else, and I do know 6

what I am talking about.

Yet, I feel sorry to waste time on such useless stuff. Our people have never done anything good because they have great envy, therefore they envy me; and for that I will not give them what I thought about giving before getting Your letter. May the workers now know that they have lost my Comradely hand, that which once wanted to build up something the workers desire. I will neither give them that nor impede them, but I will go into politics and someday I will show them who I am.

Asking for a reply Brother Dmyter

Letter 21. 4 August 1921, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

(Fig. 21) {postcard} 8 /4 /21

> Се наш парохід на якому я нинька знаходжусь Напишу більше пізнійше тепер то лиш так на спомин даю знати Вам що женюсь.

> > Брат Дмитро

4 August 1921

This is our steamer on which I am right now.

I will write more later on. This is just for memories, letting you know that I will be getting married.

Brother Dmytro

Letter 22. 10 May 1923, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

{envelope}

Thomas Gushul, Esq. Box 209 Coleman, Alta Canada

{stamp}

San Francisco, CA, 16 May 1923

{on the back of the envelope}

From: Apt. 5 828 Seventh St., Richmond, Calif[ornia]

828-7th St. Мая 10^{го} 1923

Дорогий Брате!

Щиро дякую Тобі за лист і картки, які Ти краще зробив чим тутейший спеціяліст. Як також щиро дякую за листи від Консульства і Родителів з Краю. Я залучаю знов лист до Консульства



| PLALISHED BY THE GOWER SULTON CO. LTO. VANCEUVER D.C. |
|---|
| POSTCARD |
| CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS |
| Der nam naposig na |
| Konney dereme nignimene |
| nichep nu mink na |
| noeum gan zueum Baen ujo spennet. Lepon |

Fig. 21. Postcard from Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul, 4 August 1921, Crowsnest Museum and Archives.

який прошу приліпити 3¢ марку і кинути на почту, а коли відповідь прийде так мені вислати. Не регіструй, бо шкода коштів, коли ніхто не вкраде.

Я до Ґрапини писав, щоби передала всі мої річи до Тебе, бо они писали, що будуть їхати до Америки і не знали що з моіми річами дїлати, отже Ти їх дїстанеш бо они на се згодились.

3 Краю пишуть про їх горе і сьльозами прошуть брати їх до Канади, але я не годен їм дати помочи. Ти вже сам знаєш як гроші йдуть. Я зашпарував [2]

пару центів та одружився, а тепер то складати грошей не годен, бо заплативши рент, бучерню, ґросирею і т. д. то нам мало остаєсь на запас. Друге, чоловік без цента не може лишитись або в довги лізти, бо в разі слабости або чого иньшого, то треба годувати жону разом з собою. Я на лікарство такой мушу складати бо жінка буде брати цінну лікарську операцию. Тато пишуть, що коби то они чулись здоровшим то сами би все спродали а їхали до Америки або Канади. Я їм не раджу на се, бо тут фарми вже порозбирали котрі добрі були, але я їм раджу їхати до України або на Полудень до Бразилії. Там є досить фармів і є там гарна укр[аїнська] околиця, около 100.000 українції в одній провінції. Що робити то не знаю, бо взяти їх тут то не тілько що не маю гроший але навет тут нема для них фаху. San Francisco і околиця є фабриканьска, а фармів нема, окрім скілька садів помараньч і цетрин яких Європейці не знають плекати. Я з нашими фармерами не знаюсь і не годен зробити жадного торгу. Чи Ти не знаєш когось в Канадії щоби взяв Михася? Я би дав гроші коби то лише хтось єго доглядав поки він підучить ся Канадийского руху. Друге, возьми Михася, то не лиши Федора, а обох взяти то так [3]

як руки відрізати від старенького отця. Він вже старий, ослабленний а там їх треба доглядати з дїтьми. Я заключую, що або всїх брати на фарму або лише Михася.

Тішить мене що Ти вже добрі інформациї маєш з Укр[аїни]. Чи Ти читаєш Camera Craft? Коли так, то Ти знаєш що Мувіс Камеру можна купити за пару долярів. \$100 то купиш красиву Камеру а научитись то не штука Тобі фотоґрафови. Читай Камера Крафт, а там знайдеш сотки Камерів на мувіс.

Дальше, чому Ти не вислав мені тую фотоґрафію що Михась для мене вислав як також копію з нього самого? Тимчасом, мені пригадуєсь, що Ти мав фотоґрафію з Укр[аїнської] Театральної Трупи що грала «Ой не Ходи Грицю на Вечерниці». Єще 1913 року чи 1914 они були з Edmonton і з ними була «Чїчка» та красива аматорка. Ти пригадуєш собі га? Ну чи Ти не дав би мені копію з неї (себто з цїлої трупи) як також всяки иньші яких Ти можеш дати мені з україньців в укр. костумах. Як Тобі вже звістно що я переклав на Анґлійску мову «Ой не Ходи Грицю на Вечерниці» і мені потрібно укр. фотоґрафій на взори для костумів. З памяти я не годен їх нарисувати а фотоґрафії навет краще би виглядали в брошурі. За Твою щирість спімну тебе в переднім слові моєї книжочки з подякою. Коли би Ти міг дати где що більше на сю справу [4]

так прийму сердечно. Ти сам вже знаєш чого треба щоби Провїнцьональним Канадаянам і Амер[иканцям] впало до смаку. Яко сам фотоґраф в Тебе на певно ϵ не мало знимок з Укр. Театральних Труп і т.д. Дякую за се з гори!

Дальше не маю що до писаня лише додам що в нас дуже гарячо тепер. Вже маємо черешні єще 2 тиждні тому минуло відколи ми їх вже їли. Ягоди і т.д. вже суть достатком і сподіємось бруцвин на днях. Сливки то єще зеленї, але тої великі звані "White Plums" вже будуть достиглі на днях.

Часописи ниньки вечером доносять що 3ох з Росийської Делєґациї убили фащіти Італійски. Япон зробив якійсь торг з Большевиками на рент лісового запасу в Сибириї на 30 літ, чи там що, і так хто знає що ся стане завтра.

Пиши до мене з часта, і не забувай за фотоґрафії головно з Михася і мами а дальше і другі. Хвалю Вас за Іванів добрий усьпіх музичний з нього буде добрий Козак коли на кобзарі грає!

> Стискаю Твою руку по Козацки, Твій Брат Дмитер

Dear Brother!

Thank you sincerely for Your letter and cards, which You made better than a local specialist does. I also thank You sincerely for the letters from the Consulate and from the parents in the Old Country. I am enclosing again a letter to the Consulate and asking You to attach a 3¢ postmark and post it at a Post Office, and when there is an answer send it to me. Do not register the letter, it's a waste of money, if nobody steals it.

I wrote to Grapyna asking her to ship all my belongings to You, since they wrote that they would be leaving for America and did not know what to do with my things; therefore, You will receive them, for they've agreed to do so.

They are writing from the Old Country and begging with tears to bring them to Canada, but I am unable to help them. You know yourself how much money is spent. I have gathered [2]

a couple of cents and got married; so now I cannot save money, since after paying for the rent, butcher, groceries, and so on, we have little left. Secondly, a man cannot spend the last cent or get into debts, since in case of illness or something else he has to feed his wife and himself. I also have to save for medication, for my wife will have an expensive medical surgery. My father writes that if he felt healthier he would sell everything himself and leave for America or Canada. I advise against it, for all the good farms here have already been taken, but I advise him to go to Ukraine or South to Brazil. There are enough farms over there and a nice Ukrainian community, around 100,000 Ukrainians in one province. I don't know what to do, for not only do I not have money to bring them here but there is also nothing here for his occupation. San Francisco and its areas are industrial; there are no farms except for several orchards of oranges and lemons, and Europeans do not know how to tend those. I have no contacts among our farmers, and I am unable to make any deal. Do You know anybody in Canada who would take Mykhas'? I would give money if only someone would look after him till he learns Canadian ways. Secondly, if one brings Mykhas' one should bring Fedir too, but to take both of them would be like

[3]

severing the arms of their old father. He is already old, weakened, and he would have to be looked after together with the children over there. I come to the conclusion that either all of them should be brought or Mykhas' only.

I am glad that You receive good news from Ukraine. Do You read *Camera Craft*? If yes, then You know that a movie camera costs a couple of dollars. For \$100 You would buy a nice camera, and it would not be difficult for You, the photographer, to learn how to use it. Read *Camera Craft*, and You will find there hundreds of movie cameras.

Next, why didn't You send me the photograph that Mykhas' sent for me, as well as a copy of his own photograph? By the way, I remember that You used to have a photograph of a Ukrainian Theatre group that staged "Oh, don't go, Hryts', to the vechornytsi." Either in 1913 or 1914 they came from Edmonton, and there was that beautiful amateur actress, "Chichka" with them. Do You recall that? Could you give me a copy of her photograph (i.e. of the whole group), as well as any other photographs of Ukrainians in Ukrainian costumes. As You know, I have translated "Oh, don't go, Hryts', to the vechornytsi" into English, and I need photographs of the Ukrainian costumes. I cannot draw them from my memory, but photographs would look even better in a brochure. For Your courtesy, I will mention Your name in the foreword to my book thanking You. If You can give me something else for this project

[4]

I will be very grateful. You know what exactly the provincial Canadians and Americans would like. Since You are a photographer You probably have many photographs of the Ukrainian Theatrical groups and so on. Thanks in advance!

Don't have anything else to write about, just can add that it is very hot now here. We already have cherries, we have already been eating them 2 weeks. There are lots of berries and so on, and we

expect peaches these days. Plums are not yet ripe but the so-called "White Plums" will be ripe in several days.

Today's evening newspapers report that Italian fascists killed 3 members of the Russian delegation. Japan made some deal with the Bolsheviks about renting the forest wood in Siberia for 30 years or something like that; who knows what is going to happen tomorrow.

Write to me often, and don't forget the photographs, mainly of Mykhas' and mother but also of others.

Congratulations on Evan's success in music; he will turn into a good Cossack since he plays the kobza!

Shaking Your hand in the Cossack way, Your Brother Dmyter

Letter 23. 3 January 1924, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

{envelope} DOMacko

828-712 Richmond Calif.

{stamp}

San Francisco, CA, 2 January 1924

Thos. Gushul. Esq., P.O. Box 209, Coleman, Alta. Canada

> Richmond, Calif[ornia] Jan[uary] 3, 1924

Дорогий Брате

Я жалуюсь щом скорше не відписував, але я не мав часу. Сьвята, та се та те а єще фотоґрафії, то менї не стало часу на писанє.

Ти бажаєш щоби я обширнійше до Тебе писав, але Ти сам знаєш що мїж нами рідко коли буває довга Кореспонденция. Ти занятий Твоїми рїчами, а я своєми, і ми ніколи не гармонуємо. Бажав Ти щоби я обширнійше написав про Каліфорнію, а се річ не так велика, чи Ти в часописях не знаходиш нічого про сей Куток? В нас зими нема, се Ти сам знаєш, але однак зимно. Снігу нема, ані морозу, але під зимову пору то трошка дощево & холодні вітри докучають пару часів. Що до бизнесу, то ту є всякий рух. Каліфорнія є більша чим ціла Канада, себ то не тереторою, але фахом і мешканьцями, то Канаду тут можна загубити. Під сю пору, всякий дух приганяє людий з Півночи, бо тут теплійше, а на Весну всі розходяться. Отже роботи тут нема много тепер

[2]

фотоґрафійний бизнес є тут добрий але треба бути артистом, бо тут є фотоґрафи з всякої нациї і високого артистичного образованя. В San Francisco є около 200 фотоґрафів і між ними суть особи які тримають золотї медалї за хорошу роботу з екзибицій з Парижа, Лондону, Вїдня, Петрогороду і т.д. Не то що я хочу Тебе звести з Твоїх думок, бо вірю що Ти сам є значним фотоґрафом, але скажу вірно, що в Канадї таких артистів я не бачив. Тут вже фото-студия то є дїм чогось наймудрійшого. Бо сам знаєш які штуки суть в «мувіс» отже їх тут кождий знає.

Майже кожна студия має Moving Picture Outfit бо часом їх робота вимагає сих штук. Коли Ти хочеш так приїхай сходи а роботу знайдеш, бо завше я читаю що потрібно фотоґрафа на се та на те. Чому не читаєш яких magazines фотоґрафічних. Як Camera Craft San Francisco; The Camera of Philadelphia; Photo Era. Я сі 3 читаю сам і знаю що дієсь на фотоґрафічнім поли.

Що до мене то я коротенько опишу (вибачай а я забуваю). Я беру Курс фотог. "A complete modern Photography" бранчів описати я не годен, бо я покриваю всїх. Від Amateur Finishing до High Grade Portraiture

3

Moving Pictures, Commercial, Architecture, Landscape, Press Work, Tele-photo, Micro-Photo, Color Photography i Portraiture, Copying, Enlarging, Coloring, Retouching, Etching, Engraving Bromoil Transfer, Photo-Chemistry, Photo-Journalism—взагалі я учусь комплітний курс.

Вже половину курсу перейшов і за всякий екзам я дістав 100% з гонором. Отже кажуть мої приятелії, що я є артист знаменитий і що фот. робота є моїм найкращим фахом. Я практикую вечерами, бо в день роблю в офісії. (Я маю гарну посаду за Accountant в великій фабриції) Маю дві Камери Premo special $3\frac{1}{4}$ х $4\frac{1}{4}$ double extension Optimo shutter Tessar II b lens $5\frac{1}{2}$ focus i Seneca View & Home Portrait 5x7 with R.R. lens $7\frac{1}{2}$ focus. Уживаю Eastman films, для портретів уживаю Port[rait] film (cut film) а для landscapes itc (sic) уживаю Orthochromatic або Panchromatic cut films and for copying the Commercial Process films. Маю свою Eastman Studio Scales і роблю сам свої девелопри і все Intesifiers (sic), Reducers, Sepia Tones, Gold Tones and combination of colors tones. Я беру Атаteur роботи досить так, що мені платиться за розхід в моїх експерментах (sic). Часом беру ґрупи а навет портрети за які я роблю добрий

4

гріш. Enlargements приносять великі гроші також але ся робота є трошка за дорога для Amateurs. Коли скінчу сей Курс так я возьмусь до практики, а може ще покину все. Я научився вже сотки штук таких як додавати хмари до landscapes, Vignetting, double printing а що найважнійше формалі для всякої штуки яких не кождий знає.

Як Ти знаєш що То значить "hyperfocal distance"? я виграв \$100 за сей subject від Calif[ornia] Art. ass[ociation] Так брате я не годен Тобі все описати, але забезпечу Тебе, що коли я виконаю сей Курс то не буду два рази думати чи є хтось мудрійший чи ні на фот. поли. Я нинька посїдаю знанє фот. яке много так званих фотоґрафів навет не снили.

Чому Ти мені не вишлеш тую фотоґрафію з Василя і Мачухи яку ти вже рік тримаєш? Як також Ти обіцяв дати й иньших для мене. Я Тобі вислав много моїх і єще маю много кращих.

Томку, возьми но і послухай мене. Коли робиш Amateur work і уживаєш много amateur paper попробуй но "Haloid Rito" найкращий папір в Америції на сю роботу. Я переконаний, бо я уживаю їх всїх

[5]

Eastman, Artura Iris, Aegis, Carbon Black Wellington, Defender, Gevaert; Nova-Gas; Ronix; Nova-Brom Cyko Professional Plat & Noko

Коли маєш охоту возьми но "Tabloid" Rytol aбо Jancol Developer і запробуй. Побачиш що то за девелопер. Я роблю много портретів на Old Master Buff Barbon Black for Sepia Tonning (sic) але для хороших Black & white variety уживаю Old Ivory Haloid. Для портретів яких я думаю кольорувати Artura Iris D Royal Grade є найкраща. Не дай сі інформациї нїкому я би більше дав та боюсь що впадесь до чужих рук. Колись то поділю Тобі особисто много штук.

Що до нашої злуки то я не знаю єще на се я згоджаюсь, але треба околиції в якій можна би зробити $$500^{00}$ each чистого доходу. за меньша то шкода часу, бо я тут годен се зробити а в Канадії можна єще більше бо там добрих студій нема окрім скілька в великих городах.

Прости, і скоро відписуй та вибачай за сю киселицю, бо я пусати *(sic)* по нашому забуваю щодня.

Здоровлю Вас всіх Щирий Брат Дмитеръ Dear Brother,

I feel sorry that I did not reply sooner, but I did not have time. Holidays, this and that, plus photographs—so I did not have time for writing.

You would like me to write more extensively to You, yet You yourself know that there is rarely long correspondence between us. You are busy with Your things, and I am with mine, and we do not harmonize.

You wanted me to write more about California, but that is not a big thing. Don't You find anything in newspapers about this land? We do not have winters, You know that yourself, yet it is chilly. There is no snow or frost, but it is a bit rainy in the winter time and a couple of times cold winds pester. As far as business is concerned, there are all kinds of movements. California is bigger than the whole of Canada, i.e., not in terms of territory but in terms of specialties and population, all of Canada could get lost here. Around this time, various spirits drive people from the North in, since it is warmer here; and in the spring, they all leave. Therefore, there is not much work here now.

The photography business here is good but one has to be a good artist, since there are photographers here of all ethnicities and of high artistic training. In *San Francisco*, there are about 200 photographers, and among them there are persons who received gold medals for their works at exhibitions in Paris, London, Vienna, Petrograd, and so on. Not that I want to discourage You in Your intentions, for I believe that You yourself are a significant photographer, but I am saying that I have not seen such artists in Canada. Here a photo-studio is a house of something unimaginable. You know yourself what kind of things they have in movies, and here everyone knows those things. Nearly every studio has a *Moving Picture Outfit*, since sometimes their work requires those things. If You would like, come here and check it out, and you will find a job since I always read in the ads that a photographer is required for this or that. Why don't you read the photography *magazines* like *Camera Craft San Francisco*; *The Camera of Philadelphia*; *Photo Era*. I read those and I know what is going on in the photography field.

As far as what has been going on with me, I will give you a brief overview (sorry, I keep forgetting). I am taking a photography course, "A Complete Modern Photography." I am unable to describe all the branches, since I cover all of them: from Amateur Finishing to High Grade Portraiture,

Moving Pictures, Commercial, Architecture, Landscape, Press Work Tele-Photo, Micro-Photo, Color Photography and Portraiture. Copying, Enlarging, Coloring, Retouching, Etching, Engraving Bromoil Transfer, Photo-Chemistry, Photo-Journalism—generally speaking, I am taking the complete course. I am already halfway through the course, and I got 100% with honors for each exam. Therefore, my friends say that I am a prominent artist and that photography work is my best specialty. I practice in the evenings, since I work in the office during the day. (I have a good job as an Accountant in a big factory.) I have two cameras: Premo special 3½ x 4½ double extension Optimo shutter Tessar II b lens 5½" focus and Seneca View & Home Portrait 5x7 with R.R. lens 7½" focus. I use Eastman films; for portraits, I use Portrait film (cut film), and for the landscapes etc. I use Orthochromatic or Panchromatic cut films, and for copying I use the Commercial Process films. I have my own Eastman Studio Scales, and I make by myself all the developers and Intensifiers, Reducers, Sepia Tones, Gold Tones, and various combinations of colors tones. I get enough Amateur work so that I can cover the expenses for my experiments. Sometimes I get groups or even portraits for which I get paid good

money. *Enlargements* also bring big money, but this work is a bit pricy for the *Amateurs*. When I finish this Course then I will get around to the photo studio, or maybe I will even quit all of this. I have already learned hundreds of tricks like adding clouds to *landscapes*, *Vignetting*, *double printing*, and, most importantly, the formalities for all kinds of tricks that not everybody knows. Do You know what "hyperfocal distance" means? I have won a \$100 prize for this subject from the

California Art Association. Yes, brother, I am unable to describe everything to You, but I can assure You that, when I finish this Course, I will not think twice of whether there is anyone better in the photography field than me. I currently possess such photography knowledge that many of the so-called photographers cannot even dream about.

Why don't You send me that photograph of Vasyl with his Step-Mother that You've been keeping for a year already? You also promised to give me some other photographs. I have sent You many of my photographs, and I have a lot of even better ones.

Tom, follow my advice. When you do the *Amateur work* and use lots of *amateur paper*, try the "Haloid Rito"—it's the best paper in America for this type of work. I am convinced of that, since I use all of their

[5]

Eastman, Artura Iris, Aegis, Carbon Black Wellington, Defender, Gevaert; Nova-Gas; Ronix, Nova-Brom Cyko Professional Plat & Noko.

If you wish, take the "Tabloid" Rytol or Jancol Developer and try it out. You will see what kind of a developer that is. I do a lot of portraits with the Old Master Buff Barbon Black for Sepia Toning, but for the good Black & white variety I use Old Ivory Haloid. For the portraits I plan to colorize, the Artura Iris D Royal Grade is the best. Do not share this information with anyone else. I would share more information with you, but I am afraid it might get into strangers' hands. Sometime I will share lots of tricks with You personally.

As far as our collaboration is concerned, I do not know yet. I agree to it, but we need an area where we could make \$500° each of clear profit. For less than that, it would be a waste of time, since I can earn that much here; and in Canada one can earn even more, since there are no good studios over there except for a few in big cities.

Forgive me and reply quickly, and sorry for this mix of languages, since I forget how to write in our language every day. Wishing You all health.

Your Sincere Brother, Dmyter

Letter 24. 9 January 1924, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

{envelope}

Mr. Thomas Gushul, P.O. Box 209 Coleman, Alta Canada

{stamp}

Richmond, CA, 10 January 1924

Richmond, Calif[ornia] 9th January 1924

Дорогий Брате:

Щиро дякую за Твій лист разом з листом від Федора. Я сам коли перечитав, зачав плакати а жїнка питала чому, отже я переклав лист на Анґлійску мову, і она почала плакати.

Жаль мені великий, що они на мене так жалуються. Я їм жадної обіцянки не робив. Та се чи так чи як, дїло ось яке. Томку чи Ти знаєш що то буде за горе старенькому Татови. Він на хлопцїв спускаєсь як старі літа приходять, а коли би їх взяти то старий Тато з молодшими загине, а я всім не годен помочи.

Скажу Тобі правду щиру. Я сам трошка завинив бо до них не писав з всяких причин. Найбільша причина є се, що коли я просив Тата вислати мене до ґімназиї то они не слухали а друге те, що знущався тато наді мною безсердечно, а гонив мене до роботи як коня. Твоя мама сама скаже Тобі що не раз я снігом босаком утїкав перед лютим татовім грожінєм

[2]

Коли я се все перетолкую в свої голові, то часом бачу що я ϵ холодної крови, але коли задумаю як то не раз остра сокира за мной вганялась, то мої думи змїняться. Правда, за те, то ні брати малиб відповідати, але коли пиши до одного то щоби не погнівати другого, пиши всїм. Я пригадую собі коли то минувшої весни я вислав по долярови, а не знаючи кілько їх я не вислав щоб всім вистарчило. То мене ганьбили. Я й нинька не знаю скілько їх там ϵ . Знаю своїх рідних, себто покійника Василя, Михася, Федора і Марусї, а що до иньших то Бог їх зна ϵ краще.

Коли Василь умер то я був в Фернї. До Канади ього взяти не можна було через війну. Дальше, коли Михась і Федор підросли так, що сами на себе годні робити то час уплив до сего що й я оженивсь. Се забрало не мало гроши, знов я не роби[в] цїле літо від July до Dec 1922 разом з жїнкою жити без роботи загнало мене в довги. Тепер жінка мала операцию минувшої зими що коштує мене \$500. Я що лише з довгів виходжу, коли сотки иньших приходять.

[3]

зачав я робити за добру плату, але чи Ти віриш що на початок то ніхто не платить тисячі, я робив довго за \$125⁰⁰ а ниньки маю \$175⁰⁰. В Каліфорнії житє дороге. Отже щоби доробитись взяв я курс в "Accountancy" за що я заплатив \$196⁰⁰ се мені поліпшило і я нинька маю добру посаду. Та єще не мав я соток зашпарованих, бо чим більше заробляєш тим більший розхід, а єще сплачувати довги. Взяв я на розвагу се і те, і заключив взятись до фотоґрафічної штуки. Дальше не буду писати про розхід, бо Ти сам знаєш, що то все коштує на початок. Та дальше курс фотоґ[рафічний]. Коштує вже мене около \$100 і я єще маю много лєкцій студиювати. Чож я зроблю?

Я щиро дякую Тобі що Ти давби подорожні гроші Федорови, але коли я не годен дати \$150 на шіф-карту зараз при кїнци мїсяця давбим \$50 а за другий місяць єще \$50 а так може \$50 єще аж April або в маю. Тут нема в кого позичити анї що. Я покидаю свою науку фотоґ. продаю все що маю фотоґ. і т.д. виганяю жінку до роботи Коли не спротивиться й покине мене, але се чорт бери й все

[4]

Коли я маю помочи своїм братам. Щож Ти мені на се порадиш? Та коли від (sic) прийшов би на Колеман, щож він би робив? Знай що я не годен за нього завше платити віхтові⁴ кошти а він як роботи не знайде то буде бідував гірше чим у дома. Я знаю що Ти не давби ьому згинути, але Ти маєш Маму, жінку і дітей підтримувати, отже я на Тебе не мавби серця спускати ього. До Америки ього взяти не годен через те що то лише кїлька з кождого краю пускають, отже як би ього завернули, він би з жалю умер в подорожі. Задля сего я думаю що Канада є найліпша. Знов, чи не можна би ього взяти до Montreal а там хай сам для себе шукає хлїба з маленькою помочею від мене? Ти знаєш краще, я лише се так пишу тому що защадивби яких \$50 на шіфкар[т]кі, а він в Montreal може записатись на ехtra-gang на захід і даром виїхати. Я сам так не раз робив, отже з нашою помочею він може їхати потрошки аж сам за себе заплатить.

[5]

Рїч ще яка, коли Ти годен взяти ього разом з Братовим так бери а ми порахуємось як брати. Коли не годен, так він мусить ожидати аж я защаджу на ього подорож. Вірь мені, що я покидаю (career) характер свій щоби йому помочи. Чи він за то заплатить чи нії то я се нинька зачинаю виконувати. Я за свою подорож заплатив два рази.

При кїнци скажу виразно и лише Тобі самому в Твоє власне ухо, що моє серце болить мене дуже тяжко та щож зроблю коли така наша доля.

Я до них пишу і визнаю чи Михася а чи Федора они думають висилати вперед, а Ти коли відпишеш то не ганьби мене дуже перед ними бо они сами мене до сего зганьблять.

Здоровлю щиренько всіх Брат Дмитер

⁴⁶ Віхтовий—probably from Polish "wiktualy"—victuals. See also "віхтувал"—dial. food.

Dear Brother,

Sincere thanks for Your letter containing a letter from Fedir. When I finished reading it I started crying, and my wife asked me why I was crying, so I translated the letter into English and she started crying.

It saddens me a lot that they complain about me so much. I did not promise them anything. But one way or another, that's the problem. Tommy, do You realize how horrible it would be for my old Father? He relies on his boys while getting older but if they leave then old Father would perish together with the younger sons, and I am not able to help everybody.

I will tell You the truth. It is a little bit my fault, since I did not write to them for various reasons. The biggest reason is that when I asked my Father to send me to a gymnasium he did not want to listen to that; and the second reason is that he abused me heartlessly and forced me to work like a horse. Your mother will tell You that many times I ran away barefoot in the snow chased by my father's fierce threats.

[2]

When I think it over in my head then sometimes I see that I have cold blood, but when I think of how many times a sharp ax was chasing me then I think otherwise. Speaking the truth, my brothers should not be held accountable for that; but when you write a reply, in order to avoid making others angry, you need to address everybody. I recall how last Fall I sent a dollar to everyone, but, not knowing how many of them there are, I did not send enough. So they shamed me. To this day, I do not know how many of them there are. I know my kin, that is the late Vasyl, Mykhas', Fedir, and Marusia, but as far as the rest of them are concerned only God knows.

When Vasyl died, I was in Fernie. He could not be brought to Canada because of the war. Later, when Mykhas' and Fedir matured enough to earn for themselves, the time passed and I got married. It took a lot of money; then I did not work over the whole summer, from July till December of 1922. Having a wife and no job forced me into debts. Then my wife had a surgery last winter, and it cost me \$500. I am now getting out of this debt while accumulating hundreds of other debts to replace it.

[3]

I started getting paid well, but would You believe that nobody pays thousands in the beginning. I was working for a long time for \$125⁹⁰ and now I have \$175⁹⁰. It is expensive to live in California. So, in order to get advanced I took a course in "Accountancy" and paid \$196⁹⁰ for it. It helped and I now have a good job. But I still do not have hundreds of dollars to spare, since the more we earn the more we spend plus we have to pay off the debts. I pondered about this and that, and decided to start doing photography. I will not write about expenses, for You know yourself how much it costs to start. Then a course on photography. It cost me around \$100, and I still have a lot to study. What can I do?

I am very grateful to You for Your intention to give money to Fedir for his travel, but if I cannot give \$150 for the ship ticket now I would give \$50 at the end of the month, then another \$50 next month, and another \$50 in *April* or May. One cannot borrow anything from anyone over here. I am quitting my photography studies, selling all the photography equipment, and so on; sending my wife out to get a job (if she does not resist and leave me), but that's all, God damn it,

[4]

I can do to help my brothers. What would You advise? But when he would arrive at Coleman, what would he do? You should know that I am unable to pay for his boarding forever, and if he does not find a job he will suffer worse than he would at home. I know that You would not let him perish, but You must support your Mother, wife, and children, so I would not have a grudge against You for neglecting him. I cannot take him to America because they only let in several people from the same country, and if he would be denied entry he would die of grief on his way back home. For this reason, I think that Canada is the best option. Maybe he could be brought to *Montreal*, and there

he should tend to himself with a little help from me? You know better, I am just writing it because then I would save about \$50 on the ticket for the ship, and he could sign up in *Montreal* on an *extragang* to go to the west, and travel for free. I myself did that several times, so, with our help, he could travel a bit while paying for himself.

[5]

Another thing: If You can take him together with our sister's husband then take them both, and we will work it off between us as brothers. If you cannot, then he has to wait till I save enough to pay for the whole trip. Trust me, I am putting aside my way of life in order to help him. Whether he pays for that or not, I am now starting the process. I paid twice for my travel.

At the end, I will tell clearly and only to You, into Your ear: my heart is aching and it is very hard for me, but what can I do if that's how our fate is.

I will write to them and find out who they plan to send first, Mykhas' or Fedir. And when You reply to them do not scold me a lot in front of them, for they themselves will scold me enough.

My best wishes to all of you Your Brother, Dmyter

Letter 25. 21 February 1924, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

Richmond Feb[ruary] 21 1924

Дорогий Брате!

Щож з Тобою сталось, що до мене не відписуєш. Ти маєш час Брате, за се я не можу відповісти. Чи то гнів чи що? Коли я не написав до Твоєго смаку так відпиши мені і розясни Твою кривду. Я до Краю вже пару разів писав, але не знаю що дальше робити. Чи висилати гроші чи купувати 2

шіфкарту.—?

Дай мені які інформациї щоб я знав як ділом добре повести. С.Р.R.⁴⁷ там продає шіфкарти в Montreal отже коли з ними я повинен взятись до кумунїкациї так скажи менї.

Я не вірю щоби Ти на мене жалів що я Тобі писав про моє положеня, але може Ти такой за те саме і жалїєш, отже я не дам Тобі жури за даром. я сам возьму Михася чи Федора до Канади 3

а коли Ти мені поможеш певних інформацій здобути то се ласка Твоя.

На разі не маю що до писаня лише скажу що ту вже дерева овочеві цвитуть і черешні будуть не задовго.

Щиро здоровлю Вас всіх.

Брат Дмитер

Richmond, 21 February 1924

Dear Brother!

What has happened to You that you are not replying to me? You do have time, Brother, so I cannot answer this question. Is it anger or what? If I wrote something not to Your liking then reply and explain in what way I hurt You.

I have already written twice to the Old Country, but I do not know what to do next—whether to send money or buy a

⁴⁷ CPR—Canadian Pacific Railway.

2 ship ticket.—?

Give me some information so that I know how to better deal with this case. The *C.P.R.* is selling tickets for the ships in *Montreal*, so if I have to communicate with them let me know.

I do not believe that You were upset with me for writing to You about my circumstances. But maybe You actually are upset about it. Then I will not upset You for nothing. I will bring Mykhas' or Fedir to Canada by myself.

3

And if You can help me to get some information then be so kind.

I have nothing to write about at the moment. I can only say that the fruit trees here are blooming, and there will be cherries soon.

Wishing health to all of You sincerely,

Brother Dmyter

Letter 26. 30 May 1924, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

(Fig. 22)

{envelope}

Mr. Thomas Gushul

Box 209

Coleman, Alta

Canada

{stamp}

Santa Cruz, CA, May [...]

30го Мая 1924

Дорогий Брате:

Коли я до Тебе писав що хорую, то єще я не вихорувавсь з сеї хороби. Dr. приказав мені тут виїхати на воздух сеї околицї. Се є близько Mexico і як зауважиш все по Ішпаньськи, навет много говорять на тїм язику.

До дня, мене вже коштує здорова сума гроша на лікарів тай ліки, але чуюсь здоровшим 2

на кождий день.

За пару день вернусь до Richmond, але до роботи не знаю чи пійду. Щось мені здаєсь, що я вже й роботу втратив. Тут велике безробітє і наша фірма випустила около 600 мужів без роботи. В June кажуть що лише 3 дни в тиждень будуть робити. Отже мені не повелось хорошо в Калїфорнії. Правда коби то я здоров так я би щось знайшов

3

бодай на фармах за хлїбороба.

Та се Ти вже знаєш красно, що оно значить для замужного хлопа, але чи брати в Краю повірять? Будуть казали, що «не хоче нам помогчи» а се Ти сам знаєш є не так. Я до них писати не маю лиця, бо они не повірять і щоби не збурити їх протів мене, я щиро прошу Томку Тебе коли маєш нагоду дай їм знати що ся

[4]

дїїє зі мною.

Тут дуже хорошо але гарячо. Santa Cruz ϵ над морем "Pacific" не далеко San Diego. Тут я зняв пару фотоґрафій, коли я чувсь зровим (sic) на прохід, і коби то я міг їх викінчити і вислав би я Тобі щось дуже інтерестного з сеї околицї. Santa Cruz ϵ порт який Sir Oliver Drake⁴⁸, Анґлійк,

⁴⁸ Macko means Sir Francis Drake (c. 1540—28 January 1596), English explorer, naval officer, and politician.



CASA DEL REY

SANTA CRUZ

CALIFORNIA 30-20 Maa 1924 Doponie Topanie: Roccu a go Made mucale yo topyo, não touse a ne beropybabes z cei xapodu. Dr. njenkagab eneni rugui buisante ha bozzyx cei skoennyi. Ee & dengsko mexico i ak zaybadom bee no kunansisku, nation auroro robaparios na num aguky. De ona, were boke koueringe zgofoba cyma Youra na cikapil nian cite, and report zapobenne

Fig. 22. Letter from Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul, 30 May 1924, Crowsnest Museum and Archives, first page.

первий білий чоловік, вступив на сю землю в 1564. Про історию не буду описував, лише скажу Тобі, що Ішпаньцї тут

5

панували, але 1845 коли Американець званий Фремонт зібрав горстку Американів ї Россїян які в Калїфорнії засадились около 10 лїт вперед, (Россїяне) і назвали Калїфорнію "Bear Flag Republic" і воювали з Ішпаньцями а 27 день опісля передали Калїф[орнію] до Америки. В 1849 the California Gold Rush зазначило відкритя сеї нової й найкрашої країни на Расіfіс побережу. Отже тут є більше 300 лїт цивилїзациї Ішпаньців а Американьці тут лише [6]

запанували 86 літ тому минуло. Отже з тої причини тут трудно перегнати 300 літ в 86 і Ішпаньский стаж є рухомий, але вже Амер[иканський] бересь горою. В 16тїм столітю і в 17тїм "Jesuits" збудували Католицкі Мїссії около 40 які ниньки украшають Каліф[орнію] і ділять культуру мешканьцям. Як би я Тебе особисто бачив то я би Тобі хорошо розявив як тут діло і т.д., бо я читаю історию достаточно.

На разі здоровлю Вас всїх. Ваш з Козацким серцем

Дмитро

30 May 1924

Dear Brother,

I wrote to You that I was ill and I am still not fully recovered after the illness. *Dr.* ordered me to come to this place for the sake of the air. It is close to Mexico and everything is in Spanish, and many people even speak this language.

Up to now, I have already spent a big sum of money on doctors and medications, but I feel healthier 2

with every coming day.

In a couple of days, I will return to *Richmond*, but I do not know if I will return to work. It seems to me that I might have already lost my job. There is big unemployment here, and our firm laid off about 600 men. They say that in *June*, there will be only 3 working days a week. Therefore, California did not turn out good for me. To say the truth, if I were healthy, I would find some work 3

even as a field worker on a farm.

You already know perfectly well what it means for a married man, but would the brothers in the Old Country believe that? They will say, "He does not want to help us"; but You know yourself that it is not true. I do not dare to write to them, since they will not believe me and I do not want them to be mad at me. I am asking You sincerely, Tom, if You have a chance let them know what is [4]

going on with me.

It is very nice here but hot. Santa Cruz is near the "Pacific" ocean, not far from San Diego. I took a couple of photographs here when I felt strong enough to walk; if I could finish them I would send You something very interesting from this area. Santa Cruz is a port on which land Sir Oliver Drake, an Englishman and the first white man, set foot on in 1564. I will not describe the history, I will just tell You that the Spaniards

5

reigned here, but in 1845 an American called Fremont gathered a bunch of Americans, as well as Russians who had arrived in California 10 years prior, and they called California the "Bear Flag Republic," and fought the Spaniards, and after 27 days California was seized by America. In 1849, the California Gold Rush signified the beginning of this new and best country on the Pacific coast. Therefore, the Spanish civilization here is more than 300 years old, and Americans only [6]

began to reign here 86 years ago. So, for that reason, it is hard to take over 300 years within 86

years, and the Spanish heritage is alive but the American one is getting stronger. In the 16th and 17th centuries, the "Jesuits" built about 40 Catholic Missions, several of which beautify California and bring culture to the population. If I could talk to You in person, I would give You a detailed explanation of how things are here and so on, since I read enough of history.

In the meantime, I wish You all health. Yours, with a Cossack heart,

Dmytro.

Letter 27. 19 March 1925, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

{envelope}

Mr. Thomas Gushul Blairmore, Alta., Canada

{stamp}

Paolo Alto, CA, 20 March 1925

{stamp on the back of the envelope} Blairmore, Alta, March 24, 1925

Stanford University 3/19/25

Дор[огий] Брате;

Щиро дякую за Твої листи в яких я довідався много інтерестних новинок.

Жаль мені, що Ти не завернув "View Finder" в якому мене приймили за члена до California Camera Club. Ти вже много забув, се не перший раз що Ти забув мені завернути се та те, і тому то я не висилаю Тобі нічого більше на взір бо боюсь що пропаде. Я маю много цікавих кусків писаних саморучно, в фотог. маґазинах. Чи Ти коли читаєш їх? Чи Ти може й не передплачуєш жадної фотог[рафічної] публикациї?

2

Коли знайдеш тую фотог [рафію] моєго дому, чи то з Михася і мами, то вишли мені по жаласти. Що до Федорового виїзду до Канади, то я щиро дякую Тобі за Твою обїцянку, а я єще на певно не знаю коли але думаю що не задовго, бо я сподїюсь дїстати троха готівки. Коби то лише не переїначилось, бо то не завше так ся стає як ся мислить. Я напишу Тобі достаточно коли я дістану гріш, але тимчасом не маю єще ані слова дальше про се казати. Я повинен довідатись на днях що ся стане.

Що до копіованя фотоґ[рафій] які суть копировані то се є абсолютно не можливе. Кождий образ який має знак © се завічає що є коперований. Розумїєсь, котрі сего знаку не мають то можна копіовати, але то є завше безпечнійше дістати довіль (sic)

3

на паперу, що копіовати і продавати не заборонено. Себто від оріґінального артиста. Отже коли маєш фотоґ [рафію] і знаєш офіціальну титулу, так пиши до найблизшого фотоґ [рафічного] маґ [азину] і спитай хто єго зробив і проси о адресу, а опісля пиши до артиста з прозьбою і копіованє. Уважай, не рушай без сего бо на вірно біда за таке діло, є велика.

Що до ленс, тут є їх много, але заким Ти їх запакуєш, оплатиш тарифу (Duty) то й несхочесь їх Тобі. Я раджу Тобі читати фотоґ[рафічні] маґ[азини] і на сторонках оголошеня знайдеш барґен. Навет і в Канадії! В Montreal і Toronto суть склади "Second Hand Supplies" і там Ти знайдеш що бажаєш.

Дальше раджу Тобі

4

написати до Toronto Camera Club і проси їх щоби Тобі дали адреси від фірмів гандлючих в

фот. матеріялах. Они Тобі се радо зроблять особливо коли Ти трошки їм підмастиш словами артиста.

Відколи я Тебе памятаю Ти кращих слів не писав мені як в Твоїм минувшім листі. а то є Твоє пропонованє виїхати з Coleman! Томку «любчику-голубчику» вір мені що не варта жити в Coleman коли суть місцевости в яких—ох то красно жити! Подумай собі, закружені Ви горами, в углевих димах і між людьми мало культорованими без жадних иньших інтересів окрім копальні, без библьотеки спілок, чи клюбів знаня і наук. Гей брате се гріх кохати дітий на такій нерозширній околици! Правда, Ти там жив около 15 літ і вже гвив⁴⁹ на все, але братчику не гнівайся що я пишу, але возьми но мої слова під розвагу!

5

Я бачив всякі місця і всякі заходи, але вір мені що житє є за коротке щоби нуждитись десятки літ без овочевих ререв, без купелів в воді теплі від сонечних лучїв, без цьвітів гарних рожів а передовсім без атмосфіру наук. Чи не научилибся Ваші дїти где що доброго в городах рож? Чи не кохали би Ви і они цьвіти овочевих дерев? Чи не любували бись они в сьпівах птичок теплійших країв а з резтою коли би зайшли до бібліотеки в якій суть книжки всякого рода. Та товариства всякого руху і фаху, ой брате не знаєш Ти що Ти утрачаєш в житю!

Правда чоловік не годен сам собі догоджати завсігди але вір менї що Ти і жінка і діти Ваші як також мама жилиб довше коли би Ви

6

змінили клімат і жили гдесь вигіднійше. Наприклад, Ванкувер, Ревелсток, Камлупс, не за будь за горами себто на морскій стороні гір. На Kootenay озері і Okanagan озері в Келовні. Там суть сотки гарних селянок где житя є хороше. Вернон наприклад або навет і Nelson є гарне.

Trail є добре мїсто але знов сама таке становиско як Coleman. Чому но Ви не виїдете гдесь до Внґу,⁵¹ Торонта Ванкувер? Оно возьме великі гроші, але я вірю що Ти більше заробиш в великім мїстї чим в малїм. Коли би Ти їхав на захід так памятай

7

що В.С. має широкий фах і поле на всяке ремесло. В Альберті нема там так много.

Поко що Ти перевідуйся за всякі околиці. Наприклад зайди до бібльотеки, коли є там, і возьми на Directory of cities & towns in BC or Canada, а там знайдеш, число мешканьців клімат і факт всякої околиці. Дальше пиши до Chamber of Commerce кожде місто се бюро підтримує і проси аби вислали літератури за їх околицю. Питай їх чи фотоґрафа потрібно а дальше пиши до шкіл і питай їх се та те гейби Ви питали за шкільними інтересами. Суть сотки способів яким можна переконатись ретельно без кошту.

8

Що до нашої фотоґрафиї ми не маємо одної для себе навет. Так то розійшлись. Я задумаю зняти за пару день коли перестане мене зуб болїти, я пишу з устами і великім болю від затроєного зуба. В суботу здаєсь виїхаю до San Francisco до дентиста, бо тутейші за дорогі \$10[∞] за оден зуб.

В нас тут Весна—всї дерева цвитуть, а помаранча вже дозрівають. Grape-fruit вже готовий і я фотоґрафую дуже много всєких розлин. Робота моя не зла, але і не дуже добра. Правда се що она ϵ знаменито інтерестна для мене задля того що я завше бажав бути студентом і носити «штерна» і Колиб не через сю посаду я нїколи

9

би не дожив сна моєї охоти. Чудове оно і є оно дуже образоване. На сатриз маємо всякі галї, Art Academy, Chapel, Museum, Greek theatre, Pavilions і Stadium. Учать тут всякого знаня окрім музики. Від вчера аж до завтра жевемо ми на днях испитань Весняних і Конфірмациї титулїв. Вже декотрі вийшли горою: Dr of Phylosophy (sic), Dr. of Engineering, Dr. of Science,

The word is unknown.

⁵⁰ From Polish "owoc"—fruit.

⁵¹ Winnipeg.

Dr. of Psychology, Zoology, Botany, Physiology, Geology і т.д. Хемика єще не видала їх репорту. Сотки виходять з надгородою а сотки приходять учитись. Тут є бібльотека числячи 300 тисяч томів як також Воєнна бібльотека "War Library" під заводом Herbert Hoover⁵² кого Ти знаєш—в War Library суть книжки всякої мови

10

Российскої найбільше від иньших Славоньских суть Анґ. Нїмецкї, Фрц. і иньше. Тут суть всякі часописи просто з Россиї які що дня приходять унїверситет передплачує около 15 часопись і журналів з Россиї самої а сотки з иньших околиць.

Россия і Польща мають найбільше мїсце. Укр[аїну] навет не знають гдеякі. Так кріпко Польща закопую себе літературою що навет публікує жирнал (sic) в N.Y. званий Poland в Анґ. мові в якій дає історию свою і иньшу з рукою нахиленою після Польского смаку. В сім журналії я читаю що Поляки суть, чи були так перві мешканьції Києва! Описують нашу Укр. рідну і кажуть що то Польща. Оден переклав книжочки звані "Peasant" і каже що се суть

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Поляки!

Я дальше зауважив що в унїверситет Лондон, видає Slovonic (sic) Review і бачу що Поляки й там закрутили так що укр не має мїсця. Отже серце рвесь на куски коли бачиш як не зручно виходить для України з всякої сторони. Ти мабуть знаєш, що укр. унїверситет в Львові є зачинений і по нашему не можна учитись! На Чехо Словаччинї в Празї є віддїл на укр. науку і є там сотки укр. учеників.

Щож нового з Роб[ітничих] Вістей чи Мойсюк є где в Канадії? А чи Ти чуваєш що про Дра Шушку чи Сушку? Хто редаґує Роб[ітничі] Вїсти і як там ведесь нашим на Роб[ітничім] Домії? Я єще маю пару цеголок, 53 а много я пороздавав на пам'ять інтерестним.

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Пиши часто а я Тобі пораджу где що зможу бо я тут маю ключ до науки розмаїтої лише не маю часу на все а час то є великий факт в житю. Я маю щось інтерестного до Д-ра Сушки. Коли би Ти знав где що про єго становиско і адрес. Дай но менї Moysiuk's адресу

Здровлю Вас щиро всїх в дома Ваш Вірний Козак Дмитер

Я сей лист написав скоренько і не осторожно, отже вибач блуди і т.д.!

Stanford University, 19 March 1925

Dear Brother,

Sincere thanks for Your letters from which I learned many interesting pieces of news.

It is a pity You did not send me back the "View Finder" in which I was accepted as a member to the California Camera Club. You forgot many things; this is not the first time that You forgot to send me this or that; and this is why I am no longer sending You anything to see, for I am afraid it will get lost. I have many interesting pieces of my writing published in the photography magazines. Do You read them? Or maybe You do not even subscribe to any photographic publication?

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When you find the photograph of my home, or maybe of Mykhas' and our mother, please send them to me.

As far as Fedir's arrival to Canada is concerned, I thank You sincerely for Your promise; I do not yet know when it is going to happen, but I think soon since I hope to get a bit of cash. I hope nothing will change, but it does not always work out the way one expects. I will write You more when I get

⁵² "War Library"—founded by Herbert Hoover in 1919, now the Hoover Institution Library & Archives are dedicated to documenting war, revolution, and peace in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.

⁵³ Probably these are coupons of one dollar which they sell to collect money to support the Ukrainian Labour Temple or Workers' News.

money, but in the meantime I have nothing to say about it. I will find out more in the next coming days.

As far as the copying of photographs that are copyright-protected is concerned, then it is absolutely impossible. Every image that contains the sign © means that it is copyright-protected. Obviously, those that have no such sign can be copied, but it is always better to obtain permission

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in writing that copying and selling is not prohibited. That is, to obtain permission from the original artist. So, if you have a photograph and know the official title then write to the photographic magazine and ask who took it and ask for their address. Then write to the artist and ask for his permission to copy it. Be careful, do not proceed without it, for there is a significant punishment for such a thing.

As far as the lenses are concerned, there are lots of them here, but by the time You pack them and pay the *duty* You will not want them any more. I advise You to read photographic magazines and on the ads pages you will find a bargain. Even in Canada! In *Montreal* and *Toronto*, there are "Second Hand Supplies" warehouses and You will find there whatever You want.

Next, I advise You

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to write to the *Toronto Camera Club* and ask them to give You the addresses of companies that trade in photography materials. They will be happy to do so especially if You butter them up a bit with a few artistic words.

Since I remember You, You have never written me better words than in Your last letter. And that is Your proposition to leave *Coleman*! Dear Tom, trust me, it is not worth living in *Coleman* when there are places in which it is so wonderful to live! Think about it: You are surrounded by mountains, in coal smoke, among people who are of low cultural level and without any interests other than mines, without a library, unions or clubs of knowledge and science. Hey, brother, it is a sin to raise children in such a narrow-minded place! True, You've been living there for about 15 years and got used⁵⁴ to everything. But, brother, do not get mad at what I am writing but rather think about my words!

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I saw all kinds of places and all kinds of events, but trust me life is too short to live it hard for tens of years without fruit trees, without swimming in water that is warmed up by the sun's rays, without beautiful blooming roses—but most of all without the atmosphere of science. Would not Your children learn something good in cities of roses? Would not You and them like the blooming fruit trees? Would not they enjoy the singing of the birds from the warm countries or, surely, when they would come into a library where there are books of all sorts? Would not You like societies of various sorts and specialties? Oh, brother, You do not know what You are missing in life!

It is true that a man is not always able to please himself but trust me that You, Your wife and children, as well as your mother would live longer if You

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would change the climate and settle somewhere better. For example, in Vancouver, Revelstoke, Kamloops, behind the mountains, i.e., on the seaside of the mountains. On the *Kootenay* lake and *Okanagan* lake in Kelowna. There are hundreds of good settlements over there where life is good. Vernon, for example, or even *Nelson* is good.

Trail is a good town, but it has the same situation as *Coleman*. Why don't You leave for Winnipeg, Toronto, or Vancouver? It will cost a lot, but I trust that You will earn more in a big city than in a town. If You decide to go to the West remember

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that BC has a broad spectrum of and a field for any specialty. Alberta does not have that many. In the meantime, enquire about various places. For example, go to a library, if there is one, and take a *Directory of cities & towns in BC or Canada*, and there you will find information about the population, climate, and facts about various places. Then write to the *Chamber of Commerce*, each

⁵⁴ This is a contextual translation as we failed to recognize the word in the original.

city supports such an office, and ask them to send You literature about their place. Ask them if they need a photographer and then write to the schools and ask them about this and that, as if You are asking about school matters. There are hundreds of ways to find precise information at no cost.

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As far as our photograph is concerned, we do not have one even for ourselves. We ran out of them. I plan to take one in a couple of days when my tooth is not aching. I am writing this in great pain from a rotten tooth. On Saturday, I will probably go to *San Francisco* to see a dentist, since the local ones are too expensive and charge $$10^{00}$ for one tooth.

It is Spring here—all the trees are blooming and oranges are ripening. The *grapefruit* are already ripe, and I take a lot of pictures of various plants. My job is not bad but it is not too good either. It is immensely interesting for me though, since I always wanted to be a student and wear a "star." And if not for this job I would never

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make that dream come true. It is wonderful and very educational. We have various halls on campus, Art Academy, Chapel, Museum, Greek theatre, Pavilions, and Stadium. They teach everything here except for music. From yesterday and till tomorrow, we have days of spring exams and confirmations of titles. Some have already graduated! Dr. of Philosophy, Dr. of Engineering, Dr. of Science, Dr. of Psychology, Zoology, Botany, Physiology, Geology and so on. Chemistry has not yet provided their reports. Hundreds graduate with honors, and hundreds come to study. There is a library here containing 300 thousand volumes, as well as a War Library headed by Herbert Hoover whom You know. The War Library has books in all languages.

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Books in Russian outnumber all other Slavic languages; there are books in English, German, French and others. There are newspapers straight from Russia that arrive daily; the university subscribes to about 15 newspapers and journals only from Russia, and hundreds from other countries.

Russia and Poland have the biggest weight. Some do not even know Ukraine. Poland supports itself through literature so strongly that it even publishes a journal in N.Y. titled *Poland*, in English, and provides her own history and history of others with its hand slanted toward Polish taste. In that journal, I read that the Poles were the first inhabitants of Kyiv! They describe our dear Ukraine and say that it is Poland. One man translated books titled *Peasant*, and he said that those were

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the Poles!55

lalso noticed that the University of London publishes *Slavonic Review*, and I see that the Poles pulled strings there as well so that there is no place for Ukraine. So, one's heart breaks into pieces when you see how Ukraine is being hurt from every side. You probably know that the Ukrainian university in Lviv is closed, and students are not permitted to study in our language! In Czechoslovakia, in Prague, there is a department of Ukrainian studies, and there are hundreds of Ukrainian students. Any news from the *Workers' News*? Is Moisiuk still in Canada? Do You hear anything about Dr. Shushko or Sushko? Who is editing the *Workers' News* and how are things going in the Labour Temple? I still have a couple of "bricks," and I gave away many of them to those who were interested.

Write often. I will advise You what I can, since I here have a key to various sciences; I just do not have time for everything and that is a big fact in life. I have something interesting to say to Dr. Sushko. Do You know about his situation and his address? Give me *Moysiuk's* address.

Wishing health to all of You at home. Your faithful Cossack, Dmyter

I wrote this letter quickly and not carefully, so forgive the mistakes and so on!

Here Macko might refer to Władysław Reymont's novel "Chłopi" ("Peasants"). We thank Andriy Nahachewsky for this observation. This work won a Nobel prize in literature in 1924 and when Dmyter wrote his letter, the English translations of "Peasants" appeared. In fragments the novel was published on the pages of New York magazine *Poland*, also mentioned by Macko (W[ierzbowski], R[yszard]. "O bibliograficznym rejestrze angielskich przekładów Reymonta," 178).

Letter 28. April-July 1925, photographs by Dmyter Macko

(Fig. 23 a-e. Photographs by Dmyter Macko, Crowsnest Museum and Archives.)

{on the back of photo 23a}

В купелі моря в Big Lagoon, Calif[ornia] July 26th, 1925

Минувшої недїлі Calif[ornia] Camera Club мали пікнік і сї особи суть членами Клюбу. Тут купаєсь цїлий рік без перерви, бо вода є тепла зимою і лїтом.

DOMacko

Panchromatic film

Aza B.B. paper

{on the back of photo}

Bathing in the sea of the Big Lagoon, California, 26 July 1925

Last week, the California Camera Club had a picnic, and these people are the members of the Club.

Here people swim all year round, since the water is warm in the winter and in the summer.

DOMacko



{on the back of photo 23b}

A study in light posts and ornaments in front of the Adm[inistration] Bldgs.

Apl⁵⁶.1925

DOMacko

{on the back of photo 23c}



Fig. 23b. "A Study in Light Posts and Ornaments in Front of the [Stanford University] Adm[inistration] Buildings," April 1925.



Fig. 23c. "Stanford University Memorial Chapel (Nonsectarian)," June 1925.

{on the back of photo 23d}
Golden Gate park
San Francisco, green house (Nursery)
a palm resembling a coffee in its fruit.
Диви на дивну форму дерева!
July 5, 1925

Golden Gate Park
San Francisco, green house (Nursery),
a palm resembling a coffee in its fruit.
Look at the weird shape of this tree!
5 July 1925

Fig. 23d. "Golden Gate Park, San Francisco Green House (Nursery), a Palm Resembling a Coffee in its Fruit," 5 July 1925...



Fig. 23e. A Flock of Sheep Grazing in the Meadow, not dated, no inscription on the back of the postcard.

Letter 29. 23 July 1925, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

Stanford University July 23rd 1925

Дор[огий] Брате;

Лист Твій з Blueberry Creek дїстав нинька рано за що щиро дякую, бо потішив мене не много тим що Ти за мене не забуваєш і що маєш добрий успіх в Твоїх річах.

Пару день тому я також отримав часописи і журнали котрі впали до смаку як пироги! На правду так, бо я тут немаю що нашего читати. Российского та Польского єсьть, але якось не хочесь їх клевет читати а найбільше Польских.

Коб то я з Тобою бачивсь то я критикувавби наших редакторів за їх пиняву роботу. Се лише межи нами, на щож нашим людям редаґувати 3 числа однакової теми і вечерпувати гріш на друк однакових новинок и т.д. коли одна часопись добре оправлена може дешевше все виповнити. Чому они не ілюструють—подають всяки

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оголошенє. Ти знаєш що оголошеня приносять гріш а ілюстрациї притягають читачів! Я приязьно приглядаюсь чужим часописам і журналам і кождий стараєсь о добрі ілюстрованя і оголошеня буде легко дістати коли буде много читачів. В Польских і Российских час[описах] навет анґлійскі фирми оголошують і часописнім язику. Та се нам не до переченя, я лише хочу Тобі сказати що наші люде всі би пристали до одної орґанізації коли би їм щось доброго дати за їх гроші. Диви но на уньших (sic) людий, за \$2.00 в рік то дістаєсь \$100 в самих образках. До сего молодіж має охоту—і Ти знаєш, що нема слів таких щоби так виразно описали оказию як фотоґрафія може!

Що до моєї жени то я не знаю що станесь. Она не виїхала так як думала і вже трошка мякша стала але не любить то, що я люблю. Наприклад, она мені забороняє учитись фотоґ. а головно взятись до бізнесу.

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Щось таки она не є для мене спосібна. Коли я хочу те то она хоче се і межи нами суперечка ведесь щоденна. Поправді сказати, тутейша молодіж не має голови широкої але дивиться на чужинців кривим оком. Коли я не раз розказую єї про недолю на Галицкій околици, то она сьмієсь і каже що то всі чужинці суть старцями але гроші всі мають і щадять як властних очей. Ти знаєш як то є! не має она розуміня поза своїм носом ані на крок.

Що станесь то не знаю але знаю се що я вже маю гроші на Федорову подорож а по тім то не дбаю хочби й смерть мене звабила. Отже, Ти вже будеш в дома коли сей лист до Тебе прийде, і я щиро прошу возьмись до дїла скоренько бо гроша дуже трудно тримати довго, завше щось впаде і бере остатний цент.

На мене сподівайся, бо я вже маю \$175[∞] за які ього можна там дістати.

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Чомуж Михайлюка не пустили через границю? Цїкавить се мене, бо я сам маю переїхувати. Та се марниця, бо коли би не пустили бо я инакше вкручу. Знай, я говорю по анґлійски так що мене нїхто не пізнає. Тут всі мене уважають за образованого Канадияна. Нераз оно мене до сьміху провабує що то нїхто не знає ріжницї.

Що до нашого злученя, то се мене цікавить знаменито і я очікую відповіди від Тебе. Я молю Бога щоби Ти забравсь з Coleman і Blairmore і їхав до Б.К. бо там я дуже бажаю замешкати, гдесь коло Ванкувер або трошка глубше в околици Arrow Head озера або Okanagan озера! Ах як там хорошо! Наших там є сотками як не тисячами а воздух чистий і без жадний штрайкових нападів.

В June я дїстав "prize" за одну мою фот[ографію] в Photo-Era журналі. Як Ти єго читаєш? Коби то ми були разом, то ми би хорошо обговорили все!

Наразї не маю дальше що писати аж від Тебе буду мав щось цїкавого. Тимчасом здоровлю Вас всїх

Дмитер.

{on the left margin of the first page there are two notes}

Чи Ваші дїти збирають стемплів? Коли так то я им дам мою колєкцию. Диви но на сей стемпель.

The snaps are in tone & paper what they call nowadays "Art"

Stanford University 23 July 1925

Dear Brother,

I received Your letter from *Blueberry Creek* this morning and I thank you sincerely for that, since You comforted me a bit with the fact that You do not forget about me and that You are making good progress in Your affairs.

A couple of days ago, I also received the newspapers and journals which I found as tasty as dumplings! It is true, since I have nothing of our materials to read here. There is Russian and Polish stuff to read, but I somehow do not want to read their calumnies, especially the Polish ones.

If I met with You, I would criticize our editors for their sloppy work. Just between us: why would our people edit 3 issues on the same topic and spend money for publishing identical news and so on if one well-done newspaper can cope with all of that for less? Why don't they illustrate and include all kinds of

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commercials? You know that commercials bring money and illustrations draw the readers! I look approvingly at other newspapers and journals and each of them tries to provide good illustrations, and it is easier to get commercials if there are many readers. In Polish and Russian newspapers, even English companies place their ads in the language of the newspapers. It is not for us to argue about; I just want to tell You that our people would all join one organization if they would get something good for their money. Just look at other people, for \$2.00 per year they get \$100 worth in pictures alone. The youth enjoy that—and You know that no words can describe an event as clearly as a photograph can!

As far as my wife is concerned, I do not know what is going to happen. She did not leave as she planned, and she's already softened a bit but does not like what I like. For example, she forbids me to study photography and, most importantly, open my own business.

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Somehow, she is not good for me. When I want one thing, she wants another thing, and we argue every day. To tell the truth, the youth here do not have broad views and look at foreigners sideways. When I tell her many times about the misfortune in Halychyna, she laughs and says that all foreigners were once beggars but now all have money and guard it like the pupils of their eyes. Can you imagine that?! She does not have an understanding of anything that is a step away from her own way of life.

I do not know what will happen, but I know that I already have money for Fedir's trip; and I do not care what happens after that, even if death takes me. So, You will be at home already when this letter arrives. I ask You sincerely, do this quickly, since it is hard to keep money at hand for too long, there is always something that comes up and takes the last cent.

Count on me, since I already have \$175 $^{\circ\circ}$ with which we can get him there.

4

Why wasn't Mykhailiuk allowed to cross the border?⁵⁷ I am asking since I am myself about to cross. But it does not matter, for even if they do not let me in, I will do something else about it. Keep in mind, I speak English so well that nobody will recognize me here as a foreigner. Here everybody thinks that I am an educated Canadian. I often laugh at the fact that nobody knows the difference. As far as our partnership is concerned, I am very much interested in that, and I am waiting for Your reply. I pray to God for You to get away from *Coleman* and *Blairmore* and go to BC. This is where

⁵⁷ See correspondence between Thomas Gushul and Fred Michaluk in Chapter 9 of this volume.

I would like to settle, somewhere around Vancouver or a bit deeper into the area of *Arrow Head* Lake⁵⁸ or *Okanagan* Lake! Oh, how wonderful it is there! There are hundreds or even thousands of our people over there, and the air is clean with no strikes at all.

In *June*, I received a "prize" for one of my photographs in the *Photo Era* journal. Do You read it? If we were together we could discuss everything well!

I do not have anything else to write about till I get something interesting from You. Wishing health to all of You.

Dmyter.

{on the left margin of the first page there are two notes}

Do Your children collect stamps? If yes, then I will give them my collection—just have a look at this stamp.

The snaps are in tone & paper what they call nowadays "Art"

Letter 30. 7 August 1925, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

{postcard}

{stamp}

San Francisco, CA, 8 August 1925

Thos. Gushul, Esq. c/o Photographic Studios Blairmore, Alta Canada

8-7-25

Дор[огий] Брате;

Банк вислав Тобі \$160 в Вівторок отже прошу старайся як найскорше щоби Федора взяти. Коли вже все готово, так скоро висилай до нього з услівями, до мене лише напиши, що вже вислав, бо не хочу часу втрачати коли би Ти мені висилав шіф карту. Роби що можеш скоро. Жінка видплила вчера в 6 годині вечером Кораблем "Dewey"

Гаразд Дмитер

7 August 1925

Dear Brother,

The bank sent You \$160 on Tuesday, so please try to arrange Fedir's departure as soon as possible. If everything is ready then immediately send the documents to him with the conditions; only let me know that you have sent them, since I would not like to lose time on You sending the ship ticket to me first. Do it as soon as you can. My wife left yesterday at 6 in the evening on the ship "Dewey."

Regards, Dmyter

⁵⁸ Arrowhead is a former steamboat port and town submerged beneath the waters of the Arrow lakes. Arrowhead was abandoned in 1964 due to the construction of the Hugh Keenleyside Dam, which flooded the surrounding area.

Letter 31. 18 October 1925, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

{postcard}

Mr. Thos. Gushul, c/o Photo. Studios. Blairmore, Alta.

Canada

{stamp}

Paolo Alto, CA, 18 October 1925

10/18/25

Дор[огий] Брате:

Маю досить старого не-доношеного шматя, і вишлю Тобі для $\Phi[\text{едора}]$. Мав лист від $\Phi[\text{едора}]$ і дякує за 5^{00} за що дістав 28.75 а оно повинно би бути около 100. бо на пар⁵⁹ є 19.3 отже 5 раз так. Через банк ліпше висилати. Они там 2 або 3. третині вкрали собачі Ляхи. Нетерпеливо очікую відповіди від Тебе. гаразд Дмитер

18 October 1925

Dear Brother,

I have a lot of old, not completely worn-out, clothes, so I will send those to You for Fedir. I had a letter from Fedir; he was expressing thanks for the \$500 for which he got 28.75 while it should have been around 100 because par value of the currency is 19.3, so we have to multiply it by 5. It is better to send via a bank. Those dogs, the Poles, stole 2 or 3 thirds over there. I am anxiously waiting for Your reply. Regards, Dmyter.

Letter 32. 28 August 1926, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

{envelope}

Return to

Mr. Thos. Gushul, Blairmore, Alta

{stamp}

Morley, Alta, 30 August 1926

{stamp on the back of the envelope}

Blairmore, Alta, August 31, 1926

Morley, Alta 28th Aug[ust] 1926

Дорогий Брате:

Твій лист з дня 23го ц[ього] м[ісяця] отримав, разом иньшими листами, за все щиро дякую. Заким розпишусь дальше, я маю много до оповідання, хочу где, що написати про околицю, в якій я знаходжусь.

⁵⁹ Πap—English "par." They seem to be talking about the exchange rate between Polish zloty and American dollar.

Мама має тут 17 тисяч акрів пасовиска, і має 183 штуки рогатої ходоби, окрім скількадесятеро коней. Це є 6 миль за стацийов на північ. От гори, от pictorial види! Це лише скілька миль від Banff. Я тут приїхав акуратне нинька вечер тиждень. Дали мені коня і сідло, і я їзджу десятки миль що дня. Два рази в тиждень їдемо до Morley за почтою, але автом, не конем. Morley, це собі на Індїян Резевишіон, і окрім Індіян школи і скілька урядників (Mounted Policeman, Indian Agent, School Teachers i Storekeeper) більше нема нікого

2

Індіяне тут мають скілька сот тисяч акрів пасовиска. Я вже зняв скілька фотоґ [рафій] з Індіянів. Їм і сплю як коник, а мама мені догаджає як навет в ріднім домі цего я не знав. Одним словом, так мені добре, що я не знаю чи зможу виїхати без сліз—сліз болячих! Тут ми встаємо в 5.30 рано. Сніданок в 6 годині, обід в 12 а вечера в 6 а в 9 ми вже лігаємо спати. Чуюсь здоров і апетит як в лошака. Мама для мене прилагодила, хороше як образок, а мягке як вата, ліжко і я сплю в хаті збудованої з дерева, по Європейськи. Помежи бруси, можна бачити гори і місяць та звізди. До того, вовки приспівують мені до спаня. Дальше не буду писати, бо не годен Тобі докладно всего розяснити. Однак я тут так як [у] Бога на Хрестинах.

Що до фотог[рафій] то я для Тебе вже знайшов добрий кусок роботи. Маю вже 3 копії, але на жаль не принесуть много гроша бо не хочуть заказувати більше як по 2-3 штуки. За цим я не питав, самі до мене прийшли. Індіяне завтра спеціяльно убираються, щоби я іх фотоґрафував. 3

Ми зробимо добрий ґешефт, за це я ϵ певний. Бо як виїду межи фармарів, то іще ліпше піде. Тут нема людий, це "Ranchers" лише, далеко оден від другого. Коби я мав апарат такий Твій 5х7 з Cook (sic) ленс. Цего мені буде дуже потрібно, я вже бачу. Ну, але коли до цего прийде, то якось оно пійде.

Що до Enlarger-а удавайся поза Duffin. Я їм писав за 6 x10 mounts. Не знаю чому не вислали. Ти сам того листа підписав, то знаєш добре, що там було. Я вірю, що ми не забули. По другому я перевідаюсь про second-hand camera stores на всході, Монтреяль, Торонто і т. и. Чекай на то. Знайшов купців на овочі, але не за ту цїну. Хочуть 15% для себе і цїна має бути та, що всюда. На перед ніхто не знає яка цїна буде. За cash нема. Хочуть щоби дати і чекати як они продадуть. Отже

4

чую, що треба забути за Духоборив ї їх овочі. Я не вірив таки наперед, щоби можна бізнес зробити. Правда, я єще не випробував всїх фірмів, але они всі знають чим ми пахнемо. Жаль мені, але що зроблю. Я радше робивбим для купців як для Дух[оборі]в. Знаю це, що коли би згодились продати по ціні такі яку всі признають а з того дати 25% (15% їм а 10% мені) то зробивбим бізнес на 100 кар, а инакше то відказуються, і того я їм не ганьблю. Скажи Кузьмі, що правда. Наперед нїхто не хоче казати цїни. Картофлю і т.д. не хочуть. Кажуть, що мають досить з "Prairie". Оден мені сказав, що вже 12 кар яблок (ранних) продав, на такій підставі і вже гроші дістали. По другому они суть спекулянтами, хочуть знати сорта і кілько кождого і т.д. а я не маю ані кропки інформації. Треба до цего братись инакше. З Grand Forks ані з Blairmore. До мене прийде, а може вже прийшов пакунчик з Haloid Co. з samples. Я написав до Collector of Customs і післав йому Consular Invoices, щоби мені тут вислав.

5

А коли Ти їх вибрав, то як найскорше висилай сюди до мене. Як хочеш, я для Тебе дістану Haloid папері дешево. Разом з цловими⁶⁰ налогами, я єще дешевше дістану як Ти. Роблять мене спеціяльним аґентом на Канаду. Для Тебе я дістану мало що вище ціни в Америк[анському] Катальоґу. Це не забувай. Я певний, що то, що коштує \$ 1⁰⁰ в U.S. я для Тебе дістану за \$ 1⁰⁵. Оно варта коли хочеш.

Тепер хочу знов жебрати. Ти вже звик на це від мене. Тут на почті не продають перекази до U.S. Це лише така маленька почта. Express-y нема на M[oney] Orders. Найблизше Banff, а то за

⁶⁰ Цло—dial. from Polish "cło," customs taxes.

далеко, і мені конечно треба вислати $$2^{00}$ Mrs. Adams в Springfield, Ohio, так щоби она дістала до 5го Sept[ember]. Я сподїюсь, що Ти це зробиш для мене отже залучаю коверту і прошу висилай скоро.

6

Це має до діла з моїм розводом і я конечно маю це зробити.

Друге заордеруй оден кейс Agfa $3\frac{1}{4}$ x $4\frac{1}{4}$ film packs для мене. Там буде 10 doz[ens] і Ти повинен дїстати $33\frac{1}{3}$ % discount. Мені будеш висилати скілько я заордерую від Тебе. Ти сам берися до Agfa покинь Eastman. Коли це зробиш, то будеш казаком, але це друге (Agfa) то пізнійше від (\$2 Adams). Мені треба буде film-ів отже я радше дам Тобі заробити як иньшому. Коли би Ти дівстав (sic) Agfa до тиждня, так висилай мені два доз. разом.

Дальше не буду писати. Отже кінчу і прошу єще раз о ті дві річи бо на тім моя будучнісьть висить.

Здоровлю Вас всіх щиро Твій брат Дмитер

P.S. Цего листа щоби Ти не пробував відчинити, коли не хоч жалуватись опісля—прошу. Вложи переказ (і вишли мені ресіт) побіч коверти.

Morley, Alta, 28 August 1926

Dear Brother,

I received Your letter dated the 23rd of this month together with other letters, for which all I thank you sincerely. Before I write further, I have a lot to tell you and would like to write you something about the place where I am now.

Mother has 17 thousand acres of pasture land here, and she also has 183 head of cattle, plus several dozen horses. It is 6 miles north of the station. What mountains, what *picturesque* views! It's only several miles away from Banff. This evening, it's been precisely a week since I arrived here. They gave me a horse and saddle, and I ride dozens of miles daily. Twice a week we go to *Morley* for the mail, by car rather than by horse. *Morley* is on an Indian Reservation, and there is nobody here except for the Indians and several officials (a *Mounted Policeman*, *Indian Agent*, *School Teachers*, and *Storekeeper*).

2

The Indians here have several hundred thousand acres of pasture land. I have already taken several photographs of Indians. I eat and sleep like a horse, and mother caters to me the way I never knew in my native house. In a word, I feel so good that I don't know if I can leave without tears—tears of pain! Here, we get up at 5.30 a.m. Breakfast is at 6 o'clock, dinner at 12, supper at 6, and we go to bed already at 9. I feel healthy, and I have the appetite of a horse. Mother made a bed for me, pretty as a picture and soft like cotton; I sleep in a house built from wood, the European style. One can see the mountains, moon, and stars through the logs. Plus, the wolves sing me lullabies. I will not write further, since I cannot explain all of that to You in detail. Yet, I feel as if I am at God's place for a Christening.

As far as the photographs are concerned, I have already found a good chunk of work for You. I already have 3 copies but, alas, they will not bring a lot of money, since people do not want to order more than 2-3 each. I did not ask for that, but they approached me themselves. Tomorrow, the Indians will dress up specially for me to take pictures of them.

3

We will make a good profit, I am sure of that. And when I go to the farmers, things will go even better. There are no people here, only "Ranchers," and they are far away from each other. I wish I had a camera like Yours, the 5x7 with the Cooke lens. I will really need one, I can see that already. Well, when it comes to that, it will work out somehow.

As for an Enlarger, try something else except Duffin. I wrote to them regarding the 6 x10 mounts. I

do not know why they did not send them. You signed that letter yourself, so you know well what was in it. I believe that we did not forget. Regarding the second one, I will check the *second-hand camera stores* in the east: Montreal, Toronto, and so on. Wait for that.

I have found merchants for veggies but not at the expected price. They want 15% for themselves, and the price has to be the same as everywhere else. Nobody knows in advance what kind of price there will be. There is nothing for *cash*. They want us to give them veggies and wait till they sell those out. Therefore,

4

I feel like we should forget about the Doukhobors and their veggies. I did not believe in the first place that there could be any business done. Although I have not yet asked all the firms, they all know how we smell. It's a pity, but what can I do? I would rather work with the merchants than Doukhobors. I know that if we would agree to sell for the price that everyone accepts, and from that take 25% (15% for them and 10% for me), then I would have made a deal on 100 cars. Otherwise, they refuse, and I cannot blame them. Tell Kuzma that it is true. Nobody wants to tell the price in advance. They do not want potatoes and such. They say that they have enough from the "Prairie." One man told me that he has already sold 12 cars of apples (early ones) on such conditions, and got his money already. On the other hand, they are just profiteers; they want to know types and how much of each type, and so on. And I have not one iota of information. This has to be approached in a different way. From *Grand Forks*, not from *Blairmore*.

There should arrive, or maybe has already arrived, a package for me from the *Haloid Co*. with the *samples*. I have written to the *Collector of Customs* and sent him the *Consular Invoices* so that he would send them to me here.

5

But if You have picked them up then send those to me here as soon as possible. If you'd like, I will get the *Haloid* paper for cheap for You. Together with the customs taxes, I will get that cheaper than You would. They are making me a special agent for Canada. For You, I will order [the paper] for a price that is slightly higher than in the American Catalogue. Do not forget about it. I am sure that whatever costs $$1^{00}$ in the *U.S.*, I will get that for You for $$1^{05}$. It is worth it if you'd like.

Now, I need to beg again. You are used to that already. Here at the post office, they do not sell money orders to the *U.S.* It is just a small post office. There is no *Express* for *Money Orders*. The closest one is in *Banff*, but that is too far, and I badly need to send \$2⁰⁰ to *Mrs. Adams* in *Springfield, Ohio*, so that she would get it by the 5th of *September*. I hope that You would do that for me, so I enclose an envelope; please send the money order as soon as possible.

6

It has to do with my divorce, and I absolutely have to do it.

Second, order one case of the $Agfa \, 3\frac{1}{4} \, x4\frac{1}{4} \, film \, packs$ for me. There will be $10 \, dozen$, and You should get a $33^{1}/_{3} \, \% \, discount$. You will send me as many as I will order from You. You yourself switch to the Agfa and drop the Eastman. If you do that, you will be a Cossack, but this second thing (Agfa) is for later—after the \$2 for Adams. I will need the films, so I would rather give an earning opportunity to You than to someone else. If You get the Agfa within a week then send two dozen of them to me. I will not write further. Will finish and ask once again for those two things, since my future depends on them.

Cordially wishing health to all of You. Your brother, Dmyter.

P.S. I ask You—do not try to open this letter if You do not want to regret later on. Insert the money order (and send me the receipt) aside from the envelope.

Meaning "what kind of people we are."

Letter 33. 7 September 1926, Dmyter Macko to Evan Gushul

(Fig. 24)

{envelope}

Mister Evan Gushul P.o. Box 209 Coleman Alta

Morley, Sept[ember] 7th 1926

Дорогий Іване:

Твій лист отримав за що щиро дякую. Жаль мені, щом скорше не відписав, але тут я яких 8 миль від почти і ходимо лише раз в тиждень, а часом навет меньше. Отже твій лист я отримав минувшого тиждня але не міг скорше відписати бо ніяк занести на почту. Завтра думаю йти на почту, отже занесу цей лист.

Питаєш чи я на фармах і як мені подобаєсь. Так я на фармах або пасовисках. Не на жнивах але на прогульці я тут. Мама дала мені сїдланого коня—званий "Prince". Їзджу кождий день і збираю прекрасні фотоґрафії. Вчера я бив масло, так як в старім краю. Нинька в нас падає сніг. Це перший раз я бачу сніг через 5 літ. Дуже файно виглядає. Не зовсім зимно, але дуже дивно. Тут баба би назбирала губ або грибів! Гриби тут дуже великі і їх так много, що місцями

нема де ногою стати за..... [Мені] тут добре... Амер... тут ... не прийшов... [Він] тут... ... [бис] заробив добрі гроші. ...ншими Поміж іншими ..., я маю дуже добре ліжко з подушков. Ґрапина пішла спати на... як на Матерас

... чуюсь досить здоровий й накормлений. Я знаю, що це тебе буде цікавити але для мене такий звичай значить нічо нового. Всюди цивїлізовані люди сплють й кормляться опісля приписів природи. Звичайно на фармах цего тримаються ліпше як в місті.

Наші фотоґрафії трошка невиразні.

(Fig. 25)

Особи добре, але струн не замітно на інструментах. Однак це мені до вподоби, так я люблю і щиро дякую татови, мамі і тобі. Ти може не знаєш, що з мене великий жебрак. Так Івасю, я безперестанно жабраю. Отже, будучи ж[е]браком, я дальше пускаюсь тим шляхом. Попроси маму і тата, щоби зробили по дві копії з цих фотог[рафій] а ти мені пришли. Бачиш? Це звесь жабранє. Коли би тато не хотів, то спитай, що 4 картці будуть коштувати, а я вишлю центи. [3]

Питаєш коли я вернусь до Blairmore. Но я там не думаю назад вертатись. Ти вже до мене загостиш. Це не за горами час принесе для нас все, чого ми страдаємо. Мені не пасує їхати до Вас, я Вам вже ся навкучив досить «терпко». Хотяй я є жбраком, в мене єще є трошка чести і я не зроблю нічого такого, щоби змити і цю честь. За це краще за будь, а сподійся загостити до мене.

Як я бачу, ти був на Blairmore аж до початку школи. Чи не жаль тобі за твоїми сестрами? Добре, що ти научився моє пісні. Учись дальше і в музиці, в Укр[аїнській] школі як і в Анґ[лійській]. Наука значить більше чим найбільше майно. Коли підростеш, то довідаєшся більше. Коли до мене будеш писати, то уживай адрес на окремій картці. Я там завше дістану.

Залучаю тобі фотографію котру зняв там на Карбондайл тоє неділі.

(Fig. 26)

[4]

Дальше писати не буду, бо не маю що. Хотяй маю, та спішусь, ато маю много до писаня. Тимчасом здоровлю Вас всіх, включаючи бабу, тітку Параску, Грапину і їх родину.

> Твій вірний вуйко, Дмитер.



Ralgary, alberta Morley. Left. 7h 1986.

Approvi bare;
Mais mem ompunet za ny nyupo gekyro.
Hans meni, nyon ekspere re lignical ane nyon e
eter 6 min big normi i xoguno mune paz lo nunegone, a
recon nabem menbula Orinte mbin mom a ompunat
munyburoro neukgna ane ne min ekopue biguncamun do niak
zanecina na nermy. Zabrapa gyman una normy, orintee

Tumas un na chapous i ak meni nogodares. The na fapous a so naesbucker. He na funtas ace na reporques à rapin. Mana gara meni cignanoro kone - zbaniñ Prince: Iggoleg kosegui gens, i zduporo reperir chonedpospii. Brepe z sub means, mak ak k emapine kporo. Hunska b use no gat enir. He nepunui pag a sary enir repez 5 min. Depoke chaine burnagar. He zobein zumo, ane gypte gubro. Tym sa sa su nazdu pana rys a so repusit. Pendu mym gypte beneki i ix mak moros, us micyhum



Fig. 25. Evan Gushul and Dmyter Macko, ca. 1925, Crowsnest Museum and Archives.

Fig. 24. Letter from Dmyter Macko to Evan Gushul, 7 September 1926, Crowsnest Museum and Archives, first page.

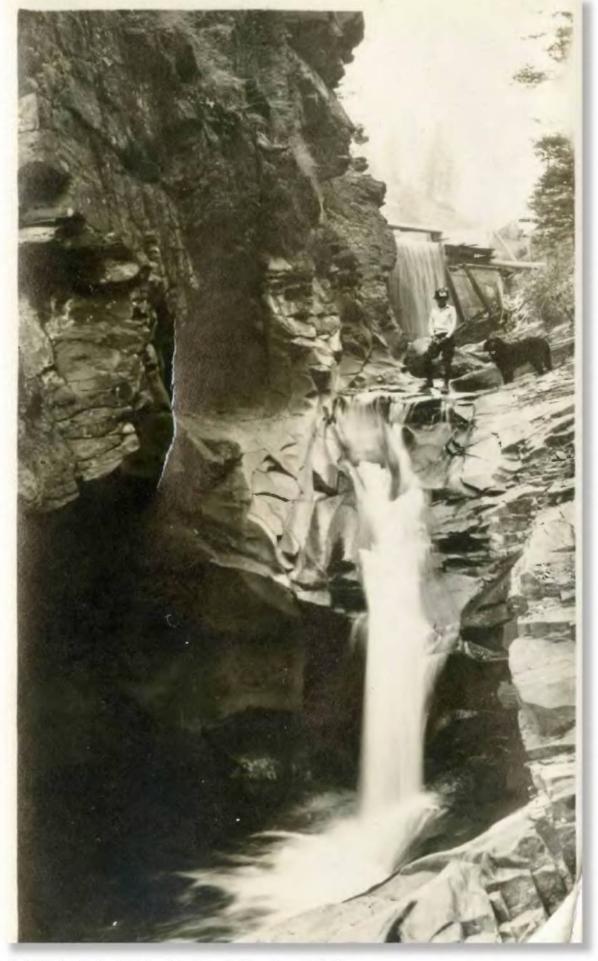


Fig. 26. "Carbondale Creek Falls. Evan & the Dog on the Edge of Second Falls. Taken Sunday Aug. 1. 1926. D.O. Macko," Crowsnest Museum and Archives.

Уживай цей адрес D.O. Macko c/o Canadian Bank of Commerce Calgary, Alta.

Чи ти знав це?: To kiss a Miss is awful simple

But to miss a kiss is simply awful.

Morley, 7 September 1926

Dear Evan.

I have received your letter for which I thank you sincerely. I am sorry that I did not reply sooner, but I am about 8 miles away from a post office and we walk there only once a week or even less often. So, I received your letter last week but could not reply sooner, for there is no way to drop it at the post. Tomorrow, I plan to go to the post, so I will take this letter.

You are asking if I am at the farms and if I like it. Yes, I am at the farms or, rather, pastures. I am not harvesting here but walking around. Mother gave me a saddled horse named "Prince." I ride him every day and take wonderful photographs. Yesterday, I churned butter just like in the Old Country. Today, the snow is falling. It's been the first time I see snow in 5 years. It looks very beautiful. It is not too cold but it is too unusual. Our granny would pick up fungi or mushrooms here! Mushrooms are very big here, and there are so many of them that sometimes

[2]

there is no place to step.

... I feel quite healthy and sated. I know that it will be interesting for you, but there is nothing new for me in such a custom. The civilized people everywhere sleep and eat according to nature's orders. Of course, people on the farms stick to that tighter than people in cities.

Our photographs are a bit unclear. The individuals turned out fine but strings on the instruments are obscure. Yet, I like it this way, yes I like it, and I sincerely thank your father, mother, and you. You probably do not know that I am a big beggar. Yes, Ivas, I beg all the time. And being a beggar, I will do just that. Ask your mom and dad to make two copies of each of these photographs, and then you send those to me. Do you see? It is called begging. If your dad will not agree then ask how much 4 photographs would cost, and I will send the cents.

[3]

You are asking me when I will come back to *Blairmore*. But I do not plan to return there. You will come to visit me instead. It is not beyond reach, time will bring us everything we have been suffering for. It is not appropriate for me to visit You, I've already bothered You "bitterly." Even though I am a beggar, I still have some dignity left and will not do anything to tarnish the rest of that dignity. You'd better forget about it and hope to visit me instead.

As far as I see, you stayed in *Blairmore* until the start of school. Don't you miss your sisters? It is good that you have learnt my songs. Learn music further, and study at the Ukrainian school as well as the English one. Knowledge is worth more than the greatest riches. When you grow up, you will understand more.

When you will write to me, use the address from the separate card. I always receive my mail there. I am sending you a photograph that I took in Carbondale that Sunday.

[4]

I will not write any further, since I have nothing to write about. That is, I am in a hurry or would otherwise have a lot to write about.

In the meantime, I wish You all health, including the granny, aunt Paraska, Grapyna, and their families.

Your faithful uncle, Dmyter. Use this address: D.O. Macko c/o Canadian Bank of Commerce Calgary, Alta.

Did you know this?:

To kiss a Miss is awful simple But to miss a kiss is simply awful.

Letter 34. 8 November 1930, Fedir Matsko to Dmyter Macko

{envelope}

Monsieur D. O. Macko P.O. Box 209. Coleman, Alta. Canada.

{on the back of the envelope}

Ret. To. F. Macko Rożnow P. Kosów. M. Polska⁶²

Дня 8 Падолиста. 1930 р.

Дорогий Мій брате!

Хочу Тобі, Описаті, усе моє положенє. бувше і типерішне.

Я Оженився. уже на 25. м[инулого] м[ісяця] було висілє у мене.

Чи ти, Отримав Запрошенє від мене. чи ні? Я писав Тобі що я Опишу усіо тобі докладно по Висілю. Отож. хочу і Описати, Але прошу. О. відпис.

Як я служив був у Заболотові мин[улого] року. ну. і потому. я. прийшов додому я писав Тобі, як і що. Отже. прийшов я до дому. і зачав думати як я. маю жити. Служити запізно уже. до Канади, тиж трудно піти. бо Чую, що там без. робітє вилике. і т.д. і сам. такі не міх піти. Отже зачав думати і потихо пирипитуваті де. би. це я оженив ся. Зачав я принюхувати де. би це. піти на ґрунт, ну біда. де. би може. було ни согірше. то біда що я маю. Мало ґрунту. де. ґівчина є така що пириймає. на ґрунт, то там. токих хлопців. що страх. Кождий. пхаєт ся. ну думав я собі часом. так. Може би я, ни женився. ну та біда у хакі з. татом. бути. От відоклав я. цю, осїнь, на жинячку. Казав я ґєдиви єще то гід. що я сего року. буду. Жинитися.

От з чав я женити ся. Сказав мині вуйко Міхяло. кітки, Ан. Чоловік. казати що там на Чітлинцях є, Одовиця, що може би я там з нев. Оженився і т.д. Она мала 2. ґітей. від. першого Чоловіка, є, 3. Морґі поля, 1. М[орґ] єї, а 2. ґіточі, корова. кінь. стайня. хата. і куча. ну. я дуже. нимаю, охоти на одовицю, Але думаю, що буду. робити. мушу. Жинити ся. пішов я на Обзорини. до неї. ну, я Молодици, вподобав ся. так. що, хочі мине. приймити, і змалим. віном. Але. біда то що Мині ніц. не. до вподоби она була.

Але. думаю я собі так. як нибуде. де. инде піти, то буду тут. жинити ся. з. одовицев 2

Ми були на обзоринах. то Молодиця. сказала, що би за 2. тижні прийти, на злагоду. і щоби ми дуже скоро справили висілє. ну на цю Молодицю нимаю я охоти. Раз. то що Она Мала 35. літ. уже старша. друге. що. 2. ґітей. ∈. Отут біда. все. такі кортит своя. рівня. ґівчина. я думаю собі так.

⁶² Mało Polska.

⁶³ Чітлинці— Чаплинці or Чіплинці, a part of one of four Rozhniv parishes.

я тут ни відповідаю їй, а шукаю другої. ґівчини. як буде. добре. а ні то ні. Але. я про цю ґівчину думав від. давна. Але. я єї ні чого ни казав. бо Она за богата. для. мене. і з. виликої фамілиї. Она має 2. Сестрі віддані. Одну тримає. Нашого віта заступник. А другу також. порядний, ґазда богач. правда що я ниходив богато, у старости. Але. думаю, собі так. однака біда спробую цю ґівчину. Може. вдасьть ся штука. А як ні то ні.

ну тут я єще з ґівчинов ничо, ни балакав. Але я знаю що ґівчина пішла би за мене. Лиш біда що родичі ґівчиночі хочуть. виликого віна. бо до сеї ґівчини, богато старіст ішло, і Мали по 1. Морґови, і худобу. по 2. Мор[ґи]. Я думаю, де. де. я співморґом. Мозів. піду. на 3. Морґі. Городу. Але що буде. буде. Спробую. і то пилую бо за 2. тижні. з бабов злагода, ну і біда. я узяв і післав одного Чоловіка щоби, забалакав где. що промене. з. Старим. і з. ґівчинов. я з ґівчинов хоч не. говорив нічого Але. знав. що она ме мати охоту, бо за мене ґівки, дуже мали охоту іти, бо я. я і файний на вподобу. і дуже. старав ся. бути, поважним. ну. сей чоловік. якого я післав; зачав говорити вперед. з. ґівков. ґівка. каже. що. дуже має охоту, потому зачав говорити з. Старим. А Старі кажут хай прийде хлопець. що би ми. єго виґіли. бо ми. єго не. знаємо. і т.д.

3

ну. Одного Чітверга. іду я у старости. значить що би мине. виґіли. Старї, пішов я сам. Але. здому. ніхто ни знає. що я женю ся в друге. Я прийшов. завитав ся. поцілював у руки. Говорили що говорили, ага! зачінаємо, про Женячку. каже Старий Мині, у тебе. є 1. брат у Канагі га? я кажу. є. а він пише? я кажу. пише. а він. посилає де. вам щось? я кажу. так посилає. він, яку має роботу там. я чую що він там є єкимось. урядником. то правда? я кажу. так то правда він ходив там дошкіл. і ґістав уже вилику посаду. він був Касїєром. а типер. Контролєром. уже. кажу. хоч. я ни знаю. але. так казали. а старий каже. ей люпчику. А він богато, фасує місячно. я. кажу. 300. долярів. місячно. ей любчику. мій га. ну А. ти маєш, єще одного Жонатого брата тут. я кажу. так. є. А він на богато ґрунту. там. пішов; я кажу на 3. Морґі а тут я усе. брешу вибач. бо біда. то лиш на 2. пішов. міхяло. а, він. від ґеґі богато, взяв, я кажу. 3, Чвертці. ну А ти, також маєш лиш 3. Чвертці, я кажу так. З. Але. це то лиш по нени. ми маємо б. поґедиви. то ми єще. ни чо типер. ни ґістаємо. ов, то мало, то синку. триба мати 2. Морґі. я кажу. що як охота ваша, я кажу. мині ґєґя Може єще додасьть, одну чвертку під горов, відкаже, то таке, я буду, з ґедим і будемо щос балакати тай будемо вигіти, може. щось. і буде. я пішов. на другу нигілю. я пішов до церкви і як виходили, з церкви, гівчина прийшла д мині і сказала. Федоре. Аби ти сегодне був у міскіі я маю щось тобі важне вповісти, я, потому пішов у місто і она вже. мине. чікала. і Она. так ґістала охоту вийти за мене. що аж. низнає. що робити.

4

балакали ми що балакали і Она мині казала. що за иншого не піде. добре! тут, прийшла ця нигіля. що траба, іти до баби на злагоду. А від ґівчини пириказали нам. що би іти на злагоду. Отже тогди я зачав казати, ґєдиви, що я був і як я балакав і т.д. узяв я, вуйка Міхяла. і ґєґю і пішли ми на злагоду. ну зачали, балакати що балакаті, зачали старі балакати. всї справі і ни можуть годиті ся. над. віном, ґівчина як у чула, що нима, нічо з цего зачала плакати і пішла. на двір

гєґя давав тілько половину, у лазах. більше. ніц. ни теляткиніякого, нічо, ну Родичі ґівчиночї кажут, Ми мали. поверх. 20. Старіст. але. єще. Стаким. малим. віном. ни було. ну і ми розійшли ся. так. що кажуть. нам. Радьтеся. і буде все добре. хлопець вдався. нам. усім. добре. і Чуємо що порядний. Але. за бідний. Ми прийшли додому. я зачав, ґєґю просити. зачав плакати Аби хоч. чвертку. ґєґя дав і все добре. ну. нима тут, я бабі, відповів і мині уже. нічо ни, вголові, тілько, це, як. би я вкрутив. тут. Здибаю ся я з ґівчинов, у не ґілю. знов питаю я що єї Родичі кажуть. А Она мині каже так. неня, то має охоту зцим, віном. А я то віна і ни питаю, Але ґяґя і зякі. кажуть. що це, за бідний. Але вуйко Міхяло, то був у Канаґі. з. одним. зятим. і вуйко, зачав, казати, про Мене зачав фалити. і ну вуйко, потому здибав ся з. Старим. значить. з. тесьтем.. тай каже. десь єму так, ви єго прийміть, то ґрунт ґрунтом. А у него є брат у Канаґі, він сюда ни прийде уже. він свою пайку. подарує. Федорові. він і гроший їм посила. Як зачав старого Розбирати. а Старий каже.

5

Ну то таке. Хай, прийде. Хлопець до мене.. хай я з ним. заговорю. щось ще Они говорили у Негілю і Мині вуйко, уповів. у негілю, як і що і я. у вівторок. пішов. до Тесьтя. Приходжу. А старий каже таке. хлопче. Ти удався нам у сїм тїлько біда, мой ти, забідний до лиха. Мині вповідав вуйко, твій. що. Твій брат. Може. подарувати пайку. свою. тож. Пиши до брата. що би подарував. хоч бодай. поти. би ти робив поки він ни прийде. а може він і не. прийде. бо чую, що він. Пан. Я кажу то таке. Він Мині свою пайку. Може дасьть, і думаю що дасьть і він занас, ни забуває. він присилає. десь по троха. гроший. братови. Міхялови він. прислав був. файний дарунок. і т.д.

А Старий каже. то таке, хай буде. воля божа. ґівчина. Наважилася. то хай буде. як. брат. може. пайку дасьть. добро пару. літ. А. пришле десь якого доляра і хай вас бог. благословить. і це Ми говорили у вівторок. А. у ниґілю. то тесьть. прийшов до нас. і сказав. ґєґіові. так. Робім. висїля. Хайбуде. що бог. дасьть: і Одної суботи. ми пішли до Попа і Записали Заповіди. і ми пилували то висїля. бо то були такі що Розбивали. А. я ґівчину добре. підбаґіорив так що ґівчина плакала. пиред Своїми Родичами. Аби дали єї за Мене.. і Родичі зробили єї. Волю..

Типер Дорогий Дмитрику. Будь такий добрий Пиши. до Мене. і порадь. я оженився зза Протекції Твоєї. Я тут застав.

6

Три морґі Поля, то так, що по смерти Родичів. лишить ся. 2. лиш. бо 1. Морґ. то озмуть єще такі 2. Доньки.

Типер Дмитрочку. Зроби Мині так добре. як бись викікав. Пиши до тата. хай твою пайку. Тебі Дасьть. А ти дай мині Хоч Аби я пириробив 1. 2. роки. Друге єсли би ни зміг. взяти пайку. то Хоч напиши такого листа. до Мене. що би я прочітав Родичам. що би була наґія. Аби я ни мав виґивків потому. Друге. ще. будь так Добрий. Дмитрику. пайка пайков. нім це буде. і як і що то ще низнаю.

Але. я Дуже Тибе. прошу. Позич Мині пару Долярів. Слово Чести брате даю Тобі що віддам. Тобі, Наколи я уже. добре. тут усиджу ся. Я тепер довідався. що є троха довгу. тут. А Старий думає що то, таки усе так як ся уперед. говорило. Дмитрику. Будь так Добрий. як викікаєш. то. 10 хоть Долярів позич. аби я хоч. троха. Мав тут Сповняючих. слів. Зроби Мині Дмитре. типер так добре. то ни забуду. тобі. Мині наразі Добре. Навидимося. усї і добре. Старий Тесьть водно каже мині, Пиши мой до брата Хай пришле. тобі где. що Проха. Ми типер проха у якісь кірини. Дмитрику, я тобі Описав сего листа вірно і на правду. бим так. жив. Нигнівай ся. що я прошу. О. Позичку. Мині ни ходить брате. О гроших. Значить Ходить Чимуні. Але—Мині ходить щоби Сповнилося. Моя. балачка. та котров. я. Ожинився. Дмитрику. Здоровляємо Тибе. Ми Обої з. Жінков. і зичимотобі всего доброго в житю. Твій брат. і братова. Федор і Васюта Мацко.

8 November 1930.

My dear brother!

I want to describe to You my situation, both the past and current one. I got married; I had a wedding on the 25th of the last month.

Did you get my invitation or not? I wrote to You that I would describe to You everything in detail after the wedding. So, now I want to describe it, but I am asking for a reply.

I was serving in Zabolotiv last year, then I returned home, and I wrote to you about how things were. So, I came home and started thinking about how I should live. It is too late to be a servant, it's too hard to get to Canada, for I hear that there's great unemployment over there and so on, and I couldn't go there by myself. So, I started thinking and asking around where I could get married. I started figuring out where to marry for land, but no luck. Where it would be okay, there was a problem with me having little land. Where there is a girl that has land, then there are lots of guys to ask for her hand. Everybody pushes their way in. Well, at times I thought to myself that maybe I

would not get married. But it is hard to live in the same house with the father. So, I planned to get married this autumn. I told the father last year I would be getting married this year.

And I started getting married. My uncle Mikhialo, the husband of aunt An., told me that there was a widow in Chiplyntsi, so maybe I should marry her and so on. She had two children from her first husband. She has three morgens of land, one morgen is hers and two others are children's; a cow, horse, barn, house, and chickencoop. Well, I do not really want to marry a widow, but what can I do. I have to get married. I went to her for the observation. Well, the woman liked me so much that she is ready to accept me even with a small dowry. But the thing is that I did not like her at all. But I thought to myself: if there is no other place to go, then I will marry the widow.

2

When we were at the observation, the woman said to come in two weeks for the agreement, so that we could hold a wedding soon. Well, I do not have any desire for this woman. First of all, she is 35 years old, quite old; second of all, she has two children. It's bad, for I want a girl my own age. I think to myself, I am not responding to her now and will look for another girl; if I find one, good, if not, then not. I was thinking about this girl for a long time, but I did not tell her anything because she is too wealthy for me and comes from a big family. She has two married sisters. One is married to the deputy of our *viyt*. 64 The other one is also married to a respectable, wealthy man. Although I did not try many matchmakers, I think that I will try to marry this girl. Maybe it will work out, but if not then not.

Well, although I have not yet spoken to the girl, I know that she would marry me. The problem is that her relatives want a big dowry, because many matchmakers visited this girl and they had one morgen and cattle or two morgens. I think, how can I aspire to three morgens while having just half a morgen? But be it as it may. I will try without delay, since in two weeks there is the agreement with that woman—no way out. I sent a man to talk about me with the girl and her old man. Although I did not talk to the girl myself, I knew that she would be willing to marry me, for many girls have wanted to marry me. I am handsome and try hard to appear respectable. Well, this man whom I sent talked first to the girl. The girl said that she would be willing; then he started talking to the old man. And the old man said, "Let the lad come so that we could see him, for we don't know him" and so on.

3

So, on Thursday I went to ask for her hand, i.e, to appear before the parents; I went alone. But nobody at home knows that I am making a second attempt at getting married. I came, greeted them, kissed their hands. We talked a little and then, aha!, started to talk about marriage. The old man tells me, "You have a brother in Canada, right?," "I have." "Does he write?" I say, "He does." "And he sends you something?" I say, "Yes, he does." And he says, "What job does he have there? I heard that he is some kind of an officer, is that true?" I say, "Yes, that's true; he went to school there and has already got a big position; he used to be a cashier, and now he is an auditor." Although I do not know that, but so they say. The old man says, "Hey, dear, does he make a lot each month?" I say, "300 dollars a month.""Oh, dear me. And do you have another married brother here?" I say, "Yes, I have." "And how much land did he marry into?" I say, "Into three morgens." And here I am lying, sorry, for there is no other way out; Mikhialo married into only two morgens. "And how much did he inherit from your father?" I say, "Three quarters. "So, you also have only three quarters?"—I say, "Yes, three, but that's only through mother, we have 6 from father, but we do not get any of it yet." "Oh, that's a pittance, my son; you have to have two morgens." I say, "If you want, my father may give me one more quarter under the mountain. I will talk to my father, so we'll see if something turns out." Then I left. The following Sunday I went to the church, and, when we were exiting, the girl came to me and said, "Fedir, you need to be in town today; I need to tell you something important." Then I went

⁶⁴ Viyt—a head of local village administration.

to town, and she was waiting for me; and she was so very much willing to marry me that she did not know what to do.

4

We talked a little, and she said that she would not marry another man. Good! And then the Sunday came for me to go to the older woman for the agreement. And we got a message from the girl's family to come to them for the agreement. Only then did I start telling our father about where I was and what we discussed, and so on. I took uncle Mikhial and my dad, and we went to the agreement. Well, we started talking a little, and then the old men started talking about this case, and they cannot come to an agreement regarding the dowry. When the girl realized that nothing was going to happen, she started crying and went outside.

Dad was giving only half in Lazy⁶⁵ and nothing else, not even a calf, nothing. Well, the girl's relatives say, "We had over 20 suitors and none of them had such a small dowry. And so we parted, and they said, "Come to an agreement and everything will be fine. We all liked the lad, and we hear that he is a good one but too poor." We came home and I started pleading with Dad, crying, asking him to give me at least a quarter more so that things would be OK. But nothing worked. I answered the widow and could not think of anything but how to make this work. I met the girl on Sunday, I asked her again what her parents said. And she says, "My mother is fine with your dowry, and I am not even asking for that dowry. But my dad and my brothers-in-law said that you are too poor." But uncle Mikhialo was in Canada, with one of the son-in-laws, so he started talking about me and praising me, and the uncle later met the old man, i.e. the father-in-law, and said to him something like, "Take him in, a piece of land is a piece of land, and he has a brother in Canada who will not return; he will give his land as a gift to Fedir, besides he sends them money." He started persuading the old man, and the old man said,

5

"Well, tell the lad to come to me, I will talk to him about something else." They had that conversation on Sunday and the uncle told me about it on Sunday, and on Tuesday I went to the father-in-law. I went, and the old man says, "Boy, we all like you, but it is bad that you are awfully poor. Your uncle told me that your brother might give you his land as a gift, so write to your brother and ask him to gift it to you or at least that you would work on his land till he returns. Maybe he will not return, for I hear that he is a big shot." I say, "That's true. He may give me his land, I think he will; and he does not forget about us, he sends money, and he sent a nice gift for Mikhial and so on."

And the old man says, "Fine, let it be God's will; if the girl decided so, then let it be. If your brother will give you his land for a couple of years and will sometimes send you some dollars, then may God bless you." And that's what we talked about on Tuesday and the following Sunday the father-in-law came to us and said to my dad, "Let's have the wedding. May it be as God gives." And then one Saturday, we went to a priest and Registered the wedding Banns, and we rushed the wedding, for there were people who wished to thwart it. And I encouraged the girl so well that she cried in front of her relatives to marry her off to me, and her relatives granted her wish.

Now, dear Dmytryk, be so kind, write to me and advise. I got married with your help. I have now 6

three morgens of land, but after the in-laws' death I will have only two left as one morgen will be divided between the two daughters.

Now, Dmytryk, do me a favour. Write to our father—let him give you your portion of land. And you give it to me to at least work on for one or two years. If you cannot take the land, then at least write such a letter to me that I could read to the in-laws to show that there is hope so that I will not be troubled later. Another thing, be so kind, Dmytryk, land is land, whether it will work out or not, I do not know, but I ask you Sincerely to please lend me a couple of dollars. I give you, brother, my

⁶⁵ Lazy (Лази)—a small area in Pidhiria parish in the village of Rozhniv.

word of honour that I will return the money when I am well-adjusted here. I came to know that I have some debts but the old man thinks that everything is the way we discussed before. Dmytryk, be so good, if you can lend me at least 10 dollars so that I could at least support my words with something. Do that for me, Dmytro, and I will always remember it. I am good for now. We all like each other and everything is good, but the old father-in-law says, "Write to your brother, let him send you what you asked for." We are now uncertain here. Dmytryk, I described everything to you in this letter as it happened in real life. Don't be mad at me for asking you to lend me money. It's not about the money, brother. Or maybe it is, why not. But also it's about keeping promises that I made before the wedding. Dmytryk, both me and my wife are wishing you all the best in life. Your brother Fedir and your sister-in-law. Fedir and Vasiuta Macko.

Letter 35. 4 February 1933, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

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(Fig. 27)
{envelope}
Mr. Thomas Gushul
P.O. Box 54
Blaimore, Alta
{stamp}
Nelson, BC, February 4, 1933
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Feb[ruary] 4, 1933

Дор[огий] Брате:

Чому не пишеш? Я тут на днях приїхав контролювати книжки двом фірмам, бо мої приятелі (auditors) взяли мене до помочі їм в цій роботі. Правда, що це лише тимчасово, так лише на пору завізну⁶⁶, але все таки добре. Буду тут 10 днів, більше меньше, а потім до Penticton, а назад подорозі будемо також кілка днів в Cronbrook і Let bridge.⁶⁷ Що потому то не знаю, може щось дальше дадуть мені, але не знаю чи буде так чи ні.

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Робота тяжка і години довгі, від 9 рано до півночі але я відчуваюся досить добре.

Новинок маю купу. Коли зможеш то прошу написати до нас до Calgary бо я не знаю, Спішуся спати бо дуже трудний. Ага, Калґарська Шкільна Рада запрошує мене давати лєкції у вечірній школі для безробітних. Також Турф Дім,⁶⁸ а головно Мойсюк, запрошує давати їм лєкції в бухгальтерні.

3

Тимчасом я тут виїхав отже не знаю, що зроблю як вернуся. Як не буду мав заняття дальше то дам лєкції укр. на бухгальтерні.

Пиши як нічо не перескоджає—я сумую, що Ти за мене так скоро вже забув.

Поклон до всіх і вся! Завше вірний Дмитер

⁶⁶ Завізна (пора)—завантажена, напружена.

⁶⁷ Cranbrook and Lethbridge.

⁶⁸ ТУРФДім—Товариство "Український Робітничо-Фармерський Дім," Ukrainian Labour-Farmer Temple Association.

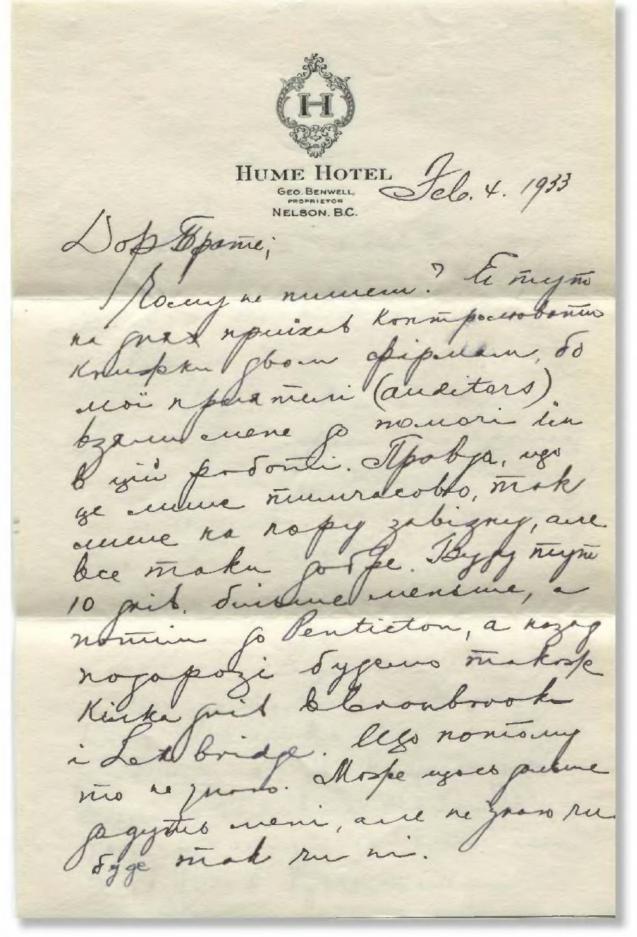


Fig. 27. Letter from Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul, 4 February 1933, Crowsnest Museum and Archives, first page.

Dear Brother,

Why don't you write? Several days ago, I came to do financial auditing in two firms, as my friends (auditors) took me to help them in this task. It is, however, temporary, only for the busy season, but it is still good. I will be here for 10 days, more or less, then will go to *Penticton*, and on our way back we will stay several days in *Cranbrook* and *Lethbridge*. I do not know what will be after that; maybe they will give me something else to do, but I don't know if it is going to happen or not.

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The work is hard and the hours are long, from 9 a.m. till midnight, but I feel quite good.

I have a lot of news. When you have a chance, please write to us in *Calgary*, for I don't know what kind of wonder it is that there is not a word from You.

I am going to bed, for I am very tired. Oh, the Calgary School Council asks me to give lectures to the unemployed at an evening school. Also, Labor Temple, mainly Moisiuk, asks me to give lectures there on bookkeeping.

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Yet I have already left, so I don't know what I will do when I return. If there is no other job to do then I will give the bookkeeping lectures to the Ukrainians.

Write to me if nothing stops you—I am sad that You forgot about me so quickly.

Bowing to all and everyone! Sincerely Yours, Dmyter

Letter 36. 30 March 1933, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

{envelope}

Thomas Gushul, Esq. P.O. Box 54 Blairmore, Alta

{stamp}

Calgary, AB, 30 March 1933

614-15 Ave. W. March 30, 1933

Дор[огий] Брате:

Щиро дякую за Твій лист. Зараз по перечитаню пішов до бюра М.W.U. of $C.^{69}$ і бачився з Стокалюком. По виміненю кількох слів ми почали діло. Він дивувався, що я вже не в Coleman, значить нічого не знав про мене. Отже я удавав, що й мене дискреміновано підчас страйку. Коли я пояснив, що хотів би він него рекомендацію, то він відрікся, кажучи, що офіціяльно мене рекомендувати неможливо через то, що я не ε майнером і немаю ніякої сполуки з ними. Друге, що юнія пропону ε Боба Горна на секр[етаря]-скар[6ника і через то не виходить поперати мене—чужого юнії. Енґліш, каже, випитував Горна і він

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відповів, що досвіду не має, а ще до того є в шкільній раді з котрої мусівби зрезиґнувати. С[токалюк] каже, що колиб Горн так зробив, то вони небоють ся, що на його місце не виберуть

⁶⁹ Mine Workers' Union of Canada (1925–1935).

наслідника з їх власної сторони. Дальше, боють ся, що в такім разі Енґліш може не потвердити кандитатуру Горна на секр[етаря]-скарб[ника].

Ми говорили около 2 годині і С[токалюк] казав, що десь напочатку наступаючого тижня, він буде в Blairmore і перевідаєся, що там за стан, і якщо з їх сторони немає кандидата, то він буде попирав мою аплікацію. І так ми розійшлися.

Я війшов70 і розважив річ і щось мені в ухо шепнуло—«зле що ходив до него». Боюся, що С[токалюк] часом може мене представити ворожо, бо його іронічний усміх немовби вимовляв: «Прійшла коза до воза!» Ну, але він широко орґанізаційну роботу зі мною переговорював, і я з

не сподіюся ворожого строю, однак ми знаємо який С[токалюк] ϵ , тому я не хочу зовсім довіряти йому. По-другому, я немаю нічого на перешкоді, лише плюгаві язики одностороньців. Добре, що Pinkney читав мою аплікацію і добре, що він за мною, але Ти правду говориш, що він меже й тим мені перешкодивби, бо я знаю, що він не ϵ з рамен майнерів. Так тепер не знаю, що робити. Чекаймо на сутьбу, бо я не знаю інакше. Я боюся писати майорові ще раз щоби недовкучитися йому, а отверто писати невиходить, і висказати мій дух пролєтарський бо там довідаються такі котрі робилиб закиди так як звичайно роблять жовто-блякитники.

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Я знаю це, що між тими всіма аплікаціями, котрі отримали жадна не годна порівнюватися з моїм досвідом і адукацією. А що до книговодства то міскі книги є найпростіші від усіх инших. Їх форма є дуже улегшена (simple) так, що фахово образованої особи не зовсім потрібно містам до ведення книг. Якщо є фаховець, то добре, але звичайно хтобуть справля що треба. Я не боюся нічого, бо все є простим, а правила парляментарні при засіданях, то можна орієнтуватися самим законом провінції "Municipal Act." Я знаю все досить добре. Коби то вони якнайскорше рішали, бо я ходжу як курка з яйцем і клопочу свою й Твою голову.

Ага, Стокалюк торкнув справу Черчука і каже, що Ч[ерчук] думав бути комісарем, а йому несталося так і тому він може й буде противником союза як тут вернеся. Про це тут 5

отверто говорять. Хтось прийшов з Едмонтону і казав, що Ч[ерчук] до когось там писав і т.д. і т.д. Майже всі кажуть, що Ч[ерчук] показався нещирим борцем за соціялізм. Чорт знає, що було а що буде ще! Я довідався, підчас бесіди з Стокалюком, що С[токалюк] боїться Черчука. Головно тому, що Ч[ерчук] може має контакт серед Drumheller майнерів і довіря, отже колиб він став ся противником, так й пошкодивби юнії. Хотяй Стокалюк цего не казав, але так вибрав з поміж його заміток. Ну, але це лише моя опінія—отже тримай в тайні.

Не маю, що писати, тому кінчу і всіх Вас здоровлю разом з Ліліяною.

Твій вірний брат Дмитер

614-15 Ave. W. 30 March 1933

Dear Brother,

Sincere thanks for Your letter. Right after reading it, I went to the office of the Mine Workers' Union of Canada and talked to Stokaliuk. After exchanging a couple of words, we got to business. He was surprised that I was no longer in *Coleman*, therefore he did not know anything about me. Thus, I pretended that I was discriminated against during the strike too.

When I explained that I would like a recommendation letter from him, he refused by saying that it was impossible for me to be recommended officially, since I was not a miner nor had any relation

⁷⁰ Вийшов.

to them. Secondly, the Union is proposing Bob Horn⁷¹ for the position of secretary treasurer; that's why it was impossible to endorse me as someone outside the Union. He said that English asked Horn, and Horn

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replied that he did not have experience; besides he would have to resign from the School Council where he is. Stokaliuk says that if Horn would do so, they would not worry that a replacement from their side would not be elected in his stead. Also, they are afraid that in such a case, English may not endorse Horn for the secretary treasurer position.

We talked for about two hours, and Stokaliuk said that around the beginning of next week he will be in *Blairmore* and will find out what the situation is, and if there is no candidate from their side then he would endorse my application. And so we parted.

I went outside and a thought came to me, as if something whispered in my ear—"It's bad that I went to him." I worry that Stokaliuk may represent me unfavourably, for it seemed as if his ironic smile was saying, "The goat has come to the wagon!" Well, he discussed a lot of organizational work with me, and I

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do not expect him to treat me inimically; yet we know what kind of a person Stokaliuk is, and that's why I don't want to trust him entirely. On the other hand, nothing is barring me except the filthy mouths of my countrymen.

It's good that *Pinkney* read my application and that he is on my side, but You are right in saying that he may obstruct me because of this, since I know that he is not from among the miners. So now I do not know what to do. Let's leave it to fate, for I cannot come up with anything else. I don't feel like writing to the major once again for the fear of annoying him; I cannot write openly and speak my proletarian mind, since those people will come to know about it and would criticize me as the yellow-and-blues always do.

4

I know that of all those applications they've received, none is good enough compared to my experience and education. As far as the bookkeeping is concerned, the city books are the easiest of all of them. Their forms are simplified (*simple*), so that cities do not need a professionally educated specialist. If there is a specialist it is good, but usually anyone can do the job. I am not afraid of anything since everything is simple, and, as for the rules during the Parliamentary sessions, it is possible to use the Provincial "Municipal Act." I know all of that quite well. I wish they would decide as quickly as possible, for I walk around like a hen with an egg and bother myself and You.

Oh, Stokaliuk spoke about the Cherchuk case: Cherchuk wanted to become a Commissar but it did not turn out, and that's why he may become an opponent of the Union if he comes back here. Here they

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openly talk about it. Someone from Edmonton came and told that Cherchuk wrote to someone and so on and so on. Almost everybody says that Cherchuk seemed to be insincere in his fight for socialism. Devil knows what happened and what yet will be! During my conversation with Stokaliuk, I came to know that Stokaliuk is afraid of Cherchuk. Mainly because Cherchuk might have contacts among the *Drumheller* miners and they trust him; therefore, should he become an opponent he could harm the Union. Even though Stokaliuk did not say that I read it between the lines. Yet it is only my opinion, so keep it a secret.

Don't have anything else to write about, so I will stop; Lilian and I wish you all good health.

Your faithful brother, Dmyter

The correct spelling of the last name is unknown.

Letter 37. 7 May 1933, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

{envelope}

Thomas Gushul, Esq. Box 54 Blairmore, Alta

> 614-15 Ave W. Calgary, Alta 7го травня 1933

Дор[огий] Брате:

Я не хочу ототожнювати Твою мовчанку з неуспіхом Твоїх замагань в моїй справі у Блейрморі, однак воно так й виглядає. Тому пишу сам до Тебе і прошу неробити собі ніяких заміток. Так сталося, як їм виглядало найліпше. Отже нам треба забути за минуле, а вважати хто є нашим приятелем, а хто противником. Я вірю, що Стокалюк оден, а другій Батрум. Ти може маєш свідоцтва инших нахилів. Отже берім з того примір в майбутних справах.

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Читаємо в ґазетах про успіх Вашої Параски на фестівалі у Кранбрук, і признаємо то нашим милим обовязком ґратулювати Параску і Вас яко їй родичів. Про Івана ніщо не бачили. Чи він брав участь?

Коло нас все по старому. Посади ще немаю. Ходжу і шукаю, але сейчас заняття незнайдеш ані з свічкою. Про стан страйку Ви знаєте з часописей, тому я не буду повторяти тут про цю справу.

Колись я казав Тобі, що я перекладав історію України і давав лєкції по книговодстві, а тепер наша школа розбилася. Люди, цебто учні, порозїзджалися до праці, де хто міг, а решта знеохотилася продовжати цю науку.

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Не тому знеохотилася, що воно ϵ незахвачуючим, але тому, що бракне їм підручника бо то ϵ реч досить заплутана і трудна для малообразованих осіб. Дехто з учнів навет додавати добре не зна ϵ , ато приходилося процентувати і дисконтувати і т.д. Отже просили мене написати підручника. В нас ϵ оден старокрайьовій написаний 1920 р. С. Гарасимовичем, 72 але їх система ϵ дуже неприступною і трудною, а ще до того багато ϵ шабльонів безпотрїбних, американська система ϵ визначно менше трудною і багато ліпшою.

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Я ту книжочку перестудіював і добре розумію, але систему яку тут вживається є вельми ціннішою. Але, щоби з моєї праці був хосен, то я хтів опублікувати книжочку. В тійже справї написав я до Видавничої Спілки у В[ін]н[іпе]ґу і У[країнські] Щ[оденні] В[істі] у Ню Йорку⁷³. Також приватнього листа до Лобая. З Ню Йорку відписали, що на таку книжочку небулоб настілки попиту, щоби покрити кошт видання, а з В[ін]н[іпе]ґу не маю відповіди. Це вже більше як місяць. Отже я уявляю собі, що товариші у В[ін]н[іпе]ґу іґнорують мене. Тут мені кажуть, щоби я написав і видрукував при помочі міміоґрафи, яким способом можна до 100 копій зробити з одного машинкового (typewriter) взірця, але кожний такий

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листок (stencil) коштує 25¢. Це був би за великий труд, бо треба витайпувати вперід а потім ще й копійювати міміоґрафом. Не знаю, що зроблю. Я знаю, що фотоґрафічним способом можна копіювати, але й те за дороге. Також можна робити копії на blue print папері, але буде

⁷² Most likely Macko means Sylvestr Herasymovych's textbook "Підручник до ведення книг в кооперативних, господарсько-торгівельних і споживчих спілках (Львів: Накладом М. Заячківського, 1920).

⁷³ Українські Щоденні Bicmi—pro-Soviet periodical published in 1920–1956 (before 1920 it was called *Робітник*, and after 1956, Українські Вісті).

текст білим а решта чорнявим і незовсім добрим для читання. То було б найдешевше. Що Ти порадиш?

Мав лист від тов. Кузика в котрім він залучив відповідь з Москви з держ. бюра заграничних справ, в котрім йому

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відмовляються відновити візо. Він тому й не поїде. Стратив \$40 задатку на подорож і конець. Чи Ти маєш новинки від Черчука? Я не маю. Я також давно вже мав вістку від братів. Не знаю, що за причина.

Що ж більш нового?

Пиши коли маєш нагоду.

Тепер кінчу і здоровлю Вас усіх щиро, а до цего Ліліян також злучується.

Стискаючи твою руку і сердечно дякуючи за всі Твої труди—

Твій вірний брат Дмитер

614-15 Ave W. Calgary, Alta 7 May 1933

Dear Brother,

I would not like to equate Your silence with your unsuccessful attempts to advance my case in Blairmore, yet it does look that way. Therefore, I am writing to You myself and asking that you not make any notes. It has happened the way they considered best. Therefore, we need to forget the past but keep in mind who our friends and enemies are. I believe that Stokaliuk is among the first group, and Batrum is among the second. Maybe You have proof otherwise. Let's draw a lesson from this for the future.

2

We are reading in the newspapers about the success of Your Paraska at the festival in Cranbrook; it is our pleasant duty to congratulate Paraska and You as her relatives. Did not see anything about Ivan. Did he participate?

Everything is the same with us. I do not yet have a job. I am walking around and looking, but now one can't find a job even with a candle. You know about the state of the strike from the newspapers, so I will not repeat it here.

I told You before that I was translating the history of Ukraine and lecturing on bookkeeping, but our school is now closed. People, that is students, have left for work wherever they could find it; the rest of them lost their interest in studies.

3

They lost interest not because it's not interesting but because there is no textbook, since that language is quite complicated and difficult for barely educated people. Some students do not even know summation, but during the classes they had to do fractions, discounts, and so on. Thus, they asked me to write a textbook. We do have one, from the Old Country written by S. Harasymovych in 1920, but their system is very complicated and difficult; besides, it has numerous useless examples; the American system is much less complicated and far better.

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I've studied that textbook thoroughly and understand it well, but the system used here is more valuable. But in order to have some profit from my work, I would like to publish a textbook. I wrote to the Publishing Cooperative in Winnipeg and *The Ukrainian Daily News* in New York. I also sent a private letter to Lobay.⁷⁴ From New York, they replied that such a textbook would not be in such demand as to cover the publication costs; and from Winnipeg, I do not have a reply. It's been over

⁷⁴ Danylo Lobay (1890–1966), a Ukrainian-Canadian writer, editor of "The Working People" and "Pravda" newspapers in Winnipeg.

a month now. I assume, therefore, that the comrades from Winnipeg have been ignoring me. I was told to write and then print with the help of mimeograph—that way up to 100 copies could be made from one typewritten page, but each such

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page (stencil) costs 25¢. That would be too much work, since one needs first to type out and then copy it on a mimeograph. Don't know yet what I will do. I know that it is possible to copy with the photographic method, but it is still too expensive. It is also possible to copy with the blue print paper, but the text will be white and the rest will appear blackish and not good enough for reading. That would be the cheapest way. What would You advise?

I had a letter from comrade Kuzyk in which he enclosed a reply from the Moscow State Ministry of Foreign Affairs in which they

6

refused to renew his visa. That's why he will not go. He lost the \$40 deposit for the trip and that's it. Do You have news from Cherchuk? I don't. It's also been a long time since I heard from the brothers. Don't know what the reason is.

What else is new?

Write to me when You have a chance.

I am stopping here and sending regards to all of You, from me and Lillian as well.

Shaking your hand and sincerely thanking you for all Your work—

Your faithful brother, Dmyter

Letter 38. 15 December 1934, Dmyter Macko to Evan Gushul

(Fig. 28)

Dec[ember] 15, 1934

Dear Evan:

I received your card and the letter and hasten to reply as you seem to be very anxious about getting a typewriter. There are not many typewriters with Italic type, in fact I think mine is the only one in Western Canada. The reason for their scarsity (*sic*) is obvious: they are selling for \$20 more than the conventional pica types. I paid \$95 for mine. You can get one of the regular typewriters from \$50 up new. That is portable of course, but these are substandard: i.e. they have something lacking and are cheaper for that reason. The true standard make with all of the features of a desk style except smaller and portable sell for \$75 new. Don't be mislead into believing otherwise for the cheaper ones are not the same as the 75^{oo} variety. As to the rebuilt ones, they sell from \$40 to \$60. I looked them over here the other day so I know. But mind they are not with italic type. So if you want one with italic type I'll sell you mine for \$40 cash. I have no use for it: in fact I haven't touched it for nearly two years. It is in perfect order and is almost

2

like new. So let me know and I hope you can see your way clear to buy it as I really think I'll sell it for I want to get myself a movie projector instead.

Now I am glad that you like the microscope. And furthermore I am delighted that you are abandoning the notion about guns. To start with, at the last session of the parliament a law was passed that to possess any kind of a gun one must first obtain a license from the police. Surely you don't want a gun. You should not be so cruel as to go out in the woods and kill off birds or small helpless inimals (sic) like squirls (sic). Every living creature has its good points and nature put (sic) them here to do good. I can only see one time when a gun is justified and that is against the exploiters.

As to cameras I am surprised that your dad didn't know anything about them for they are the rage now. I get an English weekly photo-magazine and a monthly American magazine on photography and I think you people of all should read them. The miniature cameras are here to stay and there are several real attractive instruments on the market. Of course, they are dearer because of the high speed lenses.

3

I was using the new Eastman Puppille the other day and at f2-1/25 at 4 pm I overexposed my pictures. That is how fast it worked. I am sending you a snap. Following that I was trying out the new Kodak One f3.5 and it sells for \$52.50 and the Puppille at \$100⁰⁰. The Rolleiflex at \$100⁰⁰ the Rolleicord at \$50⁰⁰. The Brilliant from \$11⁰⁰ to \$50. The Superb at \$85 to \$100 with Hilliar f3.5 in compour (sic). You know, Eastman bought out Dr. Nagel's factory in Stuttgard (sic) Germany and are making all the best cameras there. Their latest addition is the Retina and takes 35 mm movie roll film for 36 pictures in one loading.

I know all this because I introduced this line of merchandise into our sporting goods department and we handle all kinds of them. Right now we are out of most lines as the winter is not so good for cameras besides we sold out for Xmas trade. However, I am sending you some dope on several to read up on and would urge you to subscribe

Δ

to an English and an American photo magazines to keep posted with the trade and the profession in general.

The prices I quoted are retail but your dad can get wholesale prices from importers or from us. I think those reflex types should sell well anywhere for they are wonderful.

Now I am closing and will add a line to your dad.

With best wishes from both of us

Ever yours Uncle Dan

Letter 39. 21 December 1934, Dmyter Macko to Evan Gushul

{envelope}

Evan Gushul, Esq. Box 54 Blairmore, Alberta

{stamp}

Edmonton, Alta, 21 December 1934

Dear Evan

I am sorry but I am offered \$50 00 for it on Jan 15 th so I'll let you have it for \$40 but not a penny less as I already took a \$55 00 loss (from 95 to 40) on it. I certainly would love to oblige you, but honestly it would be throwing \$20 away; I therefore will split the difference and let you have the \$10 00 for being a good boy.

Sincerely, uncle

Dan

I am in a rush

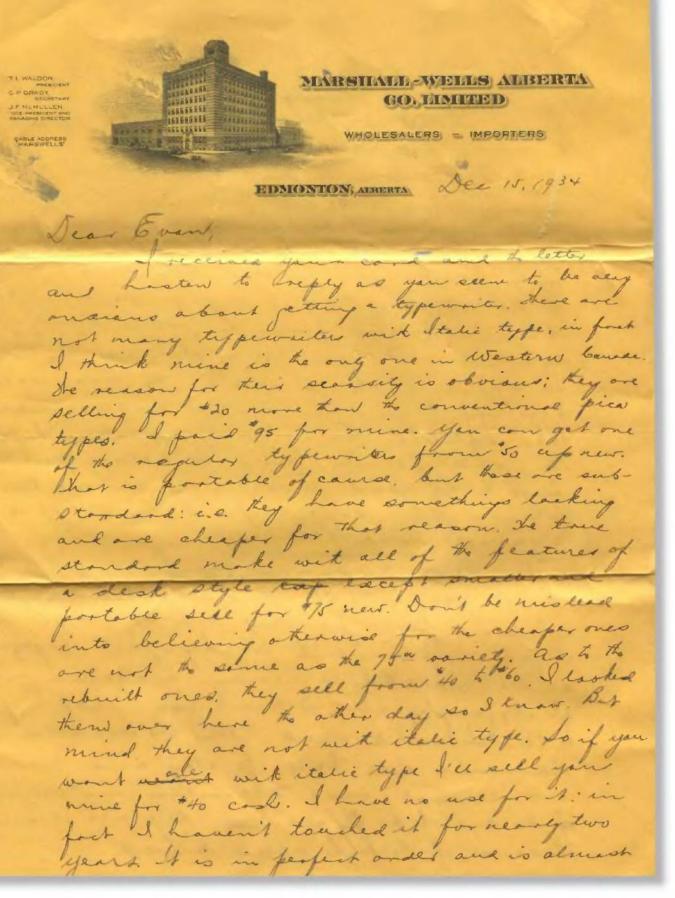


Fig. 28. Letter from Dmyter Macko to Evan Gushul, 15 December 1934, Crowsnest Museum and Archives, first page.

AN 161935

Show to boar;

Some soon for having sterayed letter of the 28th auswering you tested the 28th authority with the year end closing work.

Now I be compromise with have the general let you have the untintee, due will have it thorough untintee, due will have it thorough authority decked by the Remington service man so that alohe will cost me "to". I want to do this so that you is have it so perfect to do this so that you is have it so perfect.

as new as you'll not have a chance to have it services in Blairmore by an expect. This really is a bargina and I am doing it for you are you alone. So let us obthe the deal at ance as the fellow that wants it have is pressing me for a decision. Write by return to the and say your agree and I'll have it down find a comple of days.

Fig. 29. Letter from Dmyter Macko to Evan Gushul, 16 January 1935, Crowsnest Museum and Archives.

Letter 40. 16 January 1935, Dmyter Macko to Evan Gushul

(Fig. 29)

{stamp}

16 January 1935

Dear Evan;

I am sorry for having delayed answering your letter of the 28th ultimo, but I was too busy with the year end closing work.

Now I'll compromise with you and let you have the typewriter for 35^{00} plus 16x20 enlargement untinted, and will have it thoroughly checked by the Remington service man so that alone will cost me $$4^{00}$. I want to do this so that you'll have it as perfect

[2]

as new as you'll not have a chance to have it serviced in Blairmore by an expert. This really is a bargain and I am doing it for you and you alone. So let us close the deal at once as the fellow that wants it here is pressing me for a decision. Write by return post and say you agree and I'll have it down in a couple of days

Ever yours Uncle Dan

{on the left margin of the first page, vertically}

The enlargement I prefer is not the reflection but the one with the plateau in foreground.

Letter 41. 19 January 1935, Evan Gushul to Dmyter Macko⁷⁵

January 19, 1935

Dear uncle: —

Your letter of the 16th received. In regard to our deal, I have decided to reliquish (sic) it as you have delayed in replying.

In your letter you did not mention whether or not you received a parcel which I sent you by insured mail. Kindly let me know immediately because I am ready to have its whereabouts traced by the local postmaster who stipulated to me today, upon being questioned in this respect, that I must first get a word from the addressée (sic), whether the parcel was received or not.

Your nephew Evan.

Letter 42. 23 January 1935, Dmyter Macko to Evan Gushul

{postcard}

Mr. Evan Gushul Box 54 Blairmore, Alta.

{stamp}

Edmonton, Alta, 23 January 1935

⁷⁵ Perhaps a draft of Evan's letter.

Dear Evan;

Sorry I have omitted to thank you for the splendid tinted enlargement, but I am awfully busy, having been working every night including Sundays, so please excuse the delay.

You are not spiting me for "relinquishing" (which by the way is not the proper word to have used) because really, I was doing you a favor, but if you don't want it I am even happier.

Uncle Dan

Letter 43. 18 June 1935, Dmyter Macko to Thomas Gushul

{envelope}

Thomas Gushul, Esq., P.O. Box 57 (sic), Blairmore, Alberta

{stamp}

Edmonton, 18 June 1935

June 18 1935

Дорогий брате:

Залучаю копію "Saturday night" де знайдеш мій успіх серед канадської сметанки в Торонто. Я дістав 1^{st} prize honor і готівкою 5^{so}

Ми купили помешкання саме нап[ро]тів парляменту. Ми на однім боці вулиці а парк парлямента на другім. Кріз наші вікна видно ввесь будинок парлям[енту] і взагалі вигляд досить приємний. Тепер купилиб один килим колиб Ти позволив приступно порозумітися. Нам треба купити чи килим чи орієнталь, але якщо килим ліпше-б виглядав то ми купилиби. Наш новий адрес 9629-106 St. Переносимося у суботу, 22го.

Що нового коло Bac? Якже йде Твій великий плян на "Crow's nest" у Вінніпеґу? Я продав тут приближно $$1000^{00}$ побільшень з трох неґативок. Тепер мене всі просять за цією що виграла «прайз» по $$5^{00}$ дають за 8x10 без ніяких приборів й прикрасів. Маю "Suberb" (sic) camera, Rolleicord і Kodak Duo 620 f3.5 також дешевий Brilliant f7.5 за $$12^{50}$ Тут добре фото рух йде— ϵ ентузіязм Гараз

Дмитер

18 June 1935

Dear brother,

I am attaching an issue of *Saturday Night* in which you will read about my success among the Canadian crème de la crème of Toronto. I received the 1st prize honor and \$5⁰⁰ in cash.

We've bought an apartment right across from Parliament. We are on one side of the street, and the Parliament's park is on the other side. We can see the whole Parliament building from our windows. And the general view is quite nice. Now we would buy a carpet if You would help to negotiate the price. We need to buy either a rug or oriental carpet, but if the rug looks better we would buy that. Our new address is 9629-106 St. We will move on Saturday, 22nd.

What is new with You all? How is your great plan regarding the "Crow's Nest" in Winnipeg moving? I've sold here about \$1000 00 worth of enlargements from the three negatives. Now everybody asks me to sell the one that got the 'prize;' they pay \$5 00 for an 8x10 without any outtakes or adornments. I have a "Superb" camera, Rolleicord and Kodak Duo 620 f3.5, and also a cheap Brilliant f7.5 for \$12 50 . The photography business here is good—there is enthusiasm. Stay well.

Dmyter

Letter 44. 28 January 1938, Evan Gushul to Dmyter Macko and Lillian Jenkins

Blairmore, Alberta, January 28, 1938

Dear Uncle and Auntie:

We received your card today, and thank you very much fo (sic) it. We are deeply impressed over your condition, but we feel certain that you will recover. Say is there any chance of a bloodtransfusion (sic) helping you? I'd sure like to help you. More cures are wrought by faith than by any other method, just remember that.

As for us children, Nadia stays home to take care of the house.

I (Evan), have finished my schooling here, and since then have successfully completed a course in Technicoloring, Photo Oil-Coloring, for which I received a big diploma from the National Art Schools of Chicago. Right now I'm learning to retouch negatives, make copies and enlargements. Also I do framing, violin bow re-hairing, general violin and cello repairing, and help my mother with amateur developing and printing.

At the festival last November, I played the Viola and came second, with 83 marks, beaten only by one mark. Polly didn't win on the piano, but she received a very good criticism. Paraska came first in her grade. Pete didn't play because he was sick right up until a week before the festival, but we got him a complimentary ticket for all the sessions. Father was the vice-president this year. I like the Viola and have been playing it in Moser's Symphony Orchestra for the past five years. Pete also plays the Viola, and he's good too—he'll be starting to play in the Orch[estra] again next week, because Dr. Borden said that he may take lessons again—he has to tell the Doc everything he wants to do. Moser's orch[estra] practices in our studio, the only available place in the Pass. There are about 30 of us, and we meet on Tuesday evenings from 8 to 10 P.M. On thursdays, there is the Sunday School orchestra practice. We play at the morning Sunday School session, and at the Evening Services, A. E. Larke, is the minister, and he told us that he saw you at the San. [...] on [...] [...]⁷⁶—too etc.

Letter 45. 9 March 1938, Lillian Jenkins To Thomas Gushul

(Fig. 30)

{telegram}

Calgary Alta Mar 9 1938 1216 PM T Gushul, Blairmore Alta.

Dan Died early this morning Lillian

⁷⁶ Several illegible words.



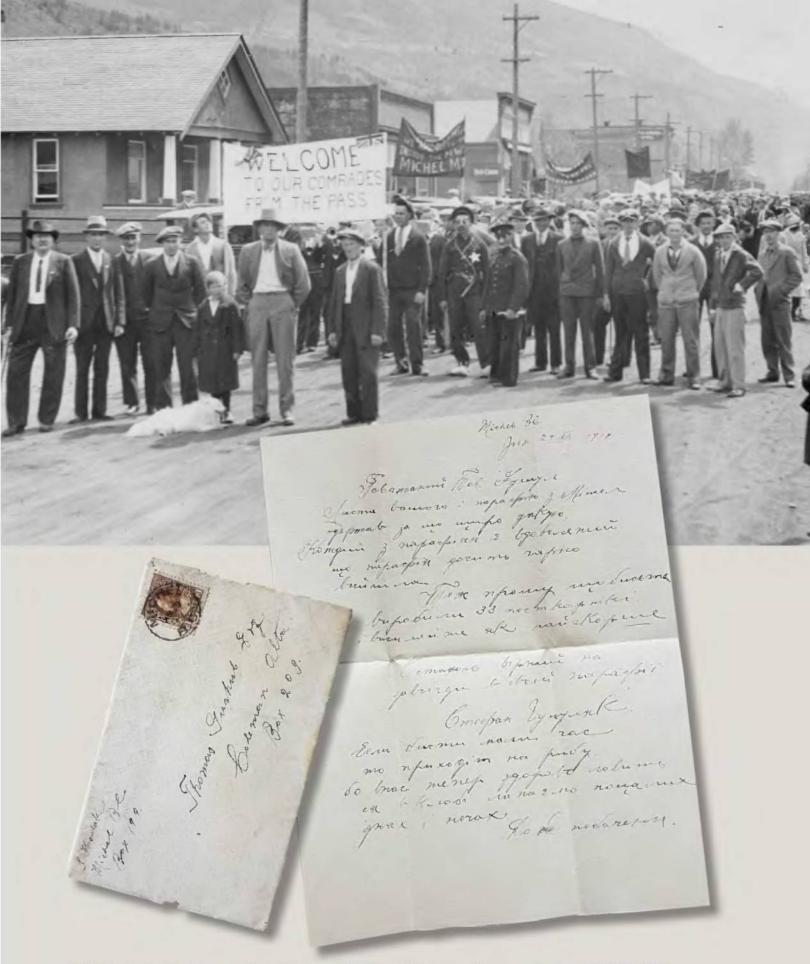


Fig. 31. "May Day Coal Miner's Demonstration in Michel/Natal," Michel, BC, ca. 1930, Crowsnest Museum and Archives, CM-GUSH-BC-31-05. Fig. 32. Letter from Steve Huculak to Thomas Gushul, 29 June 1919, Crowsnest Museum and Archives.

Chapter 8

LETTERS FROM MICHEL AND NATAL, BC, 1918 TO 1924

This chapter presents letters from a circle of friends united by common roots, occupation, and political views. Steve Huculak (Стефан, Стифан, Гуцуляк), Ivan Turok (Іван Турок), Mykhailo Fedoruk (Михайло Федорук), Stefan Lazaruk (Стефан, Стифан, Лазарюк, Лазорюк), and Petro Vasylyshyn (Петро Василишин) were Ukrainian immigrants and miners residing in the small towns of Michel and Natal, BC. These two towns were located very close to each other, and do not exist anymore.

Stefan (Steve) Huculak was born around 1889 in the village of Puste-Ivanie (currently in the Ternopil region in Ukraine). He arrived in Canada in 1906 and lived predominantly in Michel, also perhaps in Coleman, AB. He was a member of labour organizations.

As a close friend of Thomas, he helped him with business, sometimes so vigorously that friends made jokes about it. Never married, he was badly injured in a mine and passed away on 8 September 1926 at the age of thirty-seven in Coleman.⁷⁷ We know these details of Huculak's biography because Thomas Gushul wrote them in a brief obituary on the margins of photographs of the Huculak funeral. Evan Gushul described this event: "There were many people at the funeral, and from the whole of Crowsnest Pass. All were crying a lot over this beloved comrade, for he was very sincere with everyone. We buried our dear comrade without a priest or cantor. All of us are sad and with heavy hearts for our dear comrade who loved us with his sincere heart."⁷⁸ (Fig. 33).

Information about the rest of Thomas's friends is also scarce. Stefan Lazaruk was born around 1891 in Bukovyna, and immigrated in Canada in 1912. The 1916 Census of Canada contains information about Lazaruk living in Lethbridge, AB in his brother's house. Four years later, the 1921 Census indicates that Lazaruk was married to Anna Lazaruk (born around 1894), and they had two children Peter (about 1917) and Mary (about 1918). At that time, he was a collier in Michel's mine and declared an income of 1,900 dollars a year.

Mykhailo Fedoruk and Ivan Turok were also miners, supporters of the labour movement and active participants of community life. Mykhailo Fedoruk was possibly native to the village of Karliv (Sniatyn povit, Halychyna) as he signed one of his letters as "Karlovian." All the friends attended staged plays performed in neighbouring communities, organized dances, and went together to a club.

[&]quot;My father . . . I don't think he ever got over that" (Gushul, Evan, interview by Anna Kuranicheva).

⁷⁸ Letter from Evan Gushul to Dmyter Macko, 22 September 1926.

⁷⁹ 1916 Census of Canada. Census Place: Alberta, Lethbridge, 22; Roll: T-21952; Page: 6; Family No: 54.

⁸⁰ 1921 Census of Canada. Reference Number: RG 31; Folder Number: 15; Census Place: 15, Kootenay East, British Columbia; Page Number: 8.





Fig. 33. Steve Huculak's Funeral, Coleman, AB, 12 September 1926, Crowsnest Museum and Archives, Gush CO-13-18.

The inscription on the photographs read: "Last goodbye on the way to the place of eternal rest of our dearest comrade Stefan Huculak, a member of the Workers' Organizations, who was severely injured in the coal mine on September 3, 1926, and as a result in five days died in hard torment on September 8, 1926, at the hospital in Coleman, Alberta..."

"The Goodbye to You in the house You visited so often. Comrade Stefan Huculak, a member of the Workers' Organizations, was severely injured in the coal mine on September 3rd, 1926, and as a result in five days died in hard torment on September 8, 1926, at a hospital in Coleman, Alberta. The deceased was 37 years old and was not married. He originated from the village of Puste Ivane, Borshchiv district, Galicia. He arrived in Canada in 1906. Sleep, our dear comrade, the memory of you and your sincere work will never be forgotten among us! "Let the ground be your feather bed.""

The content of their letters are sometimes difficult to decipher. As writers, they tended to weave English-based slang words (such as "байгали" [baigaly, by golly] "санамаган" [sanamagan, son of a gun] от "засетлювати" [zasetliuvaty, to settle]) into their native Ukrainian dialects from Halychyna or Bukovyna. In addition, in order to mislead censorship, they were prone to speak allegorically and use secret codes. For example, they used the expression uncle Sipiar ("вуйко Сіпяр") which stood for CPR (the Canadian Pacific Railway). We should remember that in 1919 the Canadian internment camps were still well remembered, and the chances were high that the Ukrainian miners and labour movement supporters would be persecuted. Indeed, the 1916 Census of Canada contains information that an M. Fedoruk (born 1886, immigrated in 1910) was imprisoned at the Castle Mountain Internment Camp as an alien. It is possible that this person was one of Thomas's correspondents, whose letters we publish in this chapter.

The published correspondence reflects close ties and friendship between Thomas Gushul and his comrades. In 1921, Thomas was accused of fraud and ejected from the Coleman branch of an organization (which was probably the Ukrainian Labour-Farmer Temple Association). All the friends stood up for him and sent a letter of support to the main office in Winnipeg. (Fig. 34)

A letter from Petro Vasylyshyn stands out. It was sent from a station "Weselyj Kut" in early Soviet Ukraine, Odesa region. Vasylyshyn was desperate, begging his friends to help him return to Canada. All we know is that in 1919 Petro Vasylyshyn still lived in the same town of Michel as did the rest of the correspondents in this series.⁸¹ In 1921, he also considered studying at Bissell College but eventually ended up in Weselyj Kut.⁸²

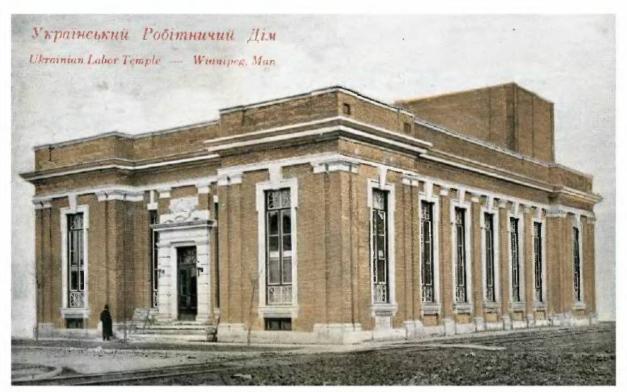


Fig. 34. Ukrainian Labor Temple in Winnipeg, postcard, Crowsnest Museum and Archives.

⁸¹ Letter from Steve Huculak to Thomas Gushul, 14 November 1919.

⁸² Letter from Fred Michaluk to Thomas Gushul, 22 June 1920 and 23 November 1921.

Letter 1. 24 October 1918, Steve Huculak to Thomas Gushul

(Fig. 35)

{envelope}

From: S. Huculak Box 199

Michel, BC Thos. Gushul Esq. P.O. Coleman (Box 209) Alta

> Мішел, Б.К. 24^{го} жовтня [1]918

Поважаний Товаришу!

Лист Ваш із 2^{го} жовтня отримав за який щиро дякую. За не скору відповідь на Ваш лист прошу вибачати, бо се склалось з ріжних причин що аж до сего часу затрималось. Перша тоє: Се тягло ся в часі штрайку, і як би штрайк був далі тревав, то я мислив відвідати Вас ще раз в Колеман і поговорити особисто. Друге знову писалисьте що приїдете на Мішел помогчи штрайкувати і то занім сніг упаде. Тимчасом штрайк скіньчив ся скоро і я пішов далі доляри копати, а за тим уже і сніг паде тут у нас а Вас з Колеман не видати.

Однак я не противлюсь сему ніц бо я знаю щосьте досить заняті під сей час а то з реточованєм⁸³ долярів. Але мусю однак сказати отверто що уже час і Вам приїхати на Мішел. Чи може нє? Як собі мислити? Ану сами признайтесь!

[2]

Перше хотівбим знати як Ви розписалисьте ся з вуйком Сіпяром 85 за зломанє Вашої ляски 86 , бо по мої думції повинин вуйко заплати з яких $$100^{00}$.

Тепер, що до другої палиці, то я заслав замовленє але як буде з нею то я не годен Вам тепер нічого певного сказати, бо як Вам відомо що плінників з Морріссей⁸⁷ забрано десь до Онтаріо. В той час як они їхали я був на стичіню⁸⁸, однак не міг нічого перемовитись з ними бо они їхали під охороною божих ангелів, і сьвітла погасили в ваґоні наколи приїхали на стичіні, втім оден приклонник божий вигнав ангелів на двір щоби стерегли і берегли замкнених вікон, щоби ніхто не міг приступити і дещо говорити. І то став тілько щоби набрати води і знов далі поїхав. Тож наколиб отримав лист від них тоді повідомлю Вас що буде.

[3]

Знову що до Мушука то ся річ так має ся; Єсли я єго питаю ся про згадану річ то єму не дає щось говорити в той час ї в тікає, але я єму не противлюсь, бо як й сами знаєте що то собі Мошук.

Дякую Вам за напімненє і пересторогу в минувшім листі подану, однак що до сеї справи тичить ся ми були уже приготовані і залагоджені передше, бо нам неприємним запахом тяглось

⁸³ Retouching photographs.

⁸⁴ The proverb is not completed. The bracket is not closed. Huculak refers here to a proverb: "Жарт жартом, а фіст на бік" (in this context: "Jokes aside, let's get down to business").

⁸⁵ Вуйко Сіпяр (uncle Sipiar) is most likely the CPR, Canadian Pacific Railway.

⁸⁶ Ляска—perhaps a stick or a spindle.

⁸⁷ Most of the prisoners of the Morrisey Internment Camp were the local miners who were deemed to be "Enemy Aliens." Huculak uses euphemisms, calling the guards "божі ангели," the lord's angels.

⁸⁸ Railroad juncture.

Miner B. F. 38. Robasteanue Thobasanny! Muent Bam is 2 2 steetmen ompunat ga akun ugupo galeyso. Za se chopy bignolige sa Bace men npour budarame, do ce chuauto 3 pisterna neurur mo aste go cero гасу затриналось. Герина тог: ве manioca frace wimpacity i about umpauk dyb gani impebals mo a muciul bigligamu Fac use paz bolancia і поговорити особното. Друго зкову nucamet me no npuiseme na Chine nouveru umpauteybann i mo zanis chir yrage. Muaracon umfaute chins rub ca chopo i a nicuos gani conapu konamu, a za mus ystee i cher nage mym y rae a Bae 3 Hoursan ne bugaine. A Ogsak a se riporinebusch cery mig во а зкаго изосьте досить занати по ceci rae a mo 3 pernorobanen gourfil Are sycso ognak chazanin om bejemo uso y stee rae i Bar ne ne mue sa Minen Nu moste ur? Elk codi merumi mong havinech.

Fig. 35. Letter from Steve Huculak to Thomas Gushul, 24 October 1918, Crowsnest Museum and Archives.

по під ніс уже давно і наш віддїл не істнував уже майже 3 місяці. От як то в сьвіті буває що відважних здибають ще відважнійші. Не знаю чи Вам відомо про Фернійский товаришів⁸⁹ що позістали уже арештовані. Тілько не знаю якраз котрих але з них усїх арештовані 4, меже якими знаходить ся Ткачук і Григірчук і здає ся Коновальчук а за четвертого не знаю. Се я довідав ся від одного Росіяна їхаючи трином з Фарної⁹⁰, а він не знав докладно їх імен. Се стало ся в понедїлок а ми довідались у вівторок. Розуміє ся що забрали від них усю бібльотеку з читальні. [4]

А знову нині довідавєм ся що завтра—то значить ся на 25 с[его] м[ісяця] має відбути ся суд над ними. Що буде не знати?

Головна річ, що правда мусить бути на якийсь час закопана.....

(Правда, щож там поробляє щирий тов[ариш] Баранюк Павло? Колеса крутять ся чи ні? Не знаю чому він листа не відписав мені: мусю бути дуже добрий у него? Замітка: Від М[ихайла] Федорука.)

На сім кіньчу тимчасове писанє.

Остаюсь з тов. привітом С. Гуцуляк

На другий раз піде бесїда в иньшій справі—публичній.

Michel, BC 24 October 1918

Respected Comrade!

I've got your letter from the 2nd of October and I sincerely thank you for it. Please forgive me for a delayed reply to your letter, for it happened for various reasons that I am so late. The first one being the strike, and if it would last longer I was thinking about visiting You once again in Coleman to talk with you personally. Another reason is that you wrote about coming to Michel to help with the strike before the snow falls. In the meantime, the strike stopped quickly and I went on to dig dollars, and soon the snow will fall here, and You are not seen here coming from Coleman.

I am not, however, against it because I know that you are quite busy now with retouching dollars. But I have to say honestly that it is high time for You to come to Michel. Or maybe not? What do you think? Come on, admit it!

[2]

And now let's start talking about something else, for you know the saying of our older people: a joke is a joke but the tail in the meantime is to [the side]......

First of all, I would like to know what agreement you came to with uncle Sipiar regarding breaking Your stick, for, as I reckon, the uncle should pay about \$100°.

Now, regarding the another stick, I've sent a request but how it is going to be I cannot tell You now anything for sure, for as You know, the prisoners from the Morrissey were taken somewhere to Ontario. When they were transported I was at the station, but I could not talk to them, for they were guarded by the godly angels, and upon arriving at the station they turned off the lights inside the carriage. One godly supporter sent the angels outside to guard the locked windows so that nobody could come closer and talk. And the train stopped only to take water and then went on. So, should I receive a letter from them I will let You know what is going to happen.

[3]

Again, regarding Mushuk, this is how it goes: if I ask him about the thing, he cannot talk at that

⁸⁹ Comrades from Fernie, BC.

⁹⁰ Fernie.

time and runs away. But I am not opposing him, since, as You know yourself, that's how Moshuk is. Thank You for the reminder and warning in the previous letter, yet as far as this matter is concerned, we were ready and settled it in advance, since we've been smelling a bad smell for a long time, so our branch did not exist for almost three months. That's how it happens in this world—the brave ones encounter those who are even braver. I don't know if You know about the comrades from Fernie who got arrested. I am not sure who exactly but of all of them, four got arrested and among those are Tkachuk, Hryhirchuk, and maybe Konovalchuk, but I do not know about the forth one. I've learned about it from a Russian on a train coming from Fernie, and he did not know all their names. It happened on Monday and we learned about it on Tuesday. Naturally, all their library from the reading house was confiscated.

[4]

And today I came to know that tomorrow, i.e. on the 25th of this month, there will be a court hearing. Who knows how it will turn out.

The main thing is that the truth should be buried for some time.

(In truth, how is our genuine comrade Pavlo Baraniuk doing? Are the wheels turning or not? I do not know why he did not reply to my letter, he probably [does not] fancy me very much? A note: From Mykhailo Fedoruk.)

I will finish my writing at this point.

With comradely greetings, S. Huculak

Next time I will talk about another matter—a public one.

Letter 2. 29 June 1919, Steve Huculak to Thomas Gushul

{envelope}

S. Huculak

Michel BC.

Box 199.

Thomas Gushul Esq.

Coleman Alta.

Box 209

{stamp}

Michel, BC, 29 June 1919

Michel BC Jun (sic) 29th 1919.

Поважаний Тов[аришу] Ґушул

Листа вашого і парафію з Мішел одержав за що щиро дякую. Кождий з парафіян є вдоволений що парафія досить гарно вийшла.

Тож прошу щобисьте виробили 33 посткарткі. і висилайте як найскорше

Остаюсь вірний на завсігди в своїй парафії Стефан Гуцуляк.

Єсли бисти мали час то приходіт на рибу, бо внас тепер здорово ловить ся в клюбі лапаємо поцалих днях і ночах.

До побаченя.

Michel, BC 29 June 1919.

Respected Comrade Gushul,

I have received your letter and a photograph of the parish from Michel,⁹¹ for which I thank you sincerely. Each parishioner is content that the parish turned out pretty good.

Therefore, I ask you to make 33 postcards and send them out as soon as possible.

Staying faithful forever in my parish, Stefan Huculak.

If you have time then come for the fish, since we now have great fishing. At the club, we catch fish day and night.

Good bye.

Letter 3. 18 August 1919, Steve Huculak to Thomas Gushul

Michel BC. 18 серпня 1919.

Дорогий Товаришу

Лист від вас я отримав закоторий вам дякую. Однак я сподівався шчови десь сими днями прибудити до Мішел. али жися вас тяжко дочикати. з вашим Прибутєм. Однак вибачаю вам засе бож думаю шчо маєти за богато клемцань в теперішний час. Однак наколи ваша можливість буде прибути до мішел. то прошу впімни мене Повідомити. Бо по мої думції прибуду довас на либор дей, ачасом ше скорши. Тож єсли буду їхати довас. то повідолю (sic) вас передом. Так само виджу з вашого листа шчо ви неє задоволені з нашої Коросподенції (sic) али тосе нічого як я вам писав впершім листії. О справі о які ви знаєти, шо я написав лист, як до вас самих. Нащчо я мав написати осібни. Тож се ніц такого виликого. А зато щчо ви пишети шчоб списи нипопали вяке нипорозумінє, то за то я вам дам ґаринтір від себи. шчо всьо добри. Також посилаю вам виликого листа всім листії. накотрой вас прошу шчоб сти доручили Вірі Товаришції но прошу низагубити. Низабувєм вас повідомити затії Образки [2]

Шчось мося відобрали разом з фридом то прошу нам Доручити як най скорше. Носім кінчу та здоровлю вас разом з фамілїом як найлїпше

> Baш За крашчу Долю S. Huculak.

Воч фаби 92 я отримав сегодня котрі зараз Порозношу, а шустки 93 вам вишлю або привизу зсобою як буду їхати до Колеман

Good Bay (sic).

Michel, BC, 18 August 1919.

Dear Comrade,

I received a letter from you for which I thank you. I had hoped that you would come to Michel these days, but it is a long wait for your arrival. Yet I forgive you for this, since I think you have too much camera clicking work at present. Yet when you have an opportunity to come to Michel please do not forget to notify me. I reckon I will come to you on Labour Day or maybe even sooner. So, if I go to you I will notify you beforehand. I also see from your letter that you are not happy with our

⁹¹ Perhaps, Huculak speaks about ironic anticlerical photography examined in: Volume 1, Chapter 4.

⁹² Watch fobs

⁹³ Six-crown Austrian currency, here—money, small coins.

correspondence but, as I wrote to you in the first letter, it does not matter. Regarding the issue about which you know, I wrote my letter as if just to you. Why would I write a separate one? It is not a big deal. And regarding the lists, you write that they should not get into any trouble, I personally guarantee you that everything is fine. I am also sending you a big letter in this one, and asking you to hand it to Comrade Vira, and I am asking you not to lose it. I don't forget to notify you regarding those photographs

[2]

that we selected together with Fred, so please send those as soon as possible. I will finish at this point, and wish you and your family health and all the best.

Yours, for better lot, S. Huculak

I received watch fobs today, and I am going to deliver them now, and I will either send the cents to you or bring them with me when I come to Coleman.

Good Bye.

Letter 4. 29 October 1919, Mykhailo Fedoruk to Thomas Gushul

(Fig. 36)

{envelope}

Ret. to: M. F.

Box 141

Michel, BC

Thos. Gushul Esq.

архимандрит з Рознова.

P.O. Box 209

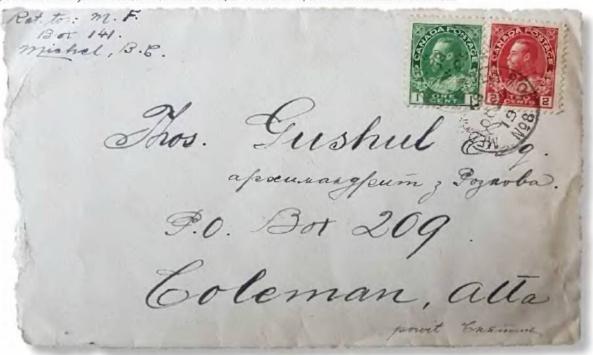
Coleman, Alta

powit Снятин

{stamp}

Medicine Hat, Alta, 29 October 1919

Fig. 36. Letter from Mykhailo Fedoruk to Thomas Gushul, 29 October 1919, Crowsnest Museum and Archives.



Mimen, Is. D 2920 ABobman 6919 Masteamin Tobajenny! luemu osa а головко лого продову отринав us changato ropeary nogaly. . Morenim dest a dyge Base y have buguero neseyeno agi santugueni seomit , sere gadpanne na machinoù dite. Mare Dodpoggaso darunes asionkyt гария доокого Осании таккий. Allafond deaponess, are biferie uso dybra gystee seefena nesteab bristohy refres eux 4 gru, uso re roper det i menea sameanne. Presignus sucm ahui mucat en big Emechana os Sac mo yster dyt ка симу писарий, а до того гасу в ще. ne ompunal dyt sig Bac nivoro, so mor mapka kuryna dyna more mem na oppniga bajebejea baker i sin mjersal moù mem y cede moch Lineme ale gody. Доже аби Ви не менени мене доминивать. A menels infromy Fac he orilyume use of muan soise rihapeenstance are becauta me ale handlespiece do rekars ale no conjuniend ...

Emechas Egymale hante ugo dyt y mebys i mbey harter ugo se var siro zue go danikant i hate myo bin pag ystee gfrodut Spisserm 3 bacon i Bu naeme podumu mak ак угодинисти са з жила, щось na \$ 12 00 a j mo j gaza us oper gozin. Neucusaume maleste rikapembe qua Emechana, do bis kpurums go beni kostessi nom gapsobucu" yste y ofce y stee nfemmen !!!! Barnese ca z visteka i diofeume sa glifo, use racon i des danskil. Noste ybaterione So sa Miner & yster poeums nouceschit a rue diga dyge? fgares Banco Offorte the bygy for mucy fatel mences bramo, do dina uje ciabuit pyka aprustume a t une pebi , stcadu kpikatoms' kyes man lega, minsker gecs krunes Ryhinasa Occurasoch Dane i ga . Даний следиция apritan

Fig. 36. Letter from Mykhailo Fedoruk to Thomas Gushul, 29 October 1919, Crowsnest Museum and Archives.

Поважаний Товаришу!

Листи оба а головно мою прозьбу отримав за що складаю горячу подяку.

Простіт мені а буде Вам у найвизшого прощено, аді найвизщий хотів мене забрати на тамтой бік. Панє Добродзєю бачилем аніолкув чарних дооколо Осанни таньчилі. Чарт жартом, але вірте що бувєм дуже хорий лежав в ліжку через сих 4 дні, що не годен був і листа написати. Послідний лист який писавєм від Стефана до Вас то уже був на силу писаний, а до того часу я ще не отримав був від Вас нічого, бо почтарка кинула була той лист на Фрида барбера баксу і він тримав той лист у себе щось більше як добу. Тож аби Ви не числили мене до лінивства. А тепер прошу Вас не очікуйте ще з тими моїми лікарствами але висилайте як найскорше бо чекаю як на—спасителя.

2

Стефан Гуцуляк каже що був у шевця і швец каже що не має нічо з ним до баліканя і каже що він раз уже зробив ґрімент з басом і Ви маєте робити так як угодилисьте ся з ним, щось на $$12^{10}$ а то здаєсь що оден дозін.

Присилайте також лікарство для Стефана, бо він кричить всні кождої ночи «дармовиси» уже уже, уже прийшли!!!! Схопляє ся з ліжка і біжить на двір, ще часом і без ґатків. Тож уважайте бо на Мішел є уже досить полісменів а чия біда буде? Здаєсь Ваша!

Тож не буду розписувавсь тепер богато, бо бігме ще слабий, рука дрижить а в шереві, «жаби крікають» кум тай кум, тілько десь колись куммима.

Остаюсь Ваш і за Ваші медицини. Карловян⁹⁵

{envelope}:

Return to: M. F. Box 141 Michel, BC

Thos. Gushul Esq.
Archimandrite of Rozniv.
P.O. Box 209
Coleman, Alta
powit Sniatyn
{stamp}

Medicine Hat, Alta, 29 October 1919

Michel, BC 29 October 1919.

Respected Comrade!

I have received both letters but most importantly what I asked for, my genuine thanks for that. Forgive me and You will be forgiven by the supreme being, since the supreme being wanted to take me to the other side. Dear friend, I saw the black angels dancing around the Hosanna. All jokes aside, trust me that I was very ill; I was in bed for the last 4 days, and unable to write a letter. The last letter that I wrote on behalf of Stefan to You—I could barely write it. Besides, I did not receive anything from You by that time, since the post lady dropped that letter in Fred the barber's mailbox,

⁹⁴ Author imitates the Polish language using Cyryllic.

⁹⁵ Karlovian—literally, resident of Karliv. This nickname may testify that Mykhailo Fedoruk was born in the village of Karliv, Sniatyn povit, Halychyna (now Prutivka village, Kolomyia raion, Ivano-Frankivsk oblast).

and he kept it for over a day. So, do not think of me as a lazy one. Now I am asking You: do not wait with my medications, send them as soon as possible, since I am waiting for that like for a savior.

Stefan Huculak says that he went to the tailor and the tailor said he had nothing to tell him, and that he already once had an agreement with the boss, and that now You have to do as was agreed on with him, something around $$12^{90}$ and that probably makes a dozen.

Send in the medication for Stefan as well, since he screams in his dreams every night, "The pendants have already, already arrived!!!" Then he jumps up from his bed and runs outside, sometimes even without underwear. So, keep this in mind, for there are lots of policemen in Michel already, and who will get into trouble? Probably You!

So, I will not write a lot now, for, oh God, I am still weak, the hand is shaking, and "frogs are croaking" in my stomach—ribbit, ribbit, and once in a while ribbbbit.

Remaining Yours and for Your medications, Karlovian

Letter 5. 31 October 1919, Mykhailo Fedoruk and Steve Huculak to Thomas Gushul

(Fig. 37–38)

{envelope}

Regt. (sic) to: M. F. & S. H. Box 199 Michel, BC

Thos. Gushul Esq Рознів—Кути—Візниця. P.O. Box 209. Coleman, Alta

> Мішел, Б. К. 31[™] Жовтня 1919.

Поважаний Товаришу!

Доктора Вашого отримав такі тепер яка година—як принесли зі стациї Залуцкої!

Щем не коштував єго тілько подивив ся з верха на бартлину а вже якось лекше стало в животі— здаєсь жаби настрашились що файна на вигляд бартлина. Убитяй мої клюки затрацені не будуть Вам дякувати за се, але я складаю Вам за се як найщирійшу подяку а ще більша буде, як я виздоровію—розумієть ся Вашем доктором!

Бо "бігме" вушива біда мене аж тепер учіпилась, але що не є я бабскої уроди то мислю що ще і сій раз витримаю, як той зверха троха поможе? А як ні, що прійдесь мені вироковувати, до найвизшого або може до того що ще низше нас—то я Вас покличу за собою—тоді 2

Ви будети їх «кленцати» а я буду за аґента Вашу фірму підпирати то все такі мені біди не буде. А як Ви до сего залицаєте ся? Не хочу я тепер більше з Вами гандриґати ся а ще більше що неможу ей богу не могу, а ще і Стефанко—хоче дещо ляпнути.....

Так остаю ся і я тепер за куряче мясо а ще більше з під курки росіл.

Ваш Інвалід

[🏁] Бартлина, often "batlyna"—пляшка, bottle in Ukrainian Canadian vernacular language. We thank Andriy Nahachewsky for this comment.

Наступає додаток від Стефанка!!

Пов[ажаний] Товаришу!

Дармовиси отримав з якими провалили ся Ви тут на Мішел так як я у Колеман з

Два дармоноси уже віддав до властителів такі тепер, і два доляри дїстав за оден, а за другий (аж від чиснику як устарає ся) на пейду. Два маю ще вдома не знаю як ся їх збути, аби не показували їм а разом й з ними і мені задні двері? Однак буду старав ся завтра тим людям якось підкинути.

3

Але добре що я збув ся страшнійших а се барбера який чекав на мене з бритвою у руках, а що я добрий штудир, з порога утопив за ріг двуйки⁹⁸ чапнув⁹⁹ і собі свищу а барбер тілько вязи свої пробує чи голова ще міцно тримає ся..... а так, так—бігме так.... Як? Аби лиш тоді дурний був як ордерував, а як платив то уже нє?

Тепер подаю Вам що принесло невдоволенє: Барбер хотів такий самий як мій (desiu)¹⁰⁰ а то цїлком інакший, а я на свою біду забув ся і забрав свій з годинником а він як лупаки протер що то не такий самий, то хотів мені вуса скинути. А я тоді—агій сплюнув межи нас розумієть ся на підлогу, аби не прийшло до більшого, та давай потягати Ґушула з Колеман меже нас. Але за то, як відходив уже, то най бог простить, щом перехристив ся!

4

Однак я буду старав ся сколєктувати Ваші крейцарі а на 10^{го} наступить, фінансове справозданє. Що до Петра то досить задоволений своїм люстром—однак покрутив головою…. а я… скіньчити не мож ….

Я мислю що Ви можети також дати своїм панам по нюхачи, аби они старали ся троха ліпше о виріб а не чимраз гірший.

Тимчасом здаєсь що уже буде бо 11^{sta} na zegarze trzeba iść do łużka (sic), panie, bo w 6^{tej} rano swiętego (sic) Walerego trąba woła zarobić na kąsek powszechniego (sic)

Остаюсь той самий що був з вусами, але завтра як піду з тими що дармо-висять то не ґварантую що буду уже той самий

Стефан Гуцуляк. з вусами.

{envelope}

Regt. to: M. F. & S. H. Box 199 Michel, BC

Thos. Gushul Rozhniv—Kuty—Vyzhnytsia P.O. Box 209. Coleman, Alta

Michel, B. C. 31 October 1919.

Respected Comrade!

I have received Your "doctor"—it's been about an hour since it was delivered from the Zalutska station!

⁹⁷ On pay.

⁹⁸ Probably the author means two dollars.

⁹⁹ Чапнути—*dial.* хапнути, вхопити, вихопити.

¹⁰⁰ The meaning remains unclear. It could refer to the "daisy" design for "medals" (see: Volume 1, Chapter 2).

I have not tried it yet—only looked at the little bottle from above, but I already feel better inside my stomach; it seems that the frogs got scared of how nice the bottle looks. Although my awful cramps will not thank You but I thank You most sincerely for this, and there will be an even bigger gratitude when I recover—thanks to Your "doctor", of course!

I swear, this lousy affliction really got me this time, but I don't have a woman's constitution, so I guess I will survive this time as well if the one above us helps me a bit? And if not, if I have to go to the highest authority above, or maybe to the lowest one below us—then I will call You with me—and then

2

You will be "clicking" them and I will be your company's agent. So I still won't have any troubles. What would you say about this? I do not want to mess with You any more, especially since I cannot, I swear to God, I cannot. On top of that, Stefanko wants to chat about something...

And now I will eat the chicken meat and even moreso, chicken broth.

Your Invalid.

Now the addendum from Stefanko!!

Respected Comrade!

I have received the pendants with which You failed here in Michel just like I failed in Coleman with...

Two of the pendants I have already given to the owners at once, and received two dollars for one of them, and the other one will be paid later after he sells his garlic. I still have two pendants at home; I don't know how to get rid of them so that they, and me together with them, will not get shown the back door. Yet I will try tomorrow to somehow slip them to those people.

3

But it is good that I got rid of the scariest ones, namely the barber who was waiting for me with a razor in his hands. And since I am a good student, I grabbed the two dollars right from the threshold and waited. And the barber was just touching his head to see if it was firmly sitting there... oh yes, yes, I swear, yes... How else? He was a fool when he made the order but not a fool any longer when he had to pay?

Now I will explain to You what has caused dissatisfaction: the barber wanted to have exactly the same pendant like mine (desie)—and this is a totally different one. And I, unfortunately, forgot, and took mine with the watch. And when he wiped his eyes and realized that it was not the same one he wanted to cut my mustache off. I then spit angrily, obviously on the floor between us, so that it would not escalate into something worse, and started scolding Gushul from Coleman. But when I was leaving, may God forgive me, I made a sign of a cross!

As I jumped on a bicycle and started riding I almost missed my own gates, so scared I was... If there are five more pendants like that I do not know how to trick the buyers...

4

Yet I will try to collect Your money, and on the 10th there will be a financial report.

As for Petro, he is quite happy with the mirror, yet he turned his head. And I... I cannot tell...

I reckon You can also reprimand your masters, so that they would try to make a bit better product instead of making it worse and worse every time.

In the meantime, it's enough, since it is 11 p.m. and one needs to go to bed since at 6 a.m., St. Valerius' trumpet will call upon to earn a piece of daily bread... 101

Remaining the same as I used to be with my mustache, yet tomorrow I will go with those pendants, and I cannot guarantee that I will still be the same...

Stefan Huculak. With mustache.

¹⁰¹ Text in italic appears in the original in Polish. It is a rhymed recitative of unidentified origin.

Miner, B. F. 31. 31 1919.

Повансаний Ловариину!

Dolemofra Bamoro empunat maki menop aka roguka ah njeureeru zi cmaizui Janyulioi. Used ne kommytat ers ministro no. qubut en o befora sa dafemmay a boke about referme comaro b seuboni - zgales steade pacinframmes no efecina ha burnag dafeminera. Moman soi Rusoku gampayen re dyoying Ban gaky hamu ja ce, are a characato san za ce ale rammufinny mogaly a mye dissura dyge, ak a buggofertito poggisient en Dames gokmopers! aste menes grimuraes; aux myo ne e a dadakoi yfeogu mo mecoto uzo uze i ciù pag bumpuratt, ale moù ghepsea mprosea nunostee? a ak si, uso inferiu. adt sodie go moro uso use unque hac mo a Bas nohuny ga codoto mogi

(2) Bu oygemu ix, kul kuamu'a a mo te make sere digu se dyge. a she Du go cero janugarme ca s the cory a merich direcce & Burn rangfou, Jamu ca a use dissure uso removtey en dow he rory, a use i Emechantes sere gene varragione Male ocimato ca ca me nep za kyjerre maco use divince g mig beyfelow feocia Sam Theang Carnynas gogamok big Emechanka !! Дов. поварину! Уприновиси отринав Aliner mot sha y Rowerak g Tha gapurhoen y stee biggal go beacune, meril maki menep, i gla gruafu gicul za ogek a za gfrynni (arte bis menety ah yeniafrae ea) pa neugy. Ha aaro uge tgasa pe grass ale ea in goynin, adu se повадувани им а радом и дания і мелі zagni gbepi? agrak dygy cinafeat sa zabinfra

Fig. 37. Letter from Mykhailo Fedoruk and Steve Huculak to Thomas Gushul, 31 October 1919, Crowsnest Museum and Archives.









Fig. 38. Ukrainian Labor Temple Association Membership Cards of Thomas, Lena, Nadia and Evan Gushul, 1920, Crowsnest Museum and Archives and Archives. In 1920, Nadia and Evan were, respectively, five and four years old.

Letter 6. 14 November 1919, Steve Huculak to Thomas Gushul

(Fig. 39)

{envelope}

Ret[urn]. to: S. H. Box 199

Michel, BC

Thos. Gushul Esq. оглядач Рознівских ялівок P.O. Box 209 Coleman, Alta

{stamp}

Michel, BC, 15 November 1919

{stamp on the back of the envelope}
Coleman, Alta, 15 November 1919



Fig. 39. Letter from Steve Huculak to Thomas Gushul, 14 November 1919, Crowsnest Museum and Archives.

> Мішел, Б. К. 14^{го} Листопада 1919.

Поважаний Товаришу!

Жаль нам великий що Вами там чорти телепали, але що скажете на се що нами тут люди телепали. А сему всему Ви винні, щосьте не загнали своїх чортів до Колманцких пєциків, але відослали сюда на Мішел. А они тут по свої воли також брикали. Ми видїли добре як чорти їхали з Колеман, а що не видно було бога, то ми догадувались, що лишився з Вами в процесї. Отже видети! Уже я дочекавсь чого хотів. Давно я старавсь щоби зробити меже Вами не порозуміня, от уже «Ваша власть Сьвяченическа» розсипалась як г..... на воді розплилось. Бог духом післав коруну до мене. А Ви тремайте віру тепер в Мішальского бога, а навіть можети єго заордерувати собі на Колеман. А як ні то пробуйте трохи без бога.

2

Пікчера отримали з яких оба досить задоволені.

Що до весїля, то ми Ваше домаганє сповнили а навіть ще більше поза Ваше замовленє не тілько оден але вислали Петра Василишиного з Полісменом і доктором а на Натал-стацию вислали з клюбу бар-тендра, барбера, і шустер-махера з гамером...

Трин фостом закинув а фортоґрафістого нема. Каже що руками махали на трин аби вертав ся за Ґушулом та де там—він собі співаючи почемхав. Так ми прибули на весїля і питають нас що ϵ з Вами так ми відповіли, що або ся перепона що на дворі або яка нечувана слабїсть.

Тепер я єго ще не питав чи схоче зробити пікчер, бо ще нігде єго не бачив, може пізнійше десь. А таксамо я не був довго на весїлю, всего пів-години, бо я був занятий колєктованєм грошей на У[країнський] Р[обітничий] Дім, з чим вчора тілько

3

закіньчив. Зібрано всего \$69⁰⁰ з передплатою.

Я думаю що Ви мусите прибути сими днями до Мішел щоби залагодити справу з чоботарем, а то тому ті пікчера єго які Ви прислали не вподобались єму і каже що они є за білі. Хотяй я наводив єму що видівєсь прубку, на що ордерував коли не до вподоби було, а він каже що ріжниця меже прубкою а пікчерами.

Я єму лишив ті пікчера в соботу (*sic*) а він казав що хоче Вас видіти і з Вами поговорити, бо він знав що маєте приїхати на весїля, а Ви не приїхали, так пікчера стоять у него не заплачені. Наколи я дістав від Вас лист, то пішов по друге до него сколєктувати гроші а він сказав що ті гроші не заплатить за таку роботу. Тож на такий спосіб мусете прибути сами. Я не годен самий залагодити Тих решту шусток \$31⁷⁵ я маю у себе опруч чоботара, наколиб Ви не мали приїхати, тоді я відошлю почтою. Прошу скоро відписати, що думаєте.

Що до більшего замовленя на паланиці, то нема і забравєм уже від чоботаря бо дуже порохи припали так що мусів аж обтирати.

Від чоботаря заніс до голяра і тремав там тиждень однак на дармо. Санамаґан 102 дуріти ніхто не хоче. А як ходив по гавзах з ними то натрафив на аґента від них. І він випитав ся по кілько чарчуєсь а вкінци сказав що заордеруйте в мене такої самої роботи по $$5^{50}$. Так я по тихоньки капелюх на голову забравсь з гавзу, бо я не міг доказати, чи то є правдиво або нє. Наколи прийшли дармовиси то то прошу висилайте або несіт в тойчас.

Остаюсь за ліпший виріб дармовисів без чоботаря. Стефан Піяк і Інкорпорована Спілка.

{envelope}
Return to: S. H.
Box 199
Michel, BC

[4]

Thos. Gushul Esq.
Observer of the Rozniv heifers
P.O. Box 209
Coleman, Alta

{stamp}

Michel, BC, November 15, 1919

{stamp on the back of the envelope} Coleman, Alta, 15 November 1919

Michel, BC 14 November 1919.

Respected Comrade!

We are very sorry that the devils were shaking You up over there, but what would You say to people shaking us up over here? And it is all Your fault that You did not chase Your own devils to the Coleman ovens but instead You sent them here, to Michel. And they were cavorting here, too, as they wished. We saw well how the devils were driving from Coleman, and since god was nowhere to be seen, we guessed that he stayed with You in the process. So, you see! I have obtained what I pursued. I have been trying to create a misunderstanding between You for a long time, and now "Your Priestly power" has spread out like shit on the surface of water. God has sent a crown down on me through the spirit. And now You should believe in the Michelian god; you can even order him to your place in Coleman. And if not, then try to do without god.

2

We have received the pictures, and we both are quite happy with them.

¹⁰² Sanamagan (санамаґан) was a popular expression among Ukrainian Canadian pioneers, imitating the English "son of a gun." The word is mentioned in a number of Ukrainian publications including the play "Manigrula" by Yakiv Maidanyk (Maidanyk, Manigrula, Комедія в одній дії зі співами і танцями, 7, 13).

As far as the wedding is concerned, we have fulfilled Your wish and did even more: apart from the agreement with You to send one man, we sent Petro Vasylyshyn together with a Policeman and a doctor; and we also sent a bartender from the club, a barber, and a schuster macher¹⁰³ with a hammer to the Natal station...

The train waved with its tail but there was no photographer. They say, they were waving with their arms for the train to go back for Gushul but in vain—it kept moving forward while whistling. So, we had arrived at the wedding, and they asked us what had happened to You. We replied that either some outdoor obstacle or some unheard-of illness.

I did not yet ask him if he would like to take pictures, since I have not seen him anywhere; maybe later on. And I did not stay long at the wedding, only about half an hour, since I was busy collecting money for the Ukrainian Labour Temple, which I finished doing only

3

yesterday. Total collected is \$6900, along with the subscriptions.

I guess You must come one of these days to Michel to settle things with the bootmaker, since he did not like those pictures of him that You sent. He says they were too light. I told him that he saw the samples, and why order if you did not like those. And he says that there is a difference between the sample and pictures.

I left those pictures with him on Saturday, and he said he wanted to see You and talk to You, since he knew You would be coming for the wedding. And You did not come, so the pictures are at his place, unpaid for. When I received Your letter I went to him for the second time to collect money. And he said he would not pay for such work. Therefore, You have to come personally. I am unable to resolve this by myself. I have the rest of money, \$31²⁵, except for the shoemaker's debt. If You don't come then I will send it via the post. Please reply soon what You think.

[4]

As far as the bigger order for palanytsi¹⁰⁴ is concerned, there is none, and I have taken them away from the shoemaker, since they already got dusty—I had to wipe them.

From the shoemaker, I brought them to barber and kept them there for a week, yet again in vain. Sanamagan, it is crazy how nobody wants to buy them. While I was coming with them from house to house, I met their agent. And he asked how much I charge, and at the end, he told me to order the same ones from him for the price of \$5 00 . So, I quietly took my hat and got out of the house, since I could not prove if that was true or not. If the pendants have arrived then immediately send them or bring them in person.

Staying for the better manufactured pendants without the shoemaker.

Stefan the Drunkard and the Incorporated Union.

Letter 7. January 1920, Mykhailo Fedoruk to Thomas Gushul 105 [envelope]

Ret[urn] to: M. Fedoruk Box 141 Michel, BC Thos. Gushul Esq. P.O. Box 209. Coleman, Alta

¹⁰³ Schuster macher—a local dialect expression meaning both "jack-of-all-trades" and "dodger."

¹⁰⁴ Probably he refers to the flat round shape of the photo medallions that the Gushul family produced for sale.

¹⁰⁵ This letter is kept in Glenbow Museum and Archives.

{stamp on the back of the envelope}

Coleman, Alta, [...] January 1920

Мішел, Б.К. о годину пізнійше

Пов[ажаний] Товаришу!

Байґали¹⁰⁶, тілько до троблів мене приводети. Написав оден і ляг троха відпочити бо щось не теє чоловікови виглядає, а я, а тут Стефанко приніс з почти лист від Вас в котрім 2 образки були.

Отже досить добрі образки тілько щось краватка не теє. Але про се одно увійде. Тіж зробіть з позиції $1^{\underline{u}\underline{o}\underline{i}}$ пів тузина в мавтах і тузин пост-карток <u>а з другої позиції що книжка на столі</u> зробіть пів тузина пост-карт.

А чому-не прислалисьте з нашої ґрупки. Зробіть також якаби-не була.

За Мішали що говорять то цїлком не правда, хто Вам ще раз буде таке казати щось подібне то скажіть єму потихоньки х... брешеш.. Бігме так....

Остаюсь той самий що перед годиною. 3 над Прута 107

М. Федорук

Michel, BC An hour later

Respected Comrade!

By golly, you just cause troubles for me. I wrote one letter and then lay down to rest a bit, since I am somehow not feeling well, eh. And then Stefanko brought a letter from You from the post-office, with two samples.

So, the samples are quite good but the tie is not quite right. But let it be. Therefore, make a half dozen from the 1^{st} position in mounts and a dozen post cards; and make a half dozen post cards from the second position, where there is a book on the table.

And why did not you send a photograph of our group? Make it as well, no matter how good it is. Whatever they say about Michel is completely not true. If anyone tells You something like that again then tell him quietly: "... You are lying." I swear...

I remain the same as I was an hour ago. From near the Prut river,

M. Fedoruk.

¹⁰⁶ Байґали, from English "by golly," was a popular expression in the Ukrainian-Canadian language of the early 20th century.

¹⁰⁷ The river of Prut runs through the Karliv village in Halychyna. This supports our assumption that Mykhailo Fedoruk might come from Karliv.

Letter 8. 20 October 1920, Steve Huculak and Stefan Lazaruk to Thomas Gushul

{envelope}

R. to S. Huculak P.O. Box 199 Michel BC

Mr. Thos. Gushul P.O. Box 209 Coleman Alta

{stamp}

Coleman, Alta, 20 October 1920

Michel BC Oct 20th 1920.

Дорогий Товаришу: -

Доношу Вам вістку що я є здоров і жию до Мішел вдалось якось заїхати вже не було жадних "Hold Up" на трині а хоть би і були то вже в мене грошей не було бо в штрайк рідко вкого гроші знайдуться. Ми тут на Мішел вже штрайк віграли щом мусіли назад вертатись до U[nited] M[ine] W[orkers] of A[merica]. в нас тут є 14 людей що Кумпанія їм не хочеть дати роботу назад тих людий вїгнали від роботи. Котрі провадили O[ne] B[ig] U[nion] Пропаґанду, що єще знами буде то не знати може ще раз траба буде штрайкувати. Будучнїсьт покаже що дальше буде. А щодо Лазаручки то скажіть свої жені що вона хоче щоби ваша жена віплила для неї зимову шапку червону таку саму як ваша жена має а за то буде гарна заплята. І даю Вам "Order" на пів тузіна обрасків з мішелскої дівчини. Гей коли приїдити до Мішел напишіть.

Глядіть на другу сторону

[2]

I не задудьте *(sic)* взяти Годинник з собою як будети їхати Кінчу бо вже досить думаю

> Здоровлю сердечно Вас і фамілію Стифан Гуцуляк.

Гей Ґушул риба дуже ся лапає що Ви дамаєте (sic) не їсти риби з Брітіш Колумбії. Я купив собі гарний карабін і маю "License" на польованя як забю одного сернюка то певно що і Вам зашлю. Приходіть скоро право до мене і розкажіть як Колман розкажіть всьо що знаєти і що маєте Бо я дамав (sic) що Ви чисто про Мішел вже забули.

Здоровлю Вас жону і Ваших діточок. Стифан Лазарюк

Michel, BC, 20 October 1920

Dear Comrade:

I am notifying You that I am healthy and alive. I somehow managed to make it to Michel; there were no "Hold Ups" on trains whatsoever, and even if there were, I did not have any money, since

¹⁰⁸ The One Big Union (OBU) was a radical labour union formed in Western Canada in 1919. It aimed to empower workers through mass organization along industrial lines.

few people have money during a strike. Here in Michel, the only thing the strike achieved was that we had to go back to the United Mine Workers of America. We have about 14 people here that the Company does not want to give them their jobs back. They were fired. Those were promoting the One Big Union Propaganda. Nobody knows what is going to happen to us, maybe we will have to strike once again. The future will show what is to come. As far as Lazaruk's wife goes, tell your wife that she would like your wife to knit her a winter hat, a red one, the same as your wife has—there will be good pay for it. And I am placing an "Order" to you for half a dozen of the images of the Michel girl. Hey, write to me when you will come to Michel.

[2]

Look on the reverse side.

And do not forget to bring the Clock when you come. I will finish, since that's enough, I guess.

Cordially wishing health to You and the family, Styfan Huculak.

Hey, Gushul, there is great fishing. What do You think, not to eat fish from British Columbia? I bought a nice carabine, and I have a "License" for hunting. If I shot a deer I will definitely send some to You. Come soon to me and tell about Coleman, tell everything you know and what is going on with you. For I thought that You completely forgot about Michel.

Wishing health to You, your wife, and children. Styfan Lazaruk

Letter 9. 15 November 1920, Steve Huculak to Thomas Gushul

{postcard}

(on the back of the postcard)
Mr. T. Gushul
P.O. Box. 209
Coleman Alta

{stamp}

Medicine Hat, Alta, 15 November 1920

Гаразд Тов[аришу] Ґушул

сим повідомляю вас що я ще при житю до гілкрест вже не поїду, бо Брат достав роботу тут єсли зеґарок вже готовий то прошу вислати суда

здоровлю сердечно до побаченя Стифан Гуцуляк

Hello Comrade Gushul,

With this card I am letting you know that I am still alive. I will not go to Hillcrest, since my Brother has got a job here. If the watch is ready then please send it here.

> Cordially wishing health. Good-bye. Styfan Huculak

> > 155

Letter 10. 1 February 1921, Stefan Lazaruk to Thomas Gushul

(Fig. 40)

{envelope}

Thos. Gushul P.O. Box 209 Coleman Alta

Natal, BC, Feb[ruary] 1st 1921

Дорогий Товаришу.

Вже довгий час вплинув від коли я до вас вже листа не відписував а се не тому що може не хочу або що такого подібного. Але тому що майже кождої хвилі занятий якимось другими справами що годі всьо нараз зробити. Наш відділ у Мішел вислав протест що до вашого виключеня з Колменского відділу. Сей протест ми вислали впрост до Вінніпеґу, на Загальні Річні Збори. Я думаю що там на загальних Зборах то всьо дасть ся полагодити. А впрочім в короткий час будемо знати. товаришу ви зробіть для мене фотоґрафії як слідує.

1 тузін пост карток се мене самого з дітьми а по пів тузіна сих більших се значить пів тузіна з одної а пів тузіна з другої.

Ст. Лазорюк

Natal, BC, 1 February 1921

Dear Comrade,

It's been a long time since I replied to you but it's not because I do not want to or anything like that. It's because I am so busy with other things that I am unable to do everything instantly. Our branch in Michel sent a protest regarding you being expelled from the Coleman's branch. We sent the protest directly to the General Yearly Meeting in Winnipeg. I think it will be possible to fix everything during the General Meeting. After all, we will know shortly. Comrade, make the photographs for me as they should be.

One dozen of the post cards of me together with the children, and half a dozen of these ones but enlarged, i.e. a half dozen of the first one and half dozen of the second one.

St. Lazoruk

Natal Po. C. Fel. 166 1921 Doporus Broakuny. Bne gobium rae bunnyl big Rome ut go bac brue rucina ne bignueybal a ce ne mony mo mosne ne non abo uyo markoro nogibuoro. Rece mony nyo naume Romegoi abusi zanrement rekusuoce gjegnusure en pabasur ryo rogi beso napaz zpobuste, Ham biggin y Minen buchab nyromecut ugo go bamoro buknorense z skonsuenckoro biggin Cen orpomeen un burname Emporia go Buninery ne Zaranoui pomi Zoopen. И думаго про там до на загамония зодося mo beso goiemb ere novavoquina. A Enportere 6 Rosomkun rac bygeeno 3 rame. mobapuny bu zposimo que enerce chomospa chi uk anigy I. I myzire noem kapmok ce mene camoro z ginome а по пів тузіна сих вільших сезначинь no nil myzina z ognoi a nil myzina 3 pryros Cur. elazopor

Letter 11. 12 July 1921, Steve Huculak and Ivan Turok to Thomas Gushul

{envelope}

Tom Gushul Esq. P.O. Colemane (sic) Alta Box 209

{stamp}

Michel, BC

{on the left margin, vertically} from Box 199 Michel S. H.

> T. Gushil (sic) Colemane

> > Мішел. В.С. 12-7-21

Здорові Були Ґоспоґін.

Навірно Ви понімаєте в чім тут діло йдьот. Я получив лист з "Corbin" від таваришів котрі то годять ся відограти приставленя в мішел то є на 15 с[ього] м[ісяця] в "Kootney oper (sic) Hall" в Натал, після приставленя гарна забава і першо рядна музика, отож запросїть всїх товаришїв Я засилаю Вам 10 тикитів накотрих то ціна $$1^{50}$ чи то для мужчин чи для женщин, то всьо одно, так просю по агітуйте там чим змога. Також буду Вас просити щоби Ви повідомили бубністого як також просять всї тутейші товаришї щоб Ви привезли єго з собою ми тут маєм двох а він мусить бути третий тож просю нилишити єго а возміть з собою. довідайтесь де він мешкає ви маєте єго їмя записано тож знайдіть єго.

Іван і Стіф Турок Гуцуляк¹¹⁰

T. Gushil (sic) Coleman

Michel, BC, 12 July 1921

Hello Sir,

You probably understand what this is about. I have got a letter from "Corbin," from the comrades who agree to stage a play in Michel on the 15th of this month, in the Kootenay Opera Hall in Natal. After the performance, there will be a great party with superb music, therefore invite your friends. I am sending You 10 tickets that cost \$1^{oo} each for either men or women—it's all the same. So, please, advertise over there as much as possible. Also, I ask You to let the drummer know, and the local comrades also ask You to bring him along. We here have two musicians and he has to be the third one. So, please do not leave him out, bring him with you. Find out where he lives; you have his name written down, so find him.

Ivan and Steve, Turok and Huculak

¹⁰⁹ Town in British Columbia with a coal mining community.

¹¹⁰ Ivan Turok and Steve Huculak.

Letter 12. 25 December 1922, Steve Huculak to Thomas Gushul

(Fig. 41) {envelope} from S. Huculak Box. 199 Michel BC Tom Gushul Esq. Box. 209 Coleman Alta {stamp} Michel, BC, 23 December 1922 {postcard} With Loving Wishes Dec. 25thThe thoughts of love are long, long thoughts But memories sweet are longer; The bonds of wealth are strong, strong bonds But Friendship's ties are stronger. CHRISTMAS, 1922 Remembrance and Every Good Wish for Christmas and the Coming Year. From Fig. 41. Postcard from Steve Huculak Steve Huculak to Thomas Gushul, 25 December 1922, Crowsnest Museum and Archives. Michel BC The thoughts of love are long, long thoughts But memories sweet are longer; The bonds of wealth are strong, strong bonds But Friendship's ties are stronger. CHRISTMAS, 1929 Remembrance and Every Good Wish for Christmas and the Coming Year. Steve Huculak

Letter 13. 28 February 1924, Petro Vasylyshyn to Steve Huculak, Thomas Gushul and Drapaka

{envelope}

S. Huculak, Esq. P.O. Coleman Alta Box 209 Canada

{stamp}

Веселый Кут, Одес., 27.02.1924

Weselyj Kut. Ukraina February 28th 1924.

Дорогі Товариші. Гуцуляк, Ґушул, і Драпака, Вже довший час проминув як я написав листа до вас і єще до тепер неотримав жадної відповіди на мій лист, незнаю що за причина, може ви часом неотримали того листа, чи може ся нагнївали часом на мени, за мій попередний лист, вкотрім то я висловлювавсь про своє невдоволеня, Скажу вам вірну правду Товариші що вже нать і рука не служить і голова невсилі видержати того всего бося крутить, Щоб вам описати положеня в якім мися знаходимо, Думок тисячами на моїй голові, стоїть під час мого писаня. однак. на жаль висказатись та пожалуватись перед вами на отсїм папери не годень, Товариші буду вам вдячний тодї жити буду но поможіть мені до вас дістатись, Не жалую 2 роки робити лише на самий довг. тим товаришам котрі мені поможуть.

Я писав до Мільки до фернї просю справу і єше до нині немаю листа від неї, незнаю чи що з сего буди чинї, Отже прошу Тебе Стафанку.

2

Довідатись до неї та поспитати єї, шо она може і думає зробити для мени. Єще є друга справа опруч грошей, без котрої то я виїхати з відси негоден немавши єї на руках, ато є Афідевіт від фармара, се є посьвідка на впуск до канади без котрої і звідси виїхати не можливо. Отже прошу тебе стефанку дуже файно пійди до Піта Зоратого¹¹¹ до Мішел і поклич з собою Make Jasino і пійдіт обидва до него і попросіть єго щоб він виробив менї той Афідевіт, А піт єго може мені зробити бо він має фарму, Но попросіть єго щоб нікому ніц неказав просе, Кошта які будуть ти єму заплати. А я як повернусь то все тобі—віддам з подякою, Ту вже богато хлопців подіставали гроші через Amalgameted (sic) Bank 103 Est. 14 Str, New York, і єше богато написали по гроші, бо тут виглядів на лучше нема а чим чаз (sic) то гірше, за який рік то тра буде вмішках ходити, так як селяне тепер ходять, бо тут чоловік не всилі заробити на харч, нетак на обраня, Зима тут вже 2 місяці і доста зимно, майже таке саме як там коло вас, Як там робота йде коло, вас та чи штрайк буди чині на весну, бо чутка є що штрайху не буде

3

На весну та що штрайк вже заситльований¹¹² за ту саму плату, чисе правда низнаю, зате прошу мені написати, Отже Прошу вас писати дещо нового і як най скорше, Пошта наша змінена замісьц Мигаєво¹¹³ пишіт Веселий Кут.

Насїм кінчу та здоровлю вась як тебе Стефане Николу і Вас Ґушул і Вашу фамілію як най ліпше та зичу веселого житя на будуче, Майтесь Гаразд.

Ваш Товариш П[етро] Василишин Аґро Комуна Одеска Губерня Стан[ція] Веселий, Кут, Украіна Rossia.

Прошу овідпис як най скорше

¹¹¹ Pete Zoratti owned Venezia Hotel in Michel-Natal area (Gaal, Memoirs of Michel-Natal, 13).

¹¹² Заситльований—from English "settled."

¹¹³ Myhaievo is a village in Odesa region of Ukraine.

Dear Comrades Huculak, Gushul, and Drapaka. It's been a long time since I've sent you a letter, and I still have not received any reply to it. I do not know what the reason is, perhaps you did not get the letter, or maybe you are angry with me for my previous letter in which I expressed my dissatisfaction. Comrades, I will tell you the honest truth: my hand is not functioning and my head is spinning unable to withstand all of that, so I cannot even describe you the situation in which we find ourselves. There are thousands of thoughts inside my head when I write yet, unfortunately, I cannot tell you in this letter and complain to you. Comrades, I will be very grateful to you, I will live, but help me to get to you. I am ready to work for free for 2 years to pay off my debt to those comrades who would help me.

I wrote to Milka in Fernie regarding this matter, and I still have no reply from her. I do not know if anything is going to happen of it or not. So, I am asking You, Stefanko,

2

to reach out to her and ask her what she can do and plans to do for me. There is one more thing apart from money, and I cannot leave without it being resolved—it's the affidavit from a farmer. It's a certificate allowing entrance to Canada without which one cannot leave here. Therefore, I ask you very much, Stefanko, go to Pete Zoratti in Michel and ask *Mike Jasino* to go with you; you both go to him and ask him to make the affidavit for me. And Pete can do it for me, since he has a farm. But ask him to not tell anyone about it. And pay him all the necessary expenses, and I will reimburse you everything with gratitude when I come. There are many guys here who have received money from the *Amalgamated Bank 103 Est. 14 Str, New York*. And many more wrote there asking for money, since over here, there are no prospects for the better, and things go from bad to worse. In a year or so, one will have to wear burlap just like the villagers do right now, since one is unable to earn enough for food here, let alone for clothes. It's been winter for 2 months here, and it is quite cold, almost as cold as where you are. How is the job situation at your place? Is there going to be a strike in the spring or not? For there is a rumor that there will be no strike

3

in the spring, since it was already settled for the same payment. I do not know whether that is true, please write to me about it. So, I ask you to write some news and as soon as possible. Our post office was changed: instead of Myhaievo, address your letter to Weselyj Kut.

I will stop at this point. I wish the best health to you, Stefan, Nykola, and You, Gushul, and Your family; and wish you a happy life in the future. Stay well.

Your Comrade, Petro Vasylyshyn Agrarian Commune Odesa Province Weselyj Kut Station Ukraine Russia.

Please reply as soon as possible.



Chapter 9

LETTERS FROM FRED MICHALUK, 1919 TO 1939

Fred Michaluk (Fedor, Федір Михайлюк) (about 1892–?) was Thomas's good friend. His letters, written in 1919 through 1939, reveal a history of one Ukrainian immigrant's life in the first half of 20th century in North America.

In May 1919, Michaluk was a miner residing in Michel, BC. Six months later, he wrote from Detroit, Michigan in the USA, complaining about the Ford Company and his bad fortune. He injured his arm and was unable to work. His previous work at coal ovens in Michel now looked like a better choice. This is when he came up with an idea to join Thomas Gushul to study the business of photography at college. Inspired by this plan he collected all his savings, borrowed some more money, and set off to Effingham, Illinois, where the renown Bissell College was located. Fred hoped to start a new career as a professional to end the misery of a miners' life.

After graduating from college, Michaluk decided to make a detour to briefly visit New York and meet a Ukrainian girl, Paraska (Pauline), also an immigrant. Paraska, six years younger, and Fred got married shortly after their first meeting. After the wedding, he persuaded his wife to move to Canada. Thomas Gushul assured him that he would find a job as a photographer there, so Michaluk hoped that relocation will bring him stability and a prosperous life. Unfortunately, his trip to Canada ended in disaster when Fred and Paraska were denied entry into Canada. He spent all his and his wife's savings on the train tickets and some photo equipment needed to launch his planned studio in Crowsnest Pass, Alberta. After their return to New York, the young couple faced extreme poverty and desperation.

It turned out that Michaluk stayed in New York for at least the next twenty years. It is unknown what he did for a living during the 1920s. However, from the United States Federal Census, we know that in 1939 and 1940, he still lived in New York. He worked 48 hours a week and earned \$1,600 a year, which was, on average, a good family income. His reported occupation was counterman at a restaurant. Pauline was a housewife taking care of their daughter Helen (born around 1934).

In his letter to Thomas from April 1939, Fred wrote about his well-being. He had a well-paid job (better than that at a photo studio, he remarked), rented a spacious apartment, had a wife and daughter, and overall looked satisfied with his life. As we follow him through the 1920s and 1930s, we learn about social barriers and the impossibility of overcoming class and ethnic boundaries. Michaluk had not succeeded in launching a photo studio nor was he ever hired as a professional photographer. But nevertheless he after all admitted that he lived a happy life. No pictures of the Michaluk family were identified in the Gushul archives.

^{114 1940} United States Federal Census. Census Place: New York, Kings, New York; Roll: m-t0627-02604; Page: 18A; Enumeration District: 24-2212.

Letter 1. 4 March 1919, Fred Michaluk to Thomas Gushul

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(Fig. 43)
{envelope}
    From F. M.
    Michel BC
    Box 82.
    Thos. Gushul Esq.
    Coleman Alta.
    Box 209.
{stamp}
    Medicine Hat & Nelson, Alta, 4 March 1919
{stamp on the back of the envelope}
    Coleman, Alta, 4 March 1919
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Michel BC March 4th 1919

Поважаний Тов[аришу] Ґушул.

Лист ваш отримав і воєводу в листі за котрий сердечно дякую, однак прошу щобисьте вислали тих більше портиґрафіїв ая вже Італіянку з Таліяном за оринтую про вас лиш коби сь те прибули сюди донас то тон пива ся пє, пиво унас тепер по коршмах такє як було передом. Я вже тут тепер аґітую завами на всі пари, а брат Чернявскій падают зовсім тепер, яби ще підпирав єго алеви пригадали мені що брат неє безпечний на ту кандидатуру то се і сьвята ваша правда, бо сей чоловік як зачне читати євангелиє з кичка то всі сьвяті гаптах¹¹⁵ мают стояти Що доваших образів тоя всьо знаю як то ішло, однак ваші образи яби був розпродав али через ваші найліпші приятелі неміг бо они мене дотого навили аще дотого і наговорили вам на мене, то я через то найгірший зістав ся, непишу вам котрі до сеї пачки належали бо і не так конче треба можете і самі знати.

[2]

Если прибудете сюди до Мішел то вже мемо ся напивати здорово аві так давай співати на всі пари католицкої марсилєзи і кричимо най жиє найсьвятійший кандидат на папу римского. Прошу вибачи ти що я так пишу, нас се мало що обходить бо ми з мішел.

Кінчу і бажаю як най ліпшого успіху у вашій теперішній бородьбі на сьвятого отця і сина амінь!

До побаченя! Ваш найщирійший адітатор Федор Михайлюк

> Michel, BC, 4 March 1919

Respected Comrade Gushul,

I have received your letter with a *voevode* in it, for which I thank you cordially. Yet I ask you to send me more of those photographs, and then I would let the Italian woman and Italian man know about you. Should you come here to us, you would drink a ton of beer. We have now such beer in pubs like it used to be before. I am here campaigning for you as much as I can, while brother Cherniavskyi is now falling down. I would support him but you reminded me that the brother is

¹¹⁵ Стояти гаптах—dial., from German "Habt Acht!," to stand at attention.

not a safe candidate for that position. You are absolutely right, since when this man starts reading the gospel from the pulpit, all the saints have to stand at attention. As far as your photographs are concerned, I know everything regarding how it went. I would sell out your photographs but I could not because of your best friends, since they agitated me before that, and then also told you stories about me, and because of that I ended up being the worst one. I will not write you who belonged to that group. It's not that important, and maybe you know yourself.

[2]

If you come here, to Michel, we would get drunk and then sing vigorously the Catholic Marseillaise song, and yell out, "Long live the holiest candidate to the pope's position!" Please forgive me for writing that way; we hardly care about it, since we are from Michel.

I will stop here, and wish you the best of success in your current fight in the name of the holy father and son. Amen!

Till our meeting! Your most sincere campaigner, Fedor Michaluk

Letter 2. 10 March 1919, Fred Michaluk to Thomas Gushul

{envelope}

Thos. Gushul. Esq. Coleman Alta Box 209

{stamp}

Medicine Hat & Nelson, Alta, 10 March 1919

{stamp on the back of the envelope} Coleman, Alta, 10 March 1919

Michel BC Mar. 10th 1919.

Поважаний Тов[аришу] Ґушул.

Посткартку відвас отримав за котру щиро дякую. Однак я виджу щови з мого листа не задоволені і пишете що є люди котрі ся противлять жартам. Що до мене тоя нігди ся неспротивлю щоб ви що писали тоя є задоволений. Ащо я пригадав дещо про образи тоя нігди і не думаю щоб я був на протів вас. Тож прошу щоб ви часом не мислили собі що я який зрадник ваш, я є вірний католик ще з старого завіту, тож може те писа ти до мене що хочете боя знаю як ся жарти мають. Пишете що колись приїдете до Мішел на тижни то приїдьте колись єсли ме те мати нагоду, але тоби ліпше було якби ви приїхали коли внеділю тобис мо ся забавили як бог приказав по католицки однак коли ме те ма ти час то приїдьте.

[2]

Тую пікчер що я отримав від вас якись те були на фронті то як я виджу що вам не зовсім добре поводилось бо виглядаєте якісь нервовї, певно мались те страх як німці горохом дарували вас то та пікчер пригадує мені що більше не вдуріт вас що бисьте побачили францию.

Так майтесь гаразд.

Абільше в бізнес зобразами не рвіть ся, єслиби були образи сьвятого Гавриїла то католики булиби розкупили, асе були росийаского Николи і ще поринському¹¹⁶ так Никола мусів впасти

До побаченя Ф. Михайлюк

¹¹⁶ Ринський—Galician name for Austrian and German currency.

Mirel Of March # 5, 1919 Noboroo min Dob. Aymys. Quem bour ompunal i bozbogy b memi za kompun seprerono gakyo ogorak njoury maducome brewen mux di wine nopmut paspiil ag direc Tomaninachy I tanismon za opnovnyto npoboce mu kodu co me npudym erogu gopace mo more nuba est nã nubo greac mento ne kopminax makt sik of no ne pegoin. The bonce my me menet a timy to zabanu na bei napu a Spam Teprolokine nagarom Zebein menet, rou me nignupat ero andre refuragame enem mo opam ree degner muit to my Rangugamy by mo ce i cola ma bama nhaba do cen rosobilo 54 zarne rumamu Ebanem z Ruz ka no bii columi ranmade majom sm Mo gobannex offagil mon beso znow all mo muno, squak lower odpagu non dyle pozni gold am repez banis nauninum npusimen nemir do oru merce gomo ao orabrem ame gomo so i narobofemme ban namere, mon repezino rainipiumi giernat on, ruminy boun kompi gove: narku die se maru do i ne mok kon re mpeda ino meme i cam frixme

ворозові на совятого egop Coluxor insof

Fig. 43. Letter from Fred Michaluk to Thomas Gushul, 4 March 1919, Crowsnest Museum and Archives.

Respected Comrade Gushul,

I have received your postcard for which I thank you very much. Yet I see that you are not happy about my letter; you write that there are people who do not get jokes. As far as I am concerned, I do not protest against anything you write, so I am glad. And since I mentioned something regarding the images, I do not think I was ever against you. So, I am asking you to not think that I betrayed you. I am a true Catholic, of the Old Testament type. So, you can write me anything you want, for I know what jokes are. You wrote that you would come to Michel during weekdays; do come if you have a chance. But it would be better if you could come sometime on Sunday; we would then have fun, according to god's orders to the Catholics. Yet come whenever you have time.

[2]

I have received the picture from you when you were at the front. I can see that you were not doing too well, since you look anxious. You probably were scared when you were under German fire. This picture makes me think that they will not trick you again into seeing France.

Stay well.

And do not rush into the photograph business. If there were the pictures of Saint Gabriel then the Catholics would buy them out; but those were of Russian St. Nicholas, and expensive ones, so Nicholas had to fail.

Goodbye F. Michaluk

Letter 3. 18 October 1919, Fred Michaluk to Thomas Gushul

{envelope}:

From F. M. 140 Victor St. Highland Park Detroit Mich[igan] U.S.A.

Thomas Gushul Esq. Coleman Alta P.O. Box 209, Canada

{stamp}

Detroit, MI, 19 October 1919

Detroit O[c]tober 18th [19]19.

Поважаний Товаришу Ґушул

Довідуюсь з вашого листа що напоминаєте Г[ригорія] Федорука щоб необминувув сю пропозицию котру описуте всвоїм листі. Я також маю охоту поїхати разом звами до фотоґрафічної Каледж, однак боюсь щоб часом непопікся так як тут в Детроїт. Я гроший маю близько 5 сот долярів а решту то менї поможут мої Краяни таяби мав з чим їти учитись, однак мушусь зпитати вас чи они ґьарантують за свою науку і чия відтак зможу вижити з свої тої науки щоб більше нейти до фабриків заглядати заиншов роботов. Бо знаєте самі щотих пару центїв щомаю то некяжко їх

Ш

розпустити а вітак знов зачинати робити наново. Тож я дуже радо приймаюсь вашої поради ї маю охоту їти учитись разом звами лиш коби се вийшло на добре, тож будьте так добрі опишїт

мені ті іформаці (sic) ая вже будусь старав щоб ся нелишити вас, бо меніби було добре зато що ївиби могли мене дещо поучити, то єсли вже ту школу покінчимо товітак давай їти десь в Канаду малювати людий. Я жалую на свою дурну голову щом розпустив сего літа близько 5 сот долярів і ще дотого заїхав в такє місце що ніяк немож бути внїм однак се вже запізно жалувати другий раз треба застиречись.

Ш

Тож ви вже майже приготавані зовсім до того Коледжу на свій виїзд в грудни. Прошу подайти мені ту адресу тої Каледж щоб я ся довідав зкілько гроший мене буде коштувати подорож звідси. Мені тут досить зле ся поводит всій паршивій роботі однак мушу терпети доякогось часу, я натаку роботу попавсь що лутше було пєци тягнути в Michel ніж тут ся мучити аще їдотого розкив собі ліву руку так що треба буди сидіти з який тиждень вдома. Мавєм листа з Краю від родичів то пишуть що нетак їм ся зле поводить лиш тілько під польским ярмом Пишуть мені що тримают дві корови пару коний щось штири ялівки і дозен овець.

Ш

Також запрошают мене на весіля бо сестра віддаєсь, одна сестра віддалась сего літа а друга віддаєсь типер, брат мій ще знаходить ся на війні і оден одинайцят літний помер а ті решта ще жиют. Троха мені веселійше що знаю що ще родичі жиют, однак сподіюсь що колоних вилика біда бо ті поляки знущают ся над нашим народом так пишуть в других листах, мої родичі мені пробіду нічого непишут бо конче хотят щоб я їхав до Краю. Прошу пишіт дещо нового з Канади і дещо про робітничий рух є чутка що майнери вийдут на страйк перщого Листопада самий бачив тут в казеті (sic) що єсли небуде згоди до перщого листопада

V

так вийдут на страйк. Тут дуже плохо робітник стоїт зато що нимає жадної юниї, всеї Ford Com[pany] робит всіх робітників по всїх складах і фабриках щось 250 тисяч. тосе значить з басами гет зовсім дехто ся знаходит. і жадний нестоїт в юниї. Се місто має насиленє оден милиьон. Що до большевицкої орґанізациї то є також виликє число росийські робітники також україньскі то майже всі належут до червоних а так само із инших народностий є також. Колись бувєм тут намітиньґу що говорили щось штири бесідники то було більше як 12 нацєт тисяч робітників

[6]

бо галя є зроблена щось на 12 тисяч людий, однак немістились сі люди вній. Бесідники тогді були англійський німецкий польский і росийский. Тут наші віча концерта представленя і ріжні забави відбувають ся так що є нащо подивитись. Найкраще мені сподобались наші Україньскі пісьні, так що часом і заплачу і знов веселий стану боєсли чоловік розбере всьо як слід то жаль що наш народ так ся мучить потих чужих краях. Тут часом сходить ся яких 6 до 7 сот наших Українців до галі жінки дівчата хлопці і старші то досить весело бути межи таким числом людий. Тож прошу Вас Ґушул відпишіть листа і деще нового. Тож допобаченя звами

Ф Михайлюк.

Detroit, 18 October 1919.

Respected Comrade Gushul,

I learned from your letter that you reminded Hryhorii Fedoruk not to miss the proposal that you describe in your letter. I also would like to go with you to the photography college, yet I am afraid to make another mistake like the one with Detroit. I have money, about five hundred dollars, and my countrymen will help me with the rest, so that I would have something to go with for the studies. Yet I have to ask you if they give any guarantee as for their education, and if I would be able to survive on the received education and not to look for other jobs at factories. For you know yourself that those couple of cents I have is easy to spend

Ш

and then start working again. Therefore, I am very happy to follow your advice and eager to go to study together with you. I just would like it to turn out good, so, be so kind, provide me with this information, and I will try to stick with you, since it would be good for me, and you could teach me something as well. And when we graduate from that school then we could go somewhere in Canada and take photographs of people. I am sorry that I stupidly wasted this past summer around five hundred dollars, and on top of that I got into such an impossible place. Yet it is too late to feel sorry about that; next time I have to be more careful.

Ш

So, you are almost ready to leave for that college in December. Please give me the address of that college so that I could find out how much it would cost me to travel from here. My life is pretty bad here, at this shabby job, yet I have to hang on for some time. I managed to get such a job that it would have been better to keep working at ovens in *Michel* than to suffer here. On top of that, I cut my left arm, so now I have to stay home for about a week. I had a letter from my family in the Old Country. They write that they are doing not so bad but they are under the Polish yoke. They write that they have two cows, two horses, four calves, and a dozen sheep.

Ш

They also invite me for a wedding, for my sister is getting married. One sister got married last summer, and another one is getting married now. My brother is still at war, and the eleven year old one died; the rest are still alive. It cheers me up a bit to know that my relatives are alive but I reckon they are in big trouble, since the Poles abuse our people, that's what others write in their letters. My relatives do not write anything about the misfortune, since they really want me to come to the Old Country. Please write some news from Canada and something about the workers' movement. There is a rumor that the miners will start a strike on 1 November. I myself saw here in the newspaper that if there is no agreement by 1 November

٧

then they will start the strike. A worker here is in a bad position, since there are no Unions. This *Ford Company* has about 250 thousand workers altogether at all the warehouses and factories; therefore some of them get along with the bosses well. And none of them belong to any Unions. This city has a population of one million. As far as the Bolshevik organization is concerned, there is a big number of Russian workers, as well as Ukrainian ones, almost all of them belong to the Reds; there are also people of other nationalities. When I was here at a meeting where there were four speakers, so there were more than 12 thousand workers,

[6]

since the hall can accommodate 12 thousand people, yet all those present did not fit in. The speakers were an Englishman, a German, a Pole, and a Russian. Our community arranges here various plays and parties, so there are things to see. I liked our Ukrainian songs the best, for I would sometimes cry and then become happy again. For if you think about it well, it is a pity that our people suffer so much across the foreign countries. Sometimes there are 6 to 7 hundred of our Ukrainians coming to the hall, women, girls, guys, and older people. So it is quite fun to be among so many people. So, I am asking You, Gushul, to reply to me and write some news. Therefore, till our meeting,

F. Michaluk

Letter 4. 24 March 1920, Fred Michaluk to Lena Gushul

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{envelope}

F. Michaluk

806 Sounth 3<sup>rd</sup> St.

Effingham Ill[inois]

USA.

Mrs. Helen Gushul.

Coleman Alta

P.O. Box (209)

Canada

{stamp}
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Effingham III[inois]
March 24th 1920

Шановна Товаришко Гушул.

Effingham, IL, 25 March 1920

Вашого листа отримав за котрий складаю сердечну подяку, однак було написано увашім листі що того листа писав тулоб без голови, можливо що Ви так ідумаєте, однак оно неє так як Ви описали, здаєсь мені що увашім листі є пара слів котрі диктував вам ваш в ласний муж, але байка стим мушу приймите все щосьте писали. Як я ще був в Detroit то отримав лист від Вашого мужа авід мого товариша що до школи непоїдесь через то що всі слабі. я перечитав лист і ще було зімною пара товаришів

П

і зачалисьмо розбирати справу котра була писана в листі Одні зачали казати мені, що ти ще низнаєш Ґушула? Таж він казав що буде готовий ще в грудню, а він ще і дотипер не приґотовився до College. Я так само мислив що то правда, що тов[ариш] Ґушул тілько мене заніс водит, втой час я був нервовий і взяв і написав лист, за котрий Ви кажете що голови небуло на плечах а тілько толуб, От бачете товаришко щоя був і незовсім винен як я того листа писав до Вашого мужа, бо нині чоловік на тім помиляєсь що каже я тогді там буду (а він там небув) і ще більше ІІІ

є таких предметів що чоловік виговорит а не сповнить їх, і насім чоловік тратить довірє між людьми Не суджу я когось бом негодин самий виконати те що часом належить до мене, але доста того що Ваш лист мене досить у колов так якби добре довбнев вдарив. Однак я опісля жалував що я такий лист написав але то вже було запізно, тож типер я сам низнаю як ми маєм ся розсудити Допевни я низнав що коловас так зле в сій порі, я мислив що тов[ариш] Ґушул тілько хоків з мінити свій фронт і неїхати до College і через то описав що слабий і вся фамілия. Тож судіт мене обоє як самі знаєте, можливо що моя вина, а часом може бути що ні (сторона послідна)

Я написав два листа з Effingham асе третий пишу, однак низнаю чи товариш Ґушул з хоче переписуватись зі мною більше то засе ни знаю. однак я мислю що я неє такий занатто злий як Ви собі приставили Товаришко Ґушул., що домене тоя сам низнаю чия типер вина. Я жалую що товариш Ґушул знаходить ся в такій нещасній біді однак негодин ніц помочи. Я сподівався листа що тов[ариш] Ґушул незадовго приїде до Effingham а тов[ариш] Ґушул в шпитали. Тож прошу негнівайтись на мене бо втой час як писав листа то був дуже злий. Тож желаю Вам всім веселійшого життя і успіху в будуччині.

Ф Михайлюк.

Respected Comrade Gushul,

I have received Your letter for which I thank you sincerely, yet Your letter had it that my letter was written by a body without a head. Maybe that's what You think but it is not the way you've described. It seems to me that Your letter contained a couple of words that were dictated by Your own husband. But be it as it may, I have to accept all You have written. When I was still in *Detroit* I got a letter from Your husband, and my friend, that he would not go to the school because you all were ill. I read the letter, and there were a couple of friends with me

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and we started discussing the matter that was described in the letter. Some started telling me, "Don't you know Gushul yet? He said he would be ready in December but he is still not ready for the *College*." I also thought that was right, comrade Gushul was just leading me by the nose. At that time, I was nervous and wrote the letter about which You said there was no head on the shoulders, only the body. So you see, comrade, that it was not entirely my fault when I was writing that letter to Your husband, since now he is wrong when he says he will be at some place but he is not there. There are more

Ш

such things that your husband promises but does not stick to his words. And thus a man loses trust among people. I do not judge anyone, since I myself sometimes cannot fulfill what I have to. But it's enough that Your letter hurt me, hit me like a club. Yet later on I was sorry that I've written such a letter but that was already too late. Therefore, now I do not know what we should do about it. I did not know at that time that it was so bad for you. I thought that comrade Gushul just wanted to change his decision regarding going to the College, and because of that he wrote that he and his whole family were ill. So, judge me both as you want. Maybe it is my fault, and maybe it is not. (the last page)

I have written two letters from *Effingham*, and this is the third one, yet I do not know if comrade Gushul wants to correspond with me anymore. I do not know about that, yet I think that I am not that bad as You imagine it, comrade Gushul. As far as I am concerned, I do not know myself whose fault it is. I am sorry that comrade Gushul has such terrible troubles, yet I cannot help with anything. I was hoping to get a letter saying that comrade Gushul would soon come to *Effingham*, but comrade Gushul is at the hospital. So, I ask you not to be angry with me, since I was very bitter when I was writing the letter. So, I wish You all a happier life and success in the future.

F. Michaluk.

Letter 5. 25 April 1920, Fred Michaluk to Thomas Gushul

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{envelope}
    F. Michaluk
    806 South 3rd St
    Effingham Ill[inois]

Thos Gushul Esq.
    14–3rd Ave N.W.
    Rochester Minn[esota]
    U.S.A.
{stamp}
    Effingham, IL, 25 April 1920
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Шановний Тов[аришу] Гушул

Тілько пару слів відписую на Ваш лист і засилаю дві фотоґрафії котрі я принтував в гавзі. Я ще нестардував (sic) прінтувати і мало дещо знаю, тілько на реточованю я дость здібний та кажуть мої інструктори. Трудно мені троха іде але мушу капарити як можу Англіска мова то найгірше мене коли. єсли Ви прибудети сюда то мемо обговорювати всі наші справи Нині був з Біселом¹¹⁷ то говорив про Вашу справу і казав що не задовго прибуде сюда. Коб Ви вже здорові були то якось ми покінчимо сю нашу школу апотім зобачим що маєм зробити Тож вибачайте що мало пишу бом типер занятий

До побаченя Фред.

Respected Comrade Gushul,

I am replying just with a couple of words to Your letter and sending two photographs that I've printed out in house.

I have not yet started printing and I know quite little about it. But I am quite good at retouching, as my instructors say. It is a bit hard for me but I have to handle it as I can. English language is the worst problem for me. If You come here then we will discuss all our matters.

I saw Bissell today and talked about Your business and said that You would come here shortly. If You would be healthy we would somehow finish this our school, and then we will see what we should do. So, forgive me for writing little, for I am busy now.

Good-bye. Fred.

Letter 6. 22 June 1920, Fred Michaluk to Thomas Gushul

{envelope}

F. M.

806-3rd St

Effingham Ill[inois]

U.S.A.

Thos Gushul Esq. Coleman Alta

Box 209 Canada

{stamp}

Effingham, IL, 21 June 1920

June 22th (sic) 1920

Дорогий Тов[аришу] Ґушул

Я Вашого листа отримав за котрий дякую. Я писав в попереднім листі до Вас в справі ленса однак дістав нині лист що Ви дістали ленс то можливо що мені непотрібно купувати тут. Прошу напишіть який сорт ленса і до якої кємери Я тут можу дістати першої кляси лінс до кємери 8х10 або 5х7 однак коштує досить гроша. Тож прошу напишіть як найскорше щоя маю зробити єсли мислите що нам доброго ленса потрібно тоя позичу собі гроший і купю. Wollensack¹¹⁸ (sic) до (8х10) кемери стоїть 148 долярів шатер і ленс, сей ленс можна уживати в студиї атакож і на отсайд.

¹¹⁷ Lewis Henry Bissell was the president of the Illinois College of Photography. There was correspondence between him and Thomas Gushul (see Volume 1, page 30).

¹¹⁸ Wollensak Optical was an American manufacturer of audio-visual products located in Rochester, New York, founded in 1899.

[2]

В справі Ваші я буду старався переконати. По укінченю мої школи я просто звідси їду до Детроїт а з відтам до Канади. Єсли ябуду в Детроіт то можливо що довідаюсь про Вашу справу. Паршиво наші товариші обходят ся, немислю щоб де котрий з Мішелских товаришів писав до Вініпеґу листа про Вас, се фернійський пташок то нічого ви стого вийдете а єсли я довідаюсь то тогді віддячитесь їм за їх брехню. Прошу пишіть дещо нового з Колман а також в справі Петра Василишиного з Мішел де що знаєте. Тож кінчу здоровлю сердечно.

Михайлюк

Прошу оскорий відпис.

22 June 1920

Dear Comrade Gushul,

I have received Your letter for which I thank You. I wrote to You in a previous letter regarding a lens, then I got Your letter today and You write that You have bought the lens. Then maybe I do not need to buy the lens here. Please let me know which class the lens is and for which camera. I can buy here the first class lens for a camera 8x10 or 5x7, yet it is quite expensive. So, please, write to me as soon as possible regarding what I should do. If You think that we need a good lens then I will borrow money and buy it. *Wollensak* shutter and lens for a 8x10 camera cost 148 dollars. This lens can be used inside a studio as well as outside.

[2]

I will try to persuade in regards to Your case. After I finish the school, I will leave straight for Detroit, and from there for Canada. If I stay in Detroit then maybe I will find something out regarding Your case.

Our comrades behave lousily. I cannot imagine anyone of the Michel's comrades writing a letter about You to Winnipeg. It must be a bird from Fernie. It is nothing, You will get out of it, and if I find out who did it then You will get even with them for their lies. Please write some news about Coleman, as well as regarding the case of Petro Vasylyshyn from Michel, if You know anything. So, I will stop here. Wishing you health cordially.

Michaluk

Please reply soon.

Letter 7. 15 August 1920, Fred Michaluk to Thomas Gushul

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{envelope}
    F. Michaluk
    806 South 3rd St.
    Effingham Ill[inois]
    Thos Gushul Esq.
    Coleman Alta
    PO. Box 209
    Canada

{stamp}
    Effingham, IL, 16 August 1920
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Дорогий Товариш Ґушул

Пишу до Вас пару слів що в школі ще буду до 5^{го} Sept[ember] і їду звідси просто до New Yorku до свої незнаної Товаришкі Я довідався від других людий що ся дівчина досить чесна і черезто маю замір їхати єсли буде щось пітрібного то можливо що приїду до Вас, відданий Я писав лист до Вас вже кільканайцять днів минуло то незнаю чи Ви отримали або ні. Писалесьте що Вишлете плити до побільшеня фотоґрафій тоя не знаю чи зможу виробити через то що школа тілько до пулудня а від 20^{го} до 31^{го} школи небудем мали через то що конвеция фотоґрафічна буде. Однак я повернусь до Вас то виробимо все що лиш мети бажати то нетак дуже страшне мені всій порі. Я сподіюсь що до 5^{го} отримаю свою дипльому так говорив мені Бісел бо сего місяця дуже

[3]

мало часу маєм, Ви старайтеся щоб ми могли студию достати ту у Вініпеґу то все буде добре а робота то нам піде досить добре. Я вже собі голову забив з сим жененєм типер то чорт єго знає на що набреду але поїду сам і зобачу бо инакше переконатись негодин Нового Вам немаю що так вписати тілько горячо тут так що немож витримати яби рад як найскорше щоб вже раз звідси виїхати. Можливо що Ви дещо нового чуєте там то прошу пишіть. Ваш ленс про котрий Ви писали то мавби бути здалий встудиї атакож і по гавзав фотоґрафії робити я зобачу можна я дістану ленс як поїду до New Yorku бо тут негодин дістати. Ми вже якось залагодим нашу справу та я мислю. Тож кінчу і прошу овідпис. Матесь гаразд.

Михайлюк.

Effingham, Illinois, 15 August 1920

Dear Comrade Gushul,

I am writing a couple of words to You that I will be at the school till the 5th of *September*, and then I will go straight to *New York*, to my unknown Lady-Comrade. I have learnt from other people that this girl is quite honest and that is why I have an intention to go. If a need arises then, married, I will possibly visit Your place. I wrote You a letter many days ago but I do not know whether You've received it or not. You wrote that You would send the plates for the photograph enlargements but I do not know if I would be able to make them, since the school is only open till noon, and it will be closed between the 20th and 31st of August due to the Photography Convention. I, however, will come back to You, and we will then make anything You wish; it is not that scary for me now. I hope to get my Diploma before the 5th of September—that's what Bissell told me, since this month

we have very little time left. You try to get that studio in Winnipeg for us, then everything is going to be fine, and our work will roll on smoothly. My head is full with thoughts of marriage, and devil knows what I will end up with, but I will go there myself and see. There is no other way to make sure. I have nothing else new to write to You about except that it is so hot here that I cannot bear it. I would be happy to leave this place as soon as possible. Maybe You hear some news over there, then please write about it. The lens You wrote about should be useful in the studio and for taking photographs inside the houses. I will see if I can find it when I go to *New York*, since I cannot find it here. I think that we will find some solution in this matter. So, I will stop, and ask for a reply. Stay well.

Michaluk.

Letter 8. 27 October 1920, Fred Michaluk to Thomas Gushul

(Fig. 44)

{envelope}
F. Michaluk
240 E 124 St
New York
Thomas Gushul Esq.
Colman (sic) Alta
P.O. Box 209
Canada

{stamp}
New York, NY, 30 October 1920

New York Octobrer (sic) 27th 1920.

Поважаний Товариш Ґушул.

Хочу написати пару слів до Вас що я вже чоловік відданий. Весіля наше відбулось в неділю, жалую що Вас небуло, певно Ваш авроплан мусів попсутись, але то ніц я буду ся старав щоб до Вас прибути на весну. Я ще роботи неглядів нігде відколи тут в New Yorku, однак мушу старатись щоб тих золотих заробити щоб міг навесну дістатися до Вас своєв Парасков. Весіля відбулось без жадних музик, однак слюб брав в сьвятій божници, знаєте як то є, хоть моя товаришка не конче так побожна але як то кажут наші дівчата підеш зімною до корту озмеш слюб тай за місяць будеш ходити задругою. Пізнійше зашлю Вам фотографію з нашого весіля азобачете що то я вишукав за дівчину внювьорку, сподіюсь що буду мав веселе житя з сею дівчиною щом ся оженив як Ви колись пропоминали в своїх листах. черезто щоми обоє годимось на ріжні способи.

[2]

Тож прошу пишіть дещо нового і чи зима вже коло Вас ϵ . тут ще досить тепло. Слайди будусь старати Вам заслати як лиш тілько пічну роботу бо знаєте як то наразі чоловік сам незнає що має вперед починати. такє і зімною типер.

Кінчу здоровлю Вас разом з Вашов Фамілиьов Допобаченя. Михайлюк.

Miй сталий адрес сей 240 E. 124 St New York

Вибачайте що так мало писав другий раз напишу дещо більше.

New York, 27 October 1920

Respected Comrade Gushul,

I want to write to You a couple of words about me being a married man now. Our wedding took place on Sunday; it is a pity You were not present, Your airplane must have gotten broken. But that is okay; I will try to come to Your place in the spring. I have not been looking for a job yet since I came to *New York*, yet I have to try to earn those złoty so that I could come to You in the spring with my Paraska. There were no musicians at the wedding, yet I was wedded in a sacred shrine. You know how it is: even though my lady-comrade is not that pious but as our [Ukrainian] girls say, "You will go with me to a court, get married, and woo another girl in a month." I will send You our wedding photograph later—You will see what kind of a girl I have found in New York. I hope

to have a merry life with the girl I married, just like You mentioned once in Your letters. Because we both agree on everything.

[2]

So, please, write some news. Is there winter at Your place already? It is quite warm here. I will try to send You the slides as soon as I start working, since you know how it is: a man does not know what to start first. That's how it is with me now.

Will stop. Wishing health to You and Your Family.

Good-bye.

Michaluk.

My permanent address is: 240 E. 124 St New York

Sorry for writing so little; I will write more next time.

Letter 9. 11 November 1920, Fred Michaluk to Thomas Gushul

New York Nov[ember] 11th 1920.

Дорогий Товариш Ґушул!

Вашого листа отримав за що дякую. Пригадуєте всвоєм листї що зачинаєте фіксувати свою студию і хочете щоб все в порядку було. Товариш Ґушул єсли є добра студия то досить добре і мож заробити тих зелених лиш коби ся непровалити бото все гроші коштує. Тож єсли ви мислете що піде все добре то старайтесь про все як найліпше Плян Ваш досить добрий і мислю що буде все добре, той плян щоя подав Вам то також незлий, вікна від бек ґраунд можете дати від 5 до 6 ф. єсли маєте пляцу досить, єсли ще маєте плян той щоя заслав вам то тілько вікна дайте далше від бек ґраунд а вдаху вікна і скіні можуть бути такі як я Вам подав вперед. А втім робіть так як Ви думаєте можна так буде ліпше я неє протів Вас чуєте я годжусь на все. Слайди будусь старав замовити як найшвидче питав заадресою тої компаній що виробляє

П

слайди однак ще незнайшов бо всім жидівским New Yorku чорт може розпізнатись однак мушу постаратись щоб Вам се зробити.

Кемеру і ленс прокотрий згадуєте тоя незнаю чи заможу Вам заслати бо немаю грошей вірьте Товариш Ґушул що коло мене досить круто всій порі а ще дотого чорт роботи може знайти. Я ходжу тут постудиях питаю зароботою і трудно достати бо кождий каже що плохий бізнес типер, другі роботи також слек і чорт знає чого лапатись типер. Їхавбим до Вас типер то знов треба більше як дві сотки на подорож і я стою типер як серед води в котру сторону пускатись то сам незнаю. Єслиб я тут роботи недістав то дуже зле буде зімною, я мислив що будем обоє робити сю зиму підробимось і на весну іхати до Вас, також мислив що купю добру кемиру і дещо иньше ату мені невиходить так як я мислив, можливо що знайду яку роботу і буду робив щоби то небуло а навесну аби вже їхав до Вас то мушу купити добру кємеру і ленс однак я буду старався кілько з можу щоб навесну ми оба вже робили (чуєте)

[3]

я ніколи не забуваю про Вас і мислю що ми погодимось на всякій спосіб. Ви робіть там як можети ая звідси мушусь постарати одобру кемеру і ленса. Як Ваш ленс той щосьте купили, можна не зовсім добрий але як Ви писали то мислю що ленс мавби бути досить добрий. Яби їхав типер до Вас але що зтого приїхати звідси до Вас без жадного цента то дуже плохо адруге знов брати гавза всего потрібно ще і дотого зима то най то чорт озьме самий незнаю якби ліпше було. Тут також вже зачинає бути зимно але снігу ще нима. як там коло Вас. Тут в

ON w York Ochlor 27 4 1925. Hobanamui Nobalum Tunger. clory ramicamu na pa go Bou mo or love rosobik biggamii. Becing name ligogroce 6 жедінь, жаны що вас жебуль, жевно ваш absormax weil noncymuch, are mo ning or oygy an comapal wood go Bac orpudy mu na becrey. Fa me podomu nervagit ringe lig-Karu mym b New yorku, ograk nywy старатись изоб тих доложих даробити Napachob. Becien ligonioco dez magnus ny zuk. squak and Spot b columin Sonerum, grasme ak mo 2, zomo non moba punta su tionre mak nodonesia are ak mo kasiym nami gibrama niger zinnoso go kopmy oznem енно тай за тению будей жадити задку 20%. Mignitude jamento Boun opomorpachito 3 namoro becina azodareme mo no n brughet pa gibrury bushoopky, Enogiped mo organ not becare neuman 3 ele gibrusioso mon esc orcerul at Bu house nonominame to свой истом. герезто щоми обод годинось na himeri enocodie.

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we gocume overwo. Environ of gogo o

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Mumel. very zgopoborno Bac fogon z Bamob Communsol Musto en uro R Min comamuni engre ceci 240 €. 124 1 New Jork · Budaraime was mad made mucal grymin pa z namuny genzo bisoms

Fig. 44. Letter from Fred Michaluk to Thomas Gushul, 27 October 1920, Crowsnest Museum and Archives.

New Yorku майже всі студиї в жидівских руках і мислю що через то трудно роботи дістати бо кождий за своїм стоїть, але се ніц страшного колись і нам инакше буде.

Прошу пишіть дещо нового звідтам єсли маєте.

Тож кінчу писати вкладаємо від нас обоїх щиру подяку. і зичим Вам веселого житя з Вашов фамільов.

Михайлюк.

New York, 11 November 1920.

Dear Comrade Gushul!

I have received Your letter for which I thank You. In the letter, You mention that You are starting to fix your studio and You want everything to be alright. Comrade Gushul, if there is a good studio then it is quite good, and we can earn those green ones. If only not to fail, since all of that costs money. Therefore, if you think that everything will roll on smoothly then do everything in the best possible way. Your plan is quite good and I think everything is going to be fine. The plan that I have suggested to You is not bad either. You can have windows 5 to 6 feet away from the background if you have enough space. If You still have the plan that I have sent You then only put the windows farther away from the background, and the windows in the ceiling and wall could be the way I've suggested before. After all, do whatever You consider to be best. I am not against You, do You hear? I agree to everything. I will try to order the slides as soon as possible. I was looking for the address of the company that manufactures

П

the slides, yet have not yet found it, since the devil knows what is located where in this Jewish *New York*. But I have to try to do it for You.

I do not know if I can send You the camera and lens that you mentioned, since I have no money. Trust me, Comrade Gushul, it is quite difficult here at this moment, and on top of that, you cannot find a damned job. I walk around the studios asking for a job, and it is hard to find, since everybody says that the business now is slow. Other jobs are also slack and the devil himself knows what to grab onto now. I would go to You now but again, the trip requires over two hundred dollars, and I am as if floating in the middle of the water and not knowing which way to sail. If I do not get a job here that would be very bad for me. I thought that both of us would work through the coming winter and then, in the spring, we would leave for Your place. I also thought about buying a good camera and some other stuff, but it does not turn out the way I thought. Maybe I will find some job and work at whatever it is, just to be able to leave for Your place in the spring. But I have to buy a good camera and lens. But I will try hard for both of us to work in the spring (I mean it)

[3]

I never forget about You, and I think we will agree about everything. You do what You can over there, and I have to find a good camera and lens here. Maybe the lens You've bought are not quite good. But, from what You wrote, I think the lens should be quite good enough. I would go to You now but what good would it make to come without a cent. It would be very bad. And then I would need to rent a house, buy all kind of stuff, plus it is winter. So, may devil take it. I do not know myself what would be better. It starts to get cold here but no snow yet. How is it around You? Here in *New York*, almost all the studios are owned by the Jews, and I think it is hard to get a job because of that, since everybody supports people of his own kind. But that is not that bad, at some point it will be different for us, too.

Please write some news from over there if You have some.

So, I will stop writing. Sending sincere thanks from the both of us, and we wish You a merry life with Your family.

Michaluk.

Letter 10. 2 February 1921, Fred Michaluk to Thomas Gushul

New York 2го Лютого 1921

Дорогий Тов[аришу] Ґушул

Даруйте щом так зпізнив зсвоєм писанєм, друге знов неміг дістати то щом потребував. Товариш Ґушул можливо що мети злі на мене черезто що акурат неміг то купити що Ви бажали. Я купив кемиру 8x10 котра добра для студиї а також на отсайд, значить про всяку роботу. Ленс досеї кемири купив $6\frac{1}{2}$ x $8\frac{1}{2}$ Bausch Lomb Tessar I с F 4:5. Ленса 8x10 неміг купити через то що нема їх на маркеті. Я писав до Рочестер до фекторі

3 (sic)

то мав мене стояти \$147.50 ц. Я тут обходив майже усі склади котрі тримають фотографічні річи і неміг дістати сих ленсів. Також купив пекард шатер до ленса і икстра (sic) ленс борд. усе мене коштує разом з кемиров \$202.12 сентів.

Єсли я приїду до Вас то більше поговорим провсе, однак пишу Вам вірну правду що 8х10 ленса неміг дістати (чуєте) Я звідси виїду у пятницю на 4[™] лютого. Низнаю як мені поведесь в дорозї бо досить далеко.

[4]

Товариш Ґушул в разі єслиб я мав який тробел на граници так я подаюсь навас що Ви мій патнер і маємо оба пропорти до спілки¹¹⁹, то абисте знали як маєтесь за стосувати, бо як я тут перевідуюсь то незовсім перепускают на граници але я буду якось крутив. Більше непишу мислю що будем вкупі невдовзі.

Тож до Побаченя з Вами і Вашов фамілиьов. Михайлюк.

Я вжеби давно був виїхав однак неміг бо мислив що дістану ленса про який Ви писали. (чуєте. то ж негнівайтесь.

New York, 2 February 1921

Dear Comrade Gushul,

Forgive me for such a delayed reply. Again I could not get what I needed. Comrade Gushul, maybe You are going to be angry, since I could not buy precisely what You wanted. I have purchased a camera 8x10 which is good for both inside a studio and outside, i.e., for every kind of job. I've bought a 6½ x 8½ Bausch Lomb Tessar I c F 4:5 lens for this camera. I could not buy the 8x10 lens, since those are not on the market. I wrote to Rochester to the factory 3 (sic)

so it would cost me \$147 and 50 cents. I walked around almost all the warehouses storing the photographic appliances, and I could not find those lenses. I have also purchased the Packard Shutter for the lens and an extra lens board. All of that, together with the camera, cost me \$202 and 12 cents.

If I come to You then we will discuss everything at length, yet I am writing You the truth—I could not find the 8x10 lens anywhere (I assure you). I will leave here on Friday, the 4th of February. I do not know how good the trip is going to be, since it is quite far.

[4]

Comrade Gushul, in case I will have some trouble at the border, I reference You as my partner, and

¹¹⁹ Common property.

we have common property. So that You would know what to say, since I hear that they do not let many people cross the border. But I will try to somehow manage that. I do not write at length, for I believe we will be together soon.

So, till the meeting with You and Your family.

Michaluk.

I would leave long time ago but I could not, since I hoped to find the lens You wrote about (yes; so, do not get mad).

Letter 11. 13 February 1921, Fred Michaluk to Thomas Gushul

{envelope}

F. Michaluk 240 E. 124 St.

New York.

Thomas Gushul Esq.

Coleman Alta

P.O. Box 209

Canada.

{stamp}

New York, NY, 13 February 1921

{stamp on the back of the envelope}
Coleman, Alta, 18 February 1921

New York 13го Лютого. 1921

Дорогий Товаришу Ґушул.

Лист котрий пишу до Вас то майже зплачем. Така вже мені доля судилась як бідив поперед так треба і надалі бо иншої ради трудно надіятись. Я всій порі так якби збожеволів, стратив всі центи які лиш мав і заліз вдовги по шию і роби що хоч босе фрій-контрі Товариш Ґушул я тепер в такє попавсь що трудно вилізти

2

гризота між нами обоїма і ще більше таких кавалків що мені вже нічого немиле. Як звідси виїздив то кождий говорив щоб неїхати, однак я незвертав уваги на то тілько їхав так до Вас як ми колись переписувались про нашу будуччину. Однак мої погляди типер такі і не навість що лутше не жити мені більше бо мої думки завили мене в такє що тілько в голові шумить

3

як в якім кітлі. Оженивсь розтратив жоночі гроші ще дотого поназичував заліз в пропасть і тілько сварка і не навість всій порі між нами. приходилось нам обоїм розійтись бо нім був нежонатий ріжні бесіди переходили між нами а типер так ся нестало як ся говорило тоя оставсь як який волуцюга і зрадник Ніхто мене більше не навидить тілько ріжні думки пересувають ся як той

4

туман осінної пори. Перед моїм виїздом був тут в Канадийскім офісі питав чи не потрібно мені песпорт то говорили мені що переїду без жадного клопоту, однак так ся не стало. Недалеко границі та драпуга¹²⁰ Канадийска зачав питатись куди обоє їдем, так я сказав що їду до Канади

¹²⁰ Драпуга—дерій, визискувач.

що маю свої пропорти¹²¹ разом звами і через то повертаюсь Також казав чого їхав до Америки і як надовго

5

однак нічого непомагало. Хотїв щоб показати сьвідцтво (sic) як я дістався до Америки чия платив текс як переходив через границю і ще більше таких кавалків. Я говорив єму щом переїздив у віндсор коло детроїт платив текс 8 долярів однак згубив ті папері значить посьвідку щоя платив текс то також ніц не помагало. Він мені говорив щоя нігди неможу дістатись б

до Канади потий не виберу паспорт з Отави хотьби замене незнати хто ґарантував то се мені ніц непоможе. Я мусівби був чикати най менше три тижні на песпорт і то незнаю чи мігби був дістатись Як приїхав до Emerson¹²² так з кинув наші куфри і сказав злізти з трену за вів нас за ґрати а другий день рано

7

назад заграницю, томи обоє просили щоб лишив нас хоть на оден день щобя міг дещо довідатись від Вас то він сказав що можемо бути оден день абільше ні. Вітак я дав таліґраму до Вас і другий день рано отримав відповідь від Вас а також з Michel від Dixona і до него була також то він переглянув і сказав що се все пусте і я мусів виїхати. Яби був остався заграницею однак мав коротко грошей

8

а друге він казав мені виразно що нас трудно буде дістати. Також він заплатив тикета нам до сент-паул 123 а з сенд-паул (sic) мусів назад платити до New Yorku, єслиб я був лишився ще на оден день так я неміг дістати тикіт до сент паул мусівби був платити самий, а єслиб був платив самий то за мало грошей мав і через то боявся брати ченц 124

9

бо треба було описати всю свою історию як я дістався до Америкі і т.д. ще міг ся дістати до криміналу на кілька місяців через то що знаєте як я переходив через границю. Як чоловік у біді то кождий чорт лізе на карк так само зімною було. Типер про Канаду треба буде забути бо нимаю ані цента і довгів кілько що трудно оплатитись

10

Як з сего я маю вилізти то сам низнаю бо часи настали прикрі ще дотого жонатий і прийдесь чорнобідити. Я щастя маю що тикєта небрав аж до Колман бо бувби пропав на віки, а тілько платив до Вініпеґу, то коштувало мене 137.84 цен[ти] а з Сенд-Паул до New Yorku 101.40 центів. Мусів голодом їхати бо грошей не осталось ані цента

11

Мене ся їзда коштує поверх 250 долярів. Стоф фотогр[а]фічний 202 доляри і втаке я ся попав що лиш думаю що зімною має бути далі і як ті довги повіддавати. Друге знов ані хати ані роботи ані грошей хоть бери та завітися на яке без головя. Знаю що і Ви стратили грошей надармо але що робити то моя голова вже сива стає і чорт знає як сю біду обійти.

12

До Канади ніяк негодин по вернутись бо брак фінансу друге знов жінка більше не поїде бо кождий говорить що там біда а тут найліпше і такє. Можливо що бувбися троха доробив і мавби був житя инакше а типер треба підлягати кождому чортови як і поперед. Стратив всі свої гроші на школу типер коби міг дістати хоть миски мити де вякім рестеранті бо иншої ради нима.

13

Єсли будети з Андрійчуком то перечитайте єму сей лист як зімною є типер, він також буде ся

¹²¹ Property.

¹²² The Pembina–Emerson Border Crossing is a United States-Canada port of entry. Emerson is a Canadian community in south-central Manitoba.

¹²³ St Paul, Minnesota, USA.

¹²⁴ Chance.

журив боя досить грошей єму винен. Також винен сотку долярів М. Андрійцевому і низнаю де він типер є бо писав до мене що їде до Росиї. Можливо що писав листа до Вас з Детроіт бо я писав ще минувшого місяця що їду до Вас і там моя буде стала адреса. Еслиб виїхав до Росиї 14

то мав виїхати на 28го січня. Прошу Вас товариш Ґушул на пишіть дещо від себе і дещо зарадьте мене боя в злім положеню і дуже мені прикро. бо бачте на якій я дорозі остався.

Тепер мушу глядіти якої роботи щоб себе продати бо прийдесь

[15]

здихати без часу всій демократичній країні. Єслиб був нікому сьвіт не завязав то чорт би мене брав я вже не стою засобою, але знаєте що чоловік неє самітний і треба старатись бо годі далі бурлаком жити.

Прошу пишіть дещо відсеби щоб хоть трохи став веселійший бо приятелів

немаю так богато щоб міг ся де чого ліпшого зарадити.

Тож кінчу сей лист і очікую як найборше де що до від[а]тись від Вас.

Ми обоє зичим Вам всім ліпшого поводженя ніж ми маєм типер обоє. Гаразд.

Михайлюк.

New York 13 February 1921

Dear Comrade Gushul,

I am writing this letter to You almost in tears. Such is my destiny that I used to be poor and so will be henceforth, and there is no hope for something good. It is as if I ran mad nowadays; I've spent every cent I had, and got into the debts up to my neck, and do what you wish, since it is a free country. Comrade Gushul, I am currently in such a bad place that it is hard to climb out of it.

2

The two of us are fighting, and there are more things like that, and nothing is dear to me anymore. When I left here, everybody told me not to go, yet I did not listen to that, I was just heading to You like we wrote to each other about our future. Yet my current views are such and hatred is so powerful that it is better for me not to live any longer, since my thoughts have brought me into such a state that there is only noise in my head

3

like inside a kettle. I got married, spent all my wife's money, plus I borrowed a lot, got into an abyss, and now we only fight and there is hatred between us. We had to separate; when I was not yet married we used to discuss various topics, and now it is different than how I described it. So I ended up as if some kind of vagrant and traitor. Nobody loves me anymore, just various thoughts move around in my head like

4

a fog in the fall. Before my departure, I went to the Canadian office here and asked if I needed a passport. They said that I would cross the border without any problems. Yet it is not what happened. Not far from the border, the Canadian bloodsucker started asking both of us where we were heading. I said that I was going to Canada, that I have my properties together with you, and that's why I am returning. I also said why I came to America and for how long,

5

yet nothing helped. He wanted to see the proof of how I've entered America, if I paid a duty when crossing the border, and more documents like that. I told him that I crossed the border in Windsor, near Detroit, and paid a duty of eight dollars, but I've lost those papers, i.e. the proof that I paid the duty. But none of that helped. He told me that I would not be able to get into

6

Canada till I get a passport from Ottawa, regardless of who would be my guarantor, nothing would

help me. I would have to wait for at least three weeks for the passport, and I do not know if I would even have gotten it. When we arrived to *Emerson* he threw our luggage off and told us to get off the train, and put us behind bars, and the next morning we would have to go back

7

across the border. We both begged him to let us stay for at least a day, so that I could find out something from You. He said that we could stay for one day but no longer. So, I sent a telegram to You, and the next morning I got Your reply, as well as *Dixon's* from *Michel*. I sent a telegram to him, too. He looked at telegrams and said that it was all irrelevant, and I had to get out. If I would have stayed across the border, I just did not have enough money.

8

Besides, he clearly told me that it would be hard to get us out. He also paid for our ticket to Saint Paul, and I then had to pay from Saint Paul back to *New York*. If I would have stayed for one more day then I would not get a paid ticket to Saint Paul, and would have had to pay for it myself. And if I would have paid for it myself then I would not have enough money, and because of that I did not want to take a chance,

9

since I had to describe all my story of how I got to America and such. I could even get behind the bars for several months for, you know, how I crossed the border. When a man is in trouble then every little devil jumps on his back. That's exactly how it was with me. Now I have to forget about Canada, since I do not have a cent but so many debts that it is hard to pay them off.

10

I do not know how I should get out of this, since the times are bad now, plus I am a married man, so there is deep misfortune ahead. I am lucky that I did not buy a ticket all the way to Coleman, for then I would just have perished. I only paid for a ticket to Winnipeg, and that cost me \$137 and 84 cents. And from Saint Paul to *New York* cost me \$101 and 40 cents. I had to starve on my way, since there was not a cent left

11

Those trips cost me over 250 dollars. The photographic stuff cost 202 dollars. And I've gotten myself into such a situation that I don't know what I am going to do, and how to pay off those debts. Then again, I have neither a house, nor a job, nor money, all that is left is to take my life. I know that You also lost money for nothing, but what can be done? My hair is turning grey thinking about it and the devil knows how to overcome such a calamity.

12

There is no way I can return to Canada, since I have no money. Then again, my wife will not go with me again, since everybody says that it is bad over there, and it is the best to stay over here, and such. Maybe I would have earned a bit and had a different life but now I have to bow to each devil just like it used to be. I have spent all my money for the photography school, and now I would like to find a job as low as washing plates in a restaurant, for there is no other option left.

13

If you meet Andreichuk then read him my letter to let him know how I am doing now. He will also be sad, since I owe him a lot of money. I also owe a hundred dollars to M. Andriitsev, and I do not know where he is now, since he wrote to me that he was leaving for Russia. Maybe he wrote to You from Detroit, since I wrote to him last month that I was going to You and that will be my permanent address. If he left for Russia

14

then he was to leave on the 28th of January. Please, Comrade Gushul, write something about Yourself and also advise me something, since I am in a bad situation and I feel bad, and You see what road I am left on.

Now I have to look for some job to sell myself, otherwise I will have to

[15]

perish before my time in this democratic country. Would I not have married then damn it, I do not

care about myself. But you know, a man is not alone, and I need to do my best, since I can't keep living like a beggar.

Please write something about yourself so that it would cheer me up, for [16]

I do not have many friends who could advise me something better.

So, I will finish this letter and wait for some news from You as soon as possible.

We both wish to all of You a better life than we both are having now. All the best.

Michaluk.

Letter 12. 27 April 1921, Departament of Immigration to Fred Michaluk

(Fig. 45)

Department of Immigration and Colonization Ellis Island, New York, April 27, 1921

Sir:-

Referring to your call at this office relative to the rejection of yourself and wife at the International Boundary at Emerson, Manitoba, en route to your former home in Michel, BC, I beg to advise that this office is in receipt of advice from the Commissioner of Immigration and Colonization at Ottawa, Canada, to the effect that your appeal for entry to the Dominion has been dismissed, and, that in consequence, you will not be allowed to enter Canada.

Your obedient servant, W.H. Sullivan Canadian Immigration Officer.

Fred. Michaluk, Esq., 240 East 124th Street, New York, N.Y.

Letter 13. 23 November 1921, Fred Michaluk to Thomas Gushul

{envelope}

F. Michaluk

403 E 5 St

New York City

Thos Gushul Esq.

Coleman Alta

P.O. Box 209

Canada

{stamp}

Medison, NY, 25 November 1921

New York

Now. 23th (sic) 1921

Дорогий Товаришу Гушул!!!

За отриманий лист Від Вас дякую Що до мої їзди до Вас тоя боюсь через то що се досить великий кошт ї через то я питав Вас чи Ви будети відповідальні за то все що пишете в своїх

Kindly do not write of more than one subject in any one letter.

In your reply refer to No

Department of Immigration and Colonization

Ellis Island, Atu Dork, APTIL 27, 1921

Sir :-

Referring to your call at this office relative to the rejection of yourself and wife at the International Boundary at Emerson, Manitoba, en route to your former home at Michel, B. C., I beg to advise that this office is in receipt of advice from the Commissioner of Immigration and Colonization at Ottawa, Canada, to the effect that your appeal for entry to the Dominion has been dismissed, and, that in consequence, you will not be allowed to enter Canada.

Your obedient servant,

Canadian Immigration Officer.

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Fred. Michaluk, Esq. 240 hast 124th Street, New York, N. Y.

Fig. 45. Notification from the Department of Immigration and Colonization to Fred Michaluk, 27 April 1921, Crowsnest Museum and Archives.

листах. Вразі мого приїзду до Вас я небажаю від Вас посади але тілько хочу щоб ми спільно працювали і щоб згода була між нами Друге знов я незнаю яка згода буде між нами з Вашою студиьов, бо як ми будем спільниками то мусить бути якийсь договір і над сим. Трете Ви бажаєте щоб ми вам дали віднас товариске слово. Я сам незнаю якеб вам слово дати хиба тілько Ви хочете знати чия допевни приїду доВас.

2

Я готовий їхати до Вас єсли Ви є відвічальні зато все що пишете до мене (чуєте)

А вразі є[с]ли я вже буду коло Вас а так неє як Ви пишете, чи Ви обовязуєтесь мені з вернути мої кошта? Тож я бажаю від Вас щоб Ви описали мені який договір мавби бути між нами у справі нашої патнерки. і які ескпенса малиб іти між нас двох? Знов єсли ми будем патнерами я хочу щоб студия належала до нас обох, також всі наші експенса і заробок мав би іти на половину.

Тож прошу дайте перше від себи якийсь договір і слово а я вже звідси постараюсь овсе що лиш з можу

(чуєте)

3

Єсли Ви ϵ так переконані що роботи незабракне нам то нима страху щоб бізнес ішов плохо. Прошу пришліть (фотог) з студиї і можна маєте фотографію з міста Блей-мор моя жінка цікава бачити.

Янині не робю і хочу і ти з жінкою на фотографію то як буде вироблена зашлю до Вас. Минувшої неділі булисьмо на весілю і також на фотографії весіля досить хорошо відбулось. Ви бачайте що так з пізнив з Відписом. Петро Василишин писав до мене що хоче їхати до школи і питав мене про інформациї, однак я недумаю щоб єму се надобре вийшло босе буде коштувати богато гроша але як хоче щастя траювати то нехай спробує.

[4]

Більше не пишу зобачу як Ви за дивляєтесь на се все що тут на малював.

Прошу оскорий відпис Майтесь гаразд. Михайлюк.

New York 23 November 1921

Dear Comrade Gushul!!!

Thank You for the letter I've received. As far as my move to You is concerned, I fear it because it is quite expensive. That's why I asked You whether You would be liable for everything You wrote in Your letters. In case I come to You, I do not want any position from You. I only want us to work together and I want an accord to be between us. Secondly, I do not know what kind of an accord is going to be between us regarding Your studio, since if we are partners then there must be some sort of an agreement about it. Thirdly, You would like us to give You our word of honour. I myself do not know what kind of a word to give to You, unless You would like to know for sure that I would come to You.

2

I am ready to go to You if You are liable for everything that You write to me about (do You hear me?). And in case I am already at Your place but things are not the way You wrote, then will You be responsible to return my money? So, I would like You to describe me what kind of an agreement there should be between us regarding out partnership, and how would the expenses be shared between us? Again, if we are partners then I would like the studio to belong to both of us; by the same token, all our expenses and earnings should be divided in half.

So, please, first give me some kind of agreement and your word, and I will then try to do here all

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that I can
(I mean it).
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If You are so sure that there is enough work for us then there is no fear that the business will go sour. Please send me the photograph of the studio and if You have one, send a photograph of the Blairmore city. My wife would like to see them.

I am not working today, and I would like to go to take a photograph of me and my wife. When it is done I will send one to You. Last week we were at a wedding, as well as at the wedding photograph. The wedding was quite nice. Forgive me for such a delayed reply. Petro Vasylyshyn wrote to me that he would like to go to the school, and he asked me for information. I, however, do not think that it would work out for him, since it costs a lot of money. But if he wants to try his luck, let him do it.

[4]

I will not write more. I will see how You look at everything that I sketched out here.

Please reply soon. Stay well. Michaluk.

Letter 14. 27 February 1922, Fred Michaluk to Thomas Gushul

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{envelope}
F. Michaluk
403 E. 5 St.
New York City
Thos Gushul Esq.
Coleman Alta
P.O. Box 209
Canada
{stamp}
Medison, NY, 1 March 1922
```

New York 27^{го} лютого 1922

Дорогий тов[аришу] Гушул

На Ваш попередній лист недав жадної відповіді анині отримав другий то разом відписую обидва Нас обоїх біда найшла себто (флу) і ніяк позбутись, Я відлежав шось два тижні і позбув ся а жінка хора ще і до сеї пори і мені голова стала як решето. Тепер трохи жінці лекше, однак ще мусить сідіти в ліжку щоб знов не погіршилось. Тож прошу не гніватись боя був сам несвій через сих пару тижнів. яб був рад дати відповідь як найскорше але не міг. Тую копію я переглянув і можливо що дещо буде з сего зобачемо, однак я сю копію затримаю як ви пригадали. Если отримаю відповідь то повідомлю Вас як найскорше.

2

Нового не маю що так писати до Вас хиба дещо перед видіздом. Друге коби страйку великого не було, бо єслиб страйк потримав через кілька місяців то може плохо бути і знами.

Тут в Америці то здаєсь що буде не мало різні між робітниками і властителями майнів сеї весни тож зобачем, коби бідні майнері побідили свого ворога то булоб досить здало і про нас.

Я вже не працюю через кілька тижнів і богато шусток 125 розходить ся але всіо байка коби мені жінка подужала бо се в мене перше від усь[o]го. Нам досить зле повелось через сих кілька тижнів я сподівався що хоть ще кілька десяток з роблю асе зготових розходить ся.

3

Що до помешканя то не потрібуєте старатись боя акурат незнаю чими обоє разом поїдемо я напишу перед моєм видїздом, а хоть бисмо обидвоє виєхали разом то можна перебути пару днів і в готели се ніц страшного За пес-портом я тут був минувшого року на канадийськім амійґришін офісі а відповідь яку я отримав то заслав до Вас в тій відповіди було що неможливо мені вступ до Канади, сю відповідь я дістав з емійґрийшин офісу яку они дістали з Отави я чекав на відповідь 6 тижнів потім повідомили мене з офісу що неможливо мені їхати, відтак ту копію я заслав до Вас.

[4]

(Докінченя)

Зобачем що з сего буде що Ви були в Діксона.

В разі єсли позволіня не прийде мені то мушу остатись тут і глядіти що небудь тут бо так як поперед їхав більше нехочу. Але я сподіюсь що песпорт достанесь. Коби лиш нам бізнес наш не провалився, бо в разі щоб зле повелось то з мої сторони дуже плохоб було Вам инакше там на місци ніж мені їхати звідси до Вас, ми тут обидвоє працюєм і цент до цента і все є пару долярів а там перейди на мени самого і знов великий кошт яб поніс. але я не мислю щоб Ви хотіли мене в біду завести, бо нічого злого між нами ніколи не було, тож єсли прийде (пес¹²⁶) так я готов виїхати до Вас (чуєте).

Так до побаченя не вдовзі. Гаразд. Михайлюк.

New York 27 February 1922

Dear Comrade Gushul,

I did not reply to your first letter, and now I got the second one, so I am replying to both of them. We both were struck by a misfortune (i.e. flu) and we still can't get rid of it. I was in bed for about two weeks, and the wife is still sick; and my head still feels like a sieve. Now my wife feels a little better but she still has to sit in bed in order for it not to get worse. So, please don't be angry, for I wasn't myself over those two weeks. I would have been happy to reply earlier but I could not. I've looked through that copy and possibly something will come of it, we will see, but I will keep this copy as you said. If I get a reply I will let you know immediately.

2

I don't have anything new to write about, maybe I'll write something before my departure. Also, hopefully there will be no big strike, for if a strike lasts for several months, it could be bad for us too. It looks like here in America there will be a lot of clashes between workers and mine owners this spring, we'll see. If only the poor miners could win over their enemy that would be quite good for us too. I've not been working for several weeks already and am spending lots of coin but all that is not important—if only my wife would get better, that's my priority. We've been doing quite poorly the past several weeks; I hoped to earn several ten dollar bills, instead we are using up our savings.

3

As far as the housing is concerned, don't bother, for I don't know if we both are going to leave. I will write about it before my departure. Even if we both leave we can stay in a hotel for a couple of days, no problem. Regarding the passport, last year I went to the Canadian Immigration Office and

¹²⁵ Шустка—six-crown Austrian currency; here— money, small coins.

¹²⁶ Passport.

I sent you the reply I've gotten. That reply said that I am not allowed into Canada. I got this reply from the Immigration Office, and they got it from Ottawa. I waited for the reply for 6 weeks, and then the Office said that I cannot enter, and I sent to you that copy.

[4]

(The ending)

We'll see what results from your visit to Dixon.

In case my permit does not arrive, I have to stay here and look for something here, for I do not want to go like before. But I hope to receive a passport. If only our business doesn't collapse because in this case it would be very bad for me. It's easier for you to stay there than for me to come to you. We both work here and make a couple of dollars by saving one cent after another. But there I would work alone and there would be big expenses. But I don't believe that you want to get me into trouble. If a passport comes I am ready to leave for your place (I mean it).

So, see you soon. All the best. Michaluk.

Letter 15. 25 May 1923, Fred Michaluk to Thomas Gushul

Ню Йорк 25^{го} Мая 1923.

Дорогий Товариш Ґушул –

За лист отриманий від Вас дякую.

Про попередні арґументи більше не згадаю як конець то нехай (най богу буде приємно) Пригадуєте у Вашім листі що хтось представив Вас мені в поганім сьвїтлі. Се неє правдиве т[овариш] Ґушул, бо жадних таких листів ні відкого не отримував. Кажете що досить за нятя маєте в своєм фотографічнім занякю єсли так то увихайтесь се жнива Ваші. На другий рїк задумуєте виїхати до Рад[янських] Республик, досить здало, я також про се думаю за вжди як бито вирватись з відси

Ш

але все так день за днем переходит ще всій благолубній (гамереці)

Чи акурат могли-бим заниматись сим ремеслом на Україні то незнаю але страху я нимаю хотьби ціп або коса дорук допалась а навіть піка з шуфлев то ніц страшного до сего пролєтар з мальнькости на учений.

Питаєте мене що часом можем злучитись на там тім боці

Вел єслиб так ся стало тояб дуже радо приняв Ваше пророцтво ну-ну нехай се станесь правдою.

Що домоїх фотографій тоя не занимаюсь ними, одно що мала платня а друге що тут в Ню Йорку майже всьо в жидівскіх руках, трете я вже дещо призабув але однак я недумаю се назавжди так залишити, те щоя дещо забув то єсли спендую на те (пять десять долярів) і оден місяць часу і все буду знав як перше

[3]

Я акурат незабув щобим в цалім неміг виконати те що потрібно до фотографій але гладко з першу непіде міні бо вже три літа як сим незанимавсь. Тепер я занимаюсь роботов в рестеранті (і платня незгірша) тижнево заробляю \$30 і віхт а по студиях платят від \$18 до 25 і зсего мусите жити значить борт маєте купити для себе то мало що остаєсь.

Можливо пізнійше дістанем деякі більші інформациї з там того боку то чомуб ми мали оставатись на чужині хоть знаєм що гараздів бог має на тім боці але прибідуєм з пару літ і можем сподіватись дещо ліпшого в будуччині, а тут я стратив всю надію. на всьо.

Назакінченя здоровлю сердечно Вас разом [3] ріднею Вашою.

Ф. Михайлюк.

[4]

Поздоровіть від нас т[овариша] Гуцуляка Мислю що наукучилось єму, оставсь майже самий лиш мрії по перед очи часом мигнуть як пригадаєсь минувщину.

P.S.

Забув ще одно, в кого там берете лекциї пинтованя що до пинтованя то неє так кяжкє але спершу то все нейде так як чоловік бажавби. зашліть мені де яку знимку з Вашого пинтованя. єсли маєте.

New York, 25 May 1923.

Dear Comrade Gushul:

Thank You for Your letter.

I will not mention the previous arguments any more: if that is it then let it be so (may it be pleasing for god). You mention in Your letter that someone presented You to me in a bad light. This is not true, comrade Gushul, since I have never received such letters from anyone. You are saying that you have enough work in your photography business. If that is so, then work hard, that is Your harvest. You plan to leave for the Soviet Republics next year. Very nice. I, too, always think about how to break away from here,

Ш

but day after day still passes in this blessed America.

I do not know if we could go in this trade in Ukraine but I have no fear: be it a flail or scythe, or even a pick and shovel in the hands of a Proletarian, it is not a problem, for he is used to that since his early age.

You ask me if we could possibly unite on the other side of the ocean.

Well, if that would happen I would be very happy to accept Your prophecy. My-my, let it come true. As far as my photographs are concerned, I do not do them. First of all, the pay is low. Second of all, almost everything in New York is in Jewish hands. Third of all, I have already forgotten certain things a bit. Yet I do not plan to leave it like that forever. Even if I forgot things, I will spend money on that (five-ten dollars) and one month and I will know everything just like I used to before.

[3]

It is not that I completely forgot and could not do what is necessary with the photographs but it would not go smoothly right off the bat, since it's been three years already that I do not practice. I now work in a restaurant (and the pay is not bad): I make \$30 and board weekly, and the studios pay from \$18 to \$25. And one has to live on that, and buy one's own food, so little is left.

Maybe we will get some information from the other side of the ocean later on. Then why would we stay in a foreign country while knowing that god has goodness over that side. We might suffer for a couple of years and then can hope for something better in the future. And here I have lost my hope for everything.

At the end I cordially wish health to You and Your family.

F. Michaluk.

[4]

Say hello to comrade Huculak from us. I guess he is fed up with everything. He is left almost alone; only dreams sway before his eyes when he recalls the past.

P.S.

I forgot one more thing, who teaches you painting? Regarding painting, it is not that hard, but it does not go as one would like to in the beginning. Send me a picture of Your painting if You have one.

Letter 16. 13 February 1924, Fred Michaluk to Thomas Gushul

```
{envelope}
    F. Michaluk
    403 E. 5 St
    New York City.
    Thos. Gushul. Esq.
    Coleman, Alta.
    P.O. Box 209
    Canada.
{stamp}
    Medison, NY, 13 February 1924
```

Ню-Йорк 13го Лютого 1924.

Дорогий Товаришу Ґушул—!

Ваші листи отримав за котрі дякую однак прошу негніватись що запізнивсь з відписом бо вільного часу нимаю з причини що довгі години працюю через сих пару місяців а навіть і в неділю мушу робити. Від Андрійчука з України мав лист то пише що отримав шіфкарту і приїде до Канади, також пише що довідався про Андрійцевого де перибуває на Українї і пише що Андрійців оженивсь і має вже сина, але пише що також незовсім добре поводить ся єму. До Андріїчука заслав я кілька долярів через банк то пише що не отримав також засилав гроші з сего банку до своїх родичів то пишуть що отримали незнаю що є.

То що пишуть з України наші Товариші то не знати кому вірити одні пишуть що така біда що вітримати немож, другі пишуть дописі в часописах що неправда і критикують тих котрі нарікають що виїхали на Україну і незнати кому вірити.

Всякої біди ϵ ще досить на Україні і Росиї тосе можем знати самі, але нарікати і накидатись направительство то нема чого, нині цілий світ робітничий звернув

[2]

свої очи в сторону Росийского правительства і трудно придставити собі щоб там така неправда діялась як описують декотрі з товаришів.

Правда тих мушенників ϵ ще досить що з вовка перекинулись в барана і горнуть по своїй стороні, але заякийсь час і то ся знищит і тогді буде инакше.

Я все мислю що ті товариші також зле роблять що хотят вертатись з України, до Канади і Америки, тут всих краях також робітник псяче житя має і лутшеб задертатись (sic) ще пару літ там де знаходит ся типер, адруге кождий має наплечах голову себто диктатора свого і справа зкінчена.

Дорогий т[оваришу] Ґушул на Вашу пропозицию негоджусь себто на пінтованя, через то що я немаю вільного часу до сеї роботи. Я постановив робити до весни сю роботу яку маю всій порі, хоть довгі години але типер зима так мусит ся терпіти. На весну буду глядів зачим иншим, тут в Ню-Йорку або виїду до Детроїт, а типер сиджу тихо і чекаю щоб то вже весна прийшла. Єслиб дещо спеціяльного мені трафилось так напишу до Вас. Сет фарбів я постараюсь Вам дістати.

Остаюсь з Товариских *(sic)* Привітом Ф. Михайлюк

{later notes in pencil on the envelope}
L. 31-511

{on the back of the envelope in pencil}
City Cigar Store Cigarettes tubs
648 Main St.
Winnipeg
C 203 173

Dear Comrade Gushul—!

I have received Your letter for which I thank You but please do not be angry with me for replying so late. I have no spare time, since I've been working long hours for the past two months, and I even have to work on Sundays. I've received a letter from Andriichuk, from Ukraine. He writes that he's got a ship ticket and will come to Canada. He also writes that he found out the whereabouts of Andriitsiv in Ukraine. And he writes that Andriitsiv got married and already has a son, but he also writes that life is not too good for him either. I have sent several dollars to Andriichuk through a bank, and he wrote that he did not receive them. I sent money to my relatives through this bank, and they wrote that they have received it. I do not know how that could be.

Our Comrades write from Ukraine, and one does not know whom to believe: some people write that there is such a misery that it is impossible to bear it; others write articles to the newspapers that it is not true, and they criticize those who complain about moving back to Ukraine. So, I do not know whom to believe. There are still enough problems in Ukraine and Russia. We know that ourselves, but there is no reason to complain and attack the government. Nowadays, the whole world of workers has turned

[2]

its gaze to the Russian government, and it is hard to imagine that there would be such untruth going on over there as some comrades describe.

Although there are still a lot of those cheaters who turned from wolves to sheep while keeping their views, but after some time, that will stop and everything will be different.

I also think that those comrades who would like to come back from Ukraine to Canada and America are making a mistake, since a worker here also has a dog's life. It would be better to stay where they are now for a couple of years longer. But then everybody has a head on his shoulders, i.e. his own dictator, and that's it.

Dear comrade Gushul, I will not accept Your proposition of doing the painting, since I have no spare time for that work. I decided to work till the spring at my current job despite the long hours; but it is winter now, and I have to endure. In the spring, I will be looking for some other job, either here in New York or in Detroit. But now I am sitting quietly and waiting for the spring to come. If I find anything special I will write to You. I will try to find the set of paints for You.

I remain with a Comradely greeting, F. Michaluk

Letter 17. 2 April 1939, Fred Michaluk to Thomas Gushul

```
(Fig. 46)

{envelope}
F. Michaluk.
751. Troy. Ave.
Brooklyn N.Y.
U.S.A.
Mr. Thomas Gushul
P.O. Box 54.
Blairmore. Alta.
Canada.

{stamp}
Brooklyn, NY, 3 April 1939
```

Дорогий Товаришу:

Вашого листа отримав вже кілька тижнів, однак немав часу відписати. з причини що у нас їде велика кампанія юнійна, так що і внеділю небуло вільного часу. Як бачу з Вашого листа то досить заняті з фотографіями також пригадуєте що Ваш син занимаєсь фото-енґрейвінґ, се досить добре, що Ви так зробили.

Коштує кілька сот долярів Вас тож за те Ваш син має літшу (sic) нагоду в будуччині. Пишете щоб купити Вам кемеру. Я глядів в кількох Pawn Shaps (sic) то небуло того що бажаєте, то постараюсь ще де зайти єслиб було то я можу купити.

Однак хочу припімнути що часом можна по печись насих кемерах, я знаю тут оден купив Кодак котрий бере мувіньґ-пікчер заплатив 60 долярів і нічого неварта ленца були підміняні, то 60 долярів пропало

2

Ходив до Pawn Shapy щоб віддав гроші, то отримав відповідь що ніякої ґарантиї Pawn Shap недає за секенд-ганд річи. Тут богато злодійства є ісі всі павн шап знаходят ся в жидівских руках тоя зате спімнув про сей дішефт. Типер пару слів знашого житя в Ню-Йорку.

Що донас тут то житя моє лутше ніж було в Канаді. Тут тов[аришу] Ґушул цілком инакше, зкотрої сторони небравби веселе житя, є де піти що лиш бажаєте можете дістати і ріжні вигоди, комунікация дуже вигідна і недорога за пять центів ідете зодного кінця міста на другий себто яких 15 миль. Помешканя ріжні дорогі і дешеві, є помешканя що чотири руми коштує місячне 20 долярів іє що коштує сто ібільше Ми платимо 40 долярів місячне тілько два руми, а чотири руми коштує 80 долярів елевийтор апартмент. для мої фамілиї досить місця є

3

Що допоживи тут в ню-йорку, ϵ що хочете без ріжниці зима або літо ріжний фрут веджітейбл завше ϵ . Через сей увесь депрейшін 127 я працюю так що ніякої біди незазнав ані оден день і платня досить добра. Я біди немав і в Канаді однак житя Канадийске а головно майнерскє дуже зле, ніколи нехотівби такого житя. Що до Вашого житя то инакше тілько що нема так де вийти але майнера житя зовсім не житя. Наше риболовство ніколи немож забути Тов[аришу] Ґушул я майже всі фотографії маю вашого виробу і також ϵ та знимка як томи рибу лапали. Товариське наше житя трудно забути завжди ϵ якісь спомини з минувшини. Типер чим день чоловік старієсь інакше дума ϵ часи гірші настали і якій конець сему буде ніхто не зна ϵ . Також жена і дочка моя здорові і все харашо так що нема поки що нарікати до сеї пори [4]

Радби бачити вас з фамілиьов можливо маєте фотографію то прошу зашліть щоб побачити Вашого сина і дочку разом з Вами обидвома а колись зашлю свою Вам. Приїдьте на Worlds Fair до Ню-Йорка скоро маєте досить зелених—єщо бачити Росия має найбійльший Павіліьн (sic) зі свсіх европейскіх держав. також всі републикі Совєтскі такі будуть приставлині на Worlds Fair.

Заславбим з пару чисел Moskow *(sic)* News дуже інтересна часопись в англійскій мові але незнаю чи Канадійскі власти перепустят.

Кінчу пару слів до Вас і зичим від нас Всего крашчого Вам в житю разом з Вашою рідньою. Михалюки.

Brooklyn, 2 April 1939.

Dear Comrade:

I have received Your letter several weeks ago, yet I did not have time to reply for the reason that we've been having a big union campaign, so I did not have spare time even on Sundays. As I see

¹²⁷ The Great Depression was a severe worldwide economic crisis that began in the United States and took place mostly during the 1930s.

Brooklyn af 2 nd 1939. Dopomie Subspung. Brusso meme omfunal bal Kiraka munchit, og rak renal racy bignuesmer. 3 mpururu mo yrac ige blinka Kramarin toriusa, mak uso i bregino redgio bironoso гасу. Гак багу з Вишого шета то досить занкти з оротограсріми makon npuraggeme up Hum cure Janune Eco opomo- entpentisad, ce gocumo geopl, mp Bu mak zpoduru. Hommy E kinska com govafit Bac more za me Bam cun nar nimenz reargy & oggyrnesi: Tumeme was kynumu Ban kenepy. & Engil b Kinokox Lawn Thops mo kedy no more up Samaeme, mo nocoma futoca me ge zanime samo dyers mon noncy by nume. Ognak xory njuninsy. mu mo racon nomera no nerver reacux Kenefax, a gruso mym ogen kymil-Kogak komput defe nylinge-nikrep januamul 60 go inpile i suro so selapma renna og ni nig mineroni, mo 60 go rugil n pone 10

Lagolu darumu bac z cpa mimool nomembo nat me apomorpactito monformy zam ims mod noslamme, Bamoro cura i gorly pazon z Bame, vedagloma a komes zam no alsoto Ban. Hjurigeme na Worlds Fair go Ho-rispka ekopo marme gornous zereaux- Emo dara me Josus na E raidinismue Malinise zi abrix eloponeciekix gepmale, makone lei penysmeli lolemoki oggyny npuemabuni na Worlds Fair. Zaknaldun znafy mice i Maskow evens zynce inmepeona racomes baccinickin moli and regnoso ru Kanaguirke haracmu nefengamenn. Divery nafy anil go How i zurun big war 13 cero Khamroro Ban No okumso pazon z Bamoso Jugrisoro. Muxunoku

Fig. 46. Letter from Fred Michaluk to Thomas Gushul, 2 April 1939, Crowsnest Museum and Archives.

from Your letter, You've been quite busy with photographs. You also mentioned that Your son does photo-engraving—that's quite good that You've done it that way.

It cost You several hundred dollars but now Your son has better prospects for the future. You asked me to buy You a camera. I looked for it in several *Pawn Shops* and they did not have what You want. I will try to go to several other places, and if I find it I can buy it.

I want, however, to warn You that one can get screwed with those cameras. I know a person here who has bought a Kodak that filmed moving pictures. He has paid 60 dollars for it, and it was a waste, since the lenses were switched. So, he has lost 60 dollars.

2

He went to the Pawn Shop to get his money back, and was told that the *Pawn Shop* did not give any guarantees for the second-hand things. There is a lot of thieving happening here, and all those pawn shops are in Jewish hands. So, I am mentioning about such a business. Now a couple of words about our life in New York.

As far as we are concerned, my life here is better than it used to be in Canada. Comrade Gushul, it is entirely different here; it's a merry life from any point of view. You can go out anywhere you want; you can get various benefits; transportation is very good and inexpensive: you can cross the whole city, i.e. some 15 miles, for just five cents. There are various apartments, both expensive and cheap. There are four room apartments that cost 20 dollars a month, and there are those that cost a hundred and more. We pay 40 dollars per month for two rooms only, and the four rooms cost 80 dollars, including access to an elevator. We have enough room for my family.

3

As far as food in New York is concerned, there is anything you want, does not matter if it is winter or summer, there is always a variety of fruits and vegetables. I've been working throughout all the Depression, and I did not suffer a day, and the payment has been pretty good. Neither did I suffer in Canada, yet life in Canada, especially the life of a coal miner, is very hard; I would never want such a life again. Your life is different, and the only problem is that you have nowhere to go out, but a miner's life is not a life at all. I cannot forget our fishing together. Comrade Gushul, I have almost all the photographs that you made, including the one of us fishing together. It is hard to forget our social life; I always hold on to some memories of the past. Now a man is getting older with each passing day; he thinks differently; the times are worse now, and nobody knows how this whole thing is going to end up. My wife and daughter are also healthy and everything is well, so there is no reason to complain so far.

[4]

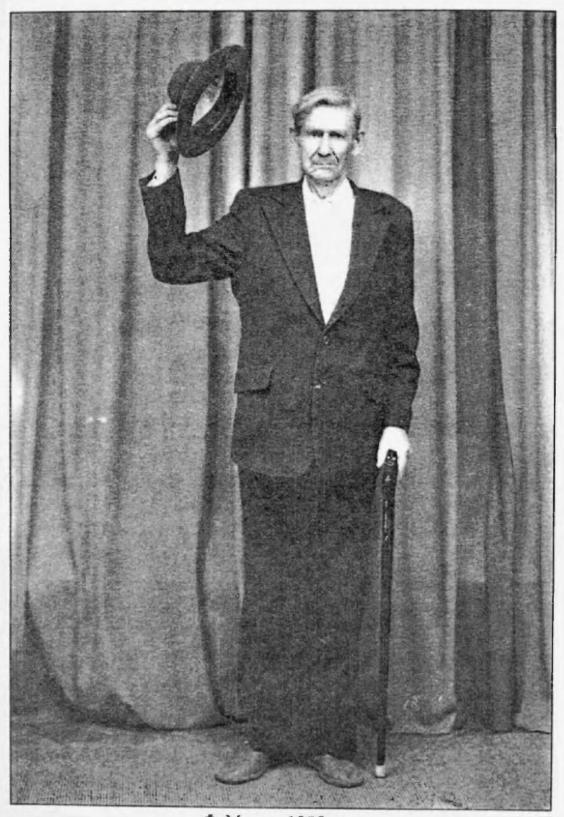
I would like to see you and your family. Perhaps you have a photograph, then please send it for us to see Your son and daughter together with You and Your wife, and I will send You mine sometime. Come to *the World's Fair* in New York if you have enough green ones. There is enough to see. Russia has the largest pavilion of all the European states, and all the Soviet Republics will be represented at *the World's Fair*.

I would mail you a couple of issues of the *Moscow News*. It is a very interesting newspaper in English, but I do not know if the Canadian authorities would let it in.

I will finish writing my couple of words to you. And we wish You and Your family all the best. The Michaluks.



Fig. 47. Thomas Gushul with Fish, Coleman, AB, Crowsnest Museum and Archives, 6152 Gush Glass neg.



Ф. Мацко. 1988 рік.

Chapter 10

FEDIR MATSKO'S HISTORY OF THE ROZHNIV VILLAGE (FRAGMENTS)

(Fig. 47) Fedir Matsko (Федір, Федор Мацко) (17 May 1907–13 August 1998) was Thomas's maternal cousin and Dmyter Macko's brother. He was born to the family of Onufrii and Paraska Macko in the village of Rozhniv (now Ivano-Frankivsk region in Ukraine) and had twelve siblings.

Fedir had only one year of elementary school education. He stopped going to school when World War I started, and later had to help his parents with the household. Fedir's education, then, was to a large extent the result of long years of self-schooling. He was a member of the "Prosvita" (Enlightenment) Society and the head of the reading room in Rozhniv. He returned disabled after World War II and became the head of a collective farm (kolhosp).

Dmyter Macko mentions his brother in the letters to Thomas Gushul, mainly in the context of planning Fedir's trip to North America. Our selection in this volume also includes one letter by Fedir to Dmyter, depicting his wedding and the financial situation of his family (see pages 110-115).

Fedir was profoundly interested in the history of Rozhniv and collected relevant materials for decades. He completed the manuscript "Istoriia sela Rozhnova" (The History of the Rozhniv Village) a few years before his death, being almost completely blind. The manuscript was published in 2008, and we publish excerpts here in English translation. These fragments provide context for the childhood and formative years of the main characters of this edition, Thomas and Lena Gushul and Dmyter Macko, but also for hundreds of other Rozhnivians who migrated to Canada in the early 20th century. Fedir Matsko describes the peculiarities of education in that time, interethnic and social tensions, and wartime hardships. He explains the interaction between Canadian migrants and the community who stayed in their native village, as well as the decisive role of returnees from Canada in local culture and politics.

{Galician peasants in dare need of land}129

The landowner told his wife to sell all their fields on the plains around the villages of Rozhniv, Kobak, Rybna, and Novoselytsia. The lady announced that she was selling all the fields of the villages on the plains a moderate price—200 crowns for a morgen, i.e. 0.56 hectares. The people rejoiced that it was possible to buy good land nearby, yet the problem was that people did not have enough money. The villagers feared that either the Jews or other landowners might buy the land, and then the people would be left without fields in the vicinity. And the Jews were scratching their beards, unable to buy the plain lands, since they had paid for the forests and fields on mountains and did not have money to buy good fertile land. A land rush took over the villages. People knew that if they did not buy the land at this time, they would never buy it.

¹²⁸ Matsko, Fedir, *Istoriia sela Rozhnova* (Kosiv: Pysanyi kamin, 2008).

¹²⁹ Page numbers are given according to Matsko, Istoriia sela Rozhnova.

Федір МАЦКО

ІСТОРІЯ СЕЛА Р О Ж Н О В А

Автор цього опису є: Мацко Федір Онуфрійович, житель села Рожнова. Родився 17-V 1907р. Описую історію свого рідного села, в якому вже жию 83 роки.





"Писаний Камінь" Косів 2008 All the villagers, the poor and wealthy alike, sold whatever they could in order to buy the land. They procured money and borrowed it at a bank in Sniatyn, since Rozhniv belonged to the Sniatyn Powiat (district).

Anyone taking loans at the bank on a promissory note had to have two co-signers. In case the debtor did not pay the rate and interest, the promissory note was protested, and the bank would not wait even a day for the money if it was not paid in time. The money was then collected through the court, by auction. For example, a debtor does not pay the rate in good time (the rate is a part of the debt). Say, one borrowed 200 crowns at a bank on a promissory note. He has to pay three percent interest a year for the whole sum. All the money is divided into four periods. Within three months he has to pay fifty crowns plus interest. Three months have passed but the debtor did not pay the rate of fifty crowns to the bank. His promissory note is then protested (30–31).

{Schooling}

In Rozhniv, the community had built a school at the spot where now there is the new big wonderful school. The old school was a regular house, about twelve meters long and eight meters wide. It served pupils starting from grade four through to grade seven. Students in grade one, two, and three were schooled in the houses of villagers who had big rooms, and the Village Council rented those.

There was a school over the river, in the house of Fedir Iurakh. And a school at the foot of the mountain was in the house of Mykhailo Radysh. I went to that school at Radysh's in 1913. At that school, they taught us Ukrainian, Polish, and German grammar, as well as math. Children were accepted to school at the age of seven. The village schools offered seven grades. Whoever had graduated from the seventh grade could go to a gymnasium for eight years, and then to a university for four years. But that existed more as a theoretical right; reality was different. There were almost no Ukrainian teachers in villages—mostly Poles. The school notified those families whose children turned seven. But a child did not have to go to school. Parents could give a teacher a gift of a chicken or fat duck, or thirty eggs, or a kilogram of butter, and ask him to cross their child off the Registry, and the teacher would gladly do so. Not all children had clothes or footwear, especially in the winter. Poor and illiterate parents did not consider school as something essential.

Some poor parents would get their children hired by wealthier villagers as shepherds instead of sending them to school. Such children would be fed, given a shirt, and *postoly*¹³⁰—that would be payment for a year of service. And in those distant times, there were many children in a family. Many would die but many would survive. In the spring, summer, and fall all the people walked around barefoot. As far as the children are concerned, adults were not able to buy footwear for them. A lot of children would slide barefoot on ice during the winter. And they would not cough or get a cold, for they were weathered and acclimatized. And if children were less hardy then they perished. If a child died before the age of fifteen nobody would arrange a funeral, since a priest and cantor would have to be hired for a ceremony plus an assistant to ring the bell, and there was lack of money.

When a child perished, a coffin would be made, a grave digger would be hired to carry the coffin on his shoulders and bury the child in a grave—that's all.

There were about six to twelve children in each family. The unenlightened people would say, God has given a child, God has taken away the child. It all depended on God, since parents did not understand who created the children. And God was giving many children to the poor people—they had to be fed and clothed. And when one's child was hired by a wealthier villager as a shepherd,

¹³⁰ A type of footwear made of thick leather.

Posetil ka Enaby rye etter marenn bezhartenn swynw, rys rer roppiema gua bein Posetilerne.

ex come:

Forfebenkuk Degop Frempolius, E Dokmop chinononirma kaya & Kurhi.

Crñecp'lok Mapia topia,
Cnibarka, aka noviarena hayry
Koncephamopii h Kurbi, i e
luzhana Cnibarka, Chimoboi Cnahu.
he sueve Cnibar h cpep, A i za
Kopgon buisar h ineu Kpar.

Baniamanok Bac. Thanbur. Aprincis L. Treonipi Bipsobsku. L. Kushi i za zpakuyo bui xaz.

Carpo Consenan Bae. Dupekniop rukom njunnagnow elucnicyniba no pizsói no gefely. ye e Pizóspi, Chiniobox cualn.

Carpo Tiempo topistur. Manzh. rioro posomen e no degzeza. Syun ha lucañalkare l deniurpaga, Mockhi, Fruchi, Mohi. haman hegalho nodep na Para.

- The cobestant August. / Episul

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his Eyh Caseoyk. 2000 Ezz berne
oblishbare i zacygnan b Tac
Coñacinguluy ma Pozempiseum.
Thenep 2000 Peobsissing base i he
bushusu buzham Tipoqah storo
2001. C. Paya Cenryk Baens II

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ye byun niaki: Mayko Delunipo Obyeppiebur. nokluruh yhibepeunieni b Hruepuy

& elicki can-opponyero.

Borogih 18 etroboern. Transcobat rosoblinen Byxrannsepon & gepmakhoury Banky h Kaniepopuis. yenep. Kegyra Trybepryssoz.

Tymyn Thumoepin Honolm. noklinrub yhibepeumen h Kahagi L eccienii Harropu. Byla Cualdum Фотографон. Зробив винания opomis epacpybanin la meentroise. Проби темноти в гисктох робин. це що сегодне є Апарати фоти, up zhisecomu i h meschoki, ue e brhaxig Tyllyna Thrullockis & Posicioba/enteriaka/ Namehni rody januamina Deponaba goporo. Za luhaxiz. Fyeryn tr. ywep no chiapoemi. Max, up & Posseshi Sym, Ex Bygymis mike stogu, ekun su Chimi he zyemo pogumiez. A Me & he & Kongowy Com' make.

that would make the task of keeping the rest of the children easier. That's why few children of poor villages would go to school. Some wealthier villagers would say the following: "What? I am illiterate but I am physically strong. I can flip a bull over if I catch him by his horns. School is useless. My child would go to school to idle while I have to hire other people's children as shepherds? My kid will not become a priest or priest's wife anyway. Let him herd the cattle—it will be more useful."

On the other hand, there were villagers who would send their children to school if they could. But few would finish the seventh grade, since not everyone is naturally gifted for studying. A child goes to school for two-three years but makes a poor student—such a child would be expelled by the teachers, for they did not want to waste their efforts on a dull person. If he is wasting time without any educational benefit then let him go home and do something around there or get hired as a shepherd. For this reason, very few finished the seventh grade.

People had a right to enroll at a gymnasium for higher education but few villagers could study there, since one had to pay for education. On top of that, one had to pay for rental of a place to sleep, for there were no dormitories. One had to buy clothes according to city fashion. One had to buy books, notebooks, and food—and that was not something everyone could afford, since everybody sorely lacked money. And not everyone could get enrolled: Since the teachers were mostly Poles, it was easier for Polish students to pass the exams. The teachers would interrogate a Ukrainian student in such a way as to catch him not knowing something and thus fail the exam, concluding that he cannot be a student. The Polish professors did this on purpose.

But there were still students from Ukrainian families who succeeded at the exams, were enrolled at a gymnasium, and studied there. Some Ukrainian students got the best marks in gymnasiums.

I heard such a story about a gymnasium: One Ukrainian student at a gymnasium was a top student. He was respected by the other students as well as by the professors. At the end of their studies, all students had to pass the final exams.

When that Ukrainian top student's turn came to take the exam, all the professors conspired to fail him.

During the exam, they interrogated him like nobody else. But the student answered all the questions quickly and precisely.

Then the old professor of the gymnasium got up, came up to the student, and said, "Tell me, sonny, if they would put two boxes in front of you on the table with intelligence in one box and money in the other one—which one would you rather take?" The student replied, "I would rather take money." And the professor said, "Oh, no, sonny, I would rather take intelligence." The student said, "One chooses what one lacks."

Then the professors at the tables quietly said to each other, "What a pity that this *cham*¹³¹ is not a Pole."

There are many people who are naturally gifted with intelligence among the Ukrainians but hundreds or even millions of them died in vain. Some of them did not have any school education, others were shot dead by their enemies after evil inhuman slander; still others perished behind bars without any guilt; yet others had to come to terms with it and dance to the master's music. Ukrainians have many enemies (33–38).

{Crossing the ocean in quest of earnings}

People walked around full of debt, crestfallen, but some people were happy that they had little debt, or had already paid it off. But there were few such people.

Cham [kham]—a pejorative word used by Poles to describe Ukrainians.

Agents appeared who agitated people to leave for Canada and America. They would say: "There are mountains of gold over there but no people to take it. One can earn a lot of money in a year or two." One had to pay 300 crowns to an agent for the travel—the cost included the voyage by train and ship over the ocean, as well as food.

The Jews announced that they were selling the land on the Rozhniv mountains—anyone could buy as much as he wanted.

Many people wanted to sell their fields and land plots in order to earn enough to leave for Canada. Therefore, there was a lot of land for sale but few buyers. The Jews, who had their own shops and taverns, bought the plots of land from a lot of people and gave them money for the travel to Canada.

The documents for travel to Canada included a certificate from the village council confirming that a person in question was not a criminal, as well as a metrics from a priest—those were all the necessary documents, and you could travel with them as far as the world's end.

A couple hundred people left Rozhniv for Canada and America. Every one of them was thinking that he would earn enough money in two to three years and return home, and then buy sufficient land, build a house, dress up, get a good farmstead, and have a good life.

On August 2, 1914, the First World War began. It was prohibited to leave the country. The bank in Sniatyn stopped functioning.

All men, aged twenty-one to forty, were commanded to report to the Military Enlistment Offices, to be dispatched to the war (42–43).

{Returnees from Canada bring their experience and funds to Rozhniv and started local organizations}

Lots of people did not return from the war. Lots of people came back as cripples. Some came back from Russia—those who had been prisoners of war.

Some people returned to Rozhniv from Canada. Some got lucky and earned sufficient money, bought land from the Jews, and built houses. They were better off, since they had money earned in Canada.

Those who went to war or left for Canada were mostly illiterate or half-literate. But those who returned had seen certain things and became much more conscious. They learned a lot of things, especially related to agriculture.

Nykolai Sorokhan from Chaplyntsi, Anton Vatamaniuk from Steblitska, Prokop Ropar from Pidhora, and many others returned from Canada. Yet those abovementioned people were still young—they were twenty-five to thirty years old, and they had been literate when they left for Canada.

Prots' Ropar P. did not earn money in Canada but returned with quite a sum: there were many Rozhnivians in Canada, and when Ropar was leaving for the Old Country they raised a substantial sum of money for the construction of a club (it was called Narodnyi Dim [People's home] back then) in Rozhniv.

In the village of Kobaky, a former gymnasium student, Sozon V. Bukatchuk, returned home from Russian captivity. Bukatchuk took part in the Russian Revolution, and he came back an adamant Communist and with a task to organize an underground Communist Party of Western Ukraine in Halychyna.

Bukatchuk had a friend, Nykolai Sorokhan, son of Ilia, in Rozhniv. They decided to organize an Activist cell of the K.P.Z.U.132 in Rozhniv.

¹³² Комуністична партія Західної України, Communist Party of Western Ukraine.

The first Communist Party of Rozhniv was created in Nykolai Sorokhan's house in Chaplyntsi. The following persons were the organizers of the Communist Party: Sozon Bokatchuk,133 Nykolai Sorokhan, Nykolai Radysh (from Melnyky), Antonii V. Vatamaniuk, Vasyl Lukych Vatamaniuk (from Zaritske), Prokop P. Ropar (from Pidhora).

Later on, Prokop Ropar would leave the Communist Party and serve the Polish Government. The Poles made Ropar a village administrator (viit), but that happened later. Although Ropar had repudiated the Communist Party, he did not denounce the members of the Communist Party organization. He kept silent. He did not help but neither did he cause harm.

As far as Nykolai Sorokhan, Nykolai Radysh, Antonii Vatamaniuk (from Steblitska), and Vasyl Lukych Vatamaniuk are concerned, they remained sincere Communists till they died.

Unfortunately, Vasyl Lukych Vatamaniuk later died by hanging. I heard that his own sister together with her husband hung him when he was sleeping on the barn's loft, so that the house and land would be left to the sister. Their parents had just two children, and Vasyl was sleeping alone in the loft. He was found hanging from the horizontal beam between the rafters. But whether it is true that the culprits were his sister and brother-in-law, I do not know.

Nykolai Radysh hung himself when the Soviets took over. Radysh hoped that Soviet rule would be just as Lenin promised it. But after Lenin's death, Stalin changed the power to his liking. People's lands were confiscated into collective farms. The prosperous farmers were banished to Siberia and branded as "fists" (kulaks). And the Proletarian lumpen public became the owner of everything.

A son of Nykolai Radysh served in the Soviet Army—this was already during Soviet times. There, in the army, he was convicted for something and imprisoned for 10 years. During the Stalin years, anyone who voiced the truth about his dislikes would be convicted. When N. Radysh came to know that his son was convicted he hung himself in sorrow.

N. Sorokhan died of sorrow after the Banderites had shot his only son dead.

Antonii Vatamaniuk died at home in poverty. His land had been taken away to the collective farm. Antonii had grown old and couldn't work any longer. And the fact that he used to be a Communist Party activist was not taken into account, and nobody helped him one bit.

Antonii didn't have a wife nor children; he lived alone in hardship and died in poverty.

I will continue the historical description below, but I have traced out what happened to the [Communist] cell members in the future.

The Communist Party cell was organized in Rozhniv. This was a big secret, since the Poles were against the Soviet Union.

In order to organize the people, a club (Narodnyi Dim) was needed. Ropar had money for building the club. They received permission for the construction of the club at the community square in Rozhniv where a cattle market used to function for the longest time.

Ropar bought wood for the construction; villagers would bring the logs to Rozhniv from the mountains for free. Ropar hired the construction specialists and gave instructions as to how to build the Temple, what the theater hall and stage should look like, and so on. For Ropar used to go to the clubs in Canada, watched all kinds of performances, and saw the stages and halls. Apart

¹³³ The spelling of the name is inconsistent in Matsko's memoirs.

from that, Ropar had a gift for singing, was a good performer and orator, prompter and artistic director. He had some theatrical plays, both comedies and tragedies, and such.

The Communist Party cell was functioning; the most energetic people were becoming active in the club construction, so Ropar became a leading person with big authority in the village. But all of that was just on the surface, while in reality, he was a crafty and cunning swindler.

The Temple-Club was being built. The people were waiting and hoping to have a cultural center in the village. There was hope.

Ropar had money for the construction raised in Canada by the Rozhnivians. There should have been enough for a huge building but nobody, except Ropar himself, knew exactly how much money there was.

The building was built from hewn logs, planed inside. The roofing was made of shingles. Apart from the big hall—it still exists unchanged inside the club—there was also a room attached to the club from the roadside. There is a stage but an unfinished one. And that's all.

There was no woodwork like doors or windows, there was nothing to sit on in the hall. Ropar complained that there was no money to finish the club. He called for a meeting in the club. He wanted people to give money for finishing up the building. But the people had nothing. And those were already złoty, not the marks that circulated.

Ropar wrote a letter to Canada, to the Rozhnivians, addressing the Committee that had initially raised money for construction. He asked them to send more money, since everything was expensive over here, the money was spent, and the villagers were unable to help with the finances.

Isak Savyn from Pidhora was leaving Canada for Rozhniv. The Rozhnivians in Canada raised money again, gave it to Savyn, and entrusted him with finishing the Narodnyi Dim.

Isak Savyn returned home with money for finishing the People's Temple. I do not know how much money there was exactly. So, together with Ropar, he completed the construction.

The Club was finished. Prokop Ropar was elected the Head of the Club. A youth drama circle was organized at the Club. The first amateur auditions took place, then rehearsals; then an announcement was posted on the church gate saying that the first performance would be given in the Club today at a certain hour in the afternoon, and a ticket to the play cost so much (I do not remember how much it was). All the citizens were invited. I do not remember which play was staged, but people crowded in, since nothing like that had ever happened in Rozhniv before.

The audience liked the play very much. And then the cultural-educational work expanded massively.

Meetings were often held in the Club, the agitation work was conducted and as a result the Communist Party and Komsomol cells grew. The people wanted Soviet rule. On 1 May, the tall poplar trees swayed with red banners. Slogans were posted on the fences and gateways: "Poland, get out of Ukraine with your President J. Piłsudski!" All of that was done secretly at night.

Year after year passed. Those who returned from Canada bought land from Jews and built their houses. There were some Canadians who came back home with no money. Those were mainly people who liked drinking spirits and beer. Whatever they earned, they squandered that money on drinks back in Canada. And the people who returned from the war did not construct anything, did not buy land—each of the dejected survived in any way he could (54, 60–66).

{"Not often to be born in this world": Rozhniv natives in North America}

There were also famous people from Rozhniv who received education in Canada and America, and who left Rozhniv during the Austrian times. Those were:

Dmytro Onufriiovych Matsko. He graduated from an American university in San Francisco.

He knew eighteen languages. He worked as a Chief Bookkeeper at the State Bank of California. He died of tuberculosis.

Tymofii Ivanovych Gushul. He graduated from a Canadian University in Calgary. He was a famous photographer. He invented photography in the darkness. He made dark images inside the coal mines.

Those cameras that are used nowadays for taking pictures in the darkness—that's the invention of Tymofii Gushul from Rozhniv (Steblitska).

The government paid him a lot for the patent, for his invention. T. Gushul died of old age.

So, there were, are, and will be people in Rozhniv who are not often born in this world. (127)

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Lena and Thomas Gushul immigrated to Canada in the beginning of the 20th century, they married in 1914, and opened their first photo studio in Coleman, AB sometime in 1917 or 1918. These Ukrainian Canadian photographers left a wonderful legacy: in addition to a rich collection of negatives and photographs, they also saved hundreds of letters written by their relatives, friends, as well as the Gushul Studio patrons. This publication consists of two volumes: the first volume is dedicated to the history of the Gushul Photo Studio and its production. The second volume contains a selection of personal letters from the Gushul archives housed at the Crowsnest Museum & Archives. The authors of this publication hope that the reader will share their love and appreciation for the talent of these photographers and the beauty of their works.