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**ПРЕСА ЯК ДЖЕРЕЛО ДО ВИВЧЕННЯ
СОЦІАЛЬНО-ЕКОНОМІЧНИХ ПРОЦЕСІВ
НА ГАЛИЦЬКІЙ ПРОВІНЦІЇ НАПРИКІНЦІ XIX ст.
(ЗА МАТЕРІАЛАМИ ЧАСОПИСУ
«GAZETA NADDNIESTRZAŃSKA»)**

Анотація. Метою дослідження є реконструкція соціально-економічного життя Дрогобича та Дрогобицького повіту наприкінці XIX ст. за матеріалами часопису «Gazeta Naddniestrzańska».

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Методологічне підґрунтя становить міждисциплінарний підхід. Особливий акцент зроблено на структурно-функціональному системному аналізі історіографічних фактів та методі критичного аналізу документального матеріалу. **Наукова новизна статті** полягає у спробі комплексного аналізу матеріалів часопису «Gazeta Naddniestrzańska» як джерела до вивчення соціально-економічних процесів у Дрогобичі та Дрогобицькому повіті наприкінці XIX ст. **Висновки.** З'ясовано, що матеріали часопису дають змогу ознайомитися з цілим спектром культурних та соціально-економічних проблем, які переживав Дрогобич і його околиці наприкінці XIX ст. Створений на сторінках газети образ щоденного життя міста є надзвичайно динамічним, емоційним і заангажованим інтересами його простих мешканців. Водночас широке громадське спрямування редакційної політики часопису дає змогу ознайомитися також із визначними подіями соціально-економічної історії Галичини, Австро-Угорської імперії, Європи та світу загалом. Такий своєрідний «погляд із провінції» на глобальні проблеми регіону та світу надає газетним повідомленням особливої цінності, оскільки проливає світло на специфіку їх сприйняття на периферії культурного та політичного життя. Відзначено, що матеріали часопису «Gazeta Naddniestrzańska» уможливають цілісно реконструювати лише поодинокі аспекти історії Дрогобича та його околиць у 1884–1889 рр. Проте взяті у сукупності із офіційною документацією та періодикою, що її видавала єврейська громада міста наприкінці XIX ст., створюють солідну джерельну базу для реконструкції минулого Дрогобича у його соціально-економічному, політичному та культурному вимірах.

Ключові слова: «Gazeta Naddniestrzańska»; Дрогобич; соціально-економічні процеси; культурне життя; міжнаціональні взаємини.

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**THE PRESS AS A SOURCE FOR THE STUDY
OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROCESSES
IN THE GALICIAN PROVINCE
AT THE END OF THE XIX CENTURY (BASED
ON "GAZETA NADDNIESTRZAŃSKA" NEWSPAPER)**

*Summary. The purpose of the study is to reconstruct the socio-economic life of Drohobych and Drohobych district in the late nineteenth century as represented by the newspaper "Gazeta Naddniestrzańska". The work's **methodological basis** is an interdisciplinary approach with an emphasis placed on the structural and functional system analysis of historiographical facts and the method of critical analysis of documentary material. The article's **scientific novelty** is an attempt to comprehensively analyse the materials of the journal "Gazeta Naddniestrzańska" as a source for studying socio-economic processes in Drohobych and Drohobych district in the late nineteenth century. **Conclusions.** The newspaper materials allow us to get acquainted with a range of cultural and socio-economic problems experienced by Drohobych district citizens in the late nineteenth century. The newspaper delivers an extremely dynamic image of the city's daily life, and its articles are emotional and engaged in the interests of its ordinary residents. In addition, the broad public orientation of the newspaper's editorial policy also allows getting acquainted with significant events in the socio-economic history of Galicia, the Austro-*

Hungarian Empire, Europe and the world. The "perspective from the province" attaches exceptional value to newspaper reports, as it sheds light on the specifics of their perception on the periphery of cultural and political life. The materials of "Gazeta Naddniestrzańska" allow reconstructing only certain aspects of the history of Drohobych and its district in 1884–1889. However, taken together with official documents and periodicals published by the city's Jewish community in the late 19th century, they provide a reliable source base for reconstructing Drohobych's past in its socio-economic, political and cultural dimensions.

Key words: "Gazeta Naddniestrzańska"; Drohobych; socio-economic processes; cultural life; interethnic relations.

Formulation of the problem. In the research of a city's history, the press, as a historical source, occupies a special place because, unlike documents of official origin, it reflects a subjective reception of the current events by some urban communities. The openness and immediacy in the perception of daily events and problems, in general, is one of the essential features of the press as a historical source. Its study allows the researcher to supplement official sources' information with a perspective "from below". The press's importance increases even more in the case of provincial towns that have much more modest sources for studying their history than large cities. In some towns, the press is the only opportunity to reconstruct the city's public life, economic, religious and national relations in it, which, apart from criminal cases, is practically not interested in the official documentation. In this sense, Drohobych of the autonomous era was a typical East Galician city, in which the two largest ethnic communities – Polish and Jewish – had their press. While the Jewish press focused on the community's problems, Polish magazines raised a wide range of public issues in their columns, touching virtually all aspects of city life, including such essential issues as socio-economic and interethnic relations. Among all the Polish newspapers in Drohobych in the second half of the XIX – early XX centuries "Gazeta Naddniestrzańska" occupied a particular place, both in the breadth of the issues covered in its columns and the duration of its appearance – five years. These circumstances led our attention to this magazine.

The purpose of the article is to reconstruct the socio-economic life of Drohobych and Drohobych district in the late nineteenth century according to the magazine "Gazeta Naddniestrzańska".

Analysis of recent research and publications. The Drohobych press of the autonomous era was very rarely in the focus of particular analysis. There is a general research that characterizes the materials on the history of Drohobych in the pages of the Western Ukrainian press of 1850–1886. Another research has summarized the content diversity of issues in the newspaper "Gazeta Naddniestrzańska". However, the research left the presentation of socio-economic processes mostly unexplored. This omission determines the relevance of the proposed study.

The presentation of the main material. The first issue of "Gazeta Naddniestrzańska" was published on February 16, 1884. The full title of the magazine was "Gazeta Naddniestrzańska. Dwutygodnik polityczno-ekonomiczno-społeczny Organ demokratyczny" ("Dniester newspaper. A political-economic-public biweekly. A democratic body"). The newspaper was published on the second Saturday of each month and, with small breaks, lasted until April 15, 1889. According to editorials, the publishers intended to turn the newspaper into a weekly, but for several reasons, primarily financial ones, such plans were not realized. It was the only Polish newspaper in Drohobych during the Galician period that was published for such a long time. The format of the newspaper was six, sometimes four pages, some issues had eight pages. Sometimes newspapers included program publications of socio-political content. The text on the page was divided into three columns. Interestingly, the newspaper was not printed in Drohobych, but in Lviv, in the Shevchenko Scientific Society's printing house.

The personality of the publisher and editor of the newspaper Edmund Leon Soletsky was fascinating. By profession, he was an engineer-architect and civil engineer, and by vocation – a publicist. One of his biographers M. Moroz noted that E. Soletsky was "one of the brightest activists of public and cultural life of Galicia in the 80–90s of the last century, in particular" (Moroz, 1997, p. 228). Having been a friend and ally of I. Franko, E. Soletsky passionately defended the rights of the ordinary people (regardless of religion) and advocated the normalization of interethnic relations in the then Galicia. This publisher's worldview affected the content of most publications "Gazeta

Naddniestrzańska" and engaged many well-known representatives of the democratic movement in Galicia in the late nineteenth century. Thus, in 1884 a young Polish socialist I. Dashynsky collaborated with the newspaper's editorial office, and later he became one of the leaders of the Polish Social Democratic Party of Galicia. The well-known Ukrainian public and cultural activist Pavlo Kirchiv established tight relationship with newspaper as well (Hrytsak, 1999, p. 113).

The first issue of the newspaper clearly outlined the positions of its publishers. This issue contained a one-page insert, the "Gazeta Naddniestrzańska" program, published in Polish and Ukrainian. The main points of this program were: to promote the formation of an influential democratic movement in the province and a press body that would contribute to the consolidation of its supporters; control over the actions of the authorities in the implementation of laws; struggle for the expansion of the rights of local self-government; upholding cultural and educational ideals, control over cultural and educational work in the provinces, ensuring the educational and cultural rights of citizens, mostly Ukrainians and Poles, as the largest ethnic groups in the region; assistance in the establishment of centres of public life in the provinces. The program focused on the Ukrainian issue in Galicia. The Ukrainian problem was identified as the most important issue in the public life of the region, and its solution was proclaimed a priority for the future. "We recognize the eternal existence of the Rus people unconditionally and we believe that here in Rus the Rus people have the right to desire full equality" ("Prohrama «Chasopysy Naddnestrianskoy»", 1884, p. 1). The newspaper's program was generally received with enthusiasm. As a first practical step in implementing this program and creating a Ukrainian-Polish democratic union and distributing the magazine to the Ukrainian community in the region, the newspaper announced that the texts of Ukrainian contributors would be published in the original language. Indeed, over the years of the newspaper's existence, we have repeatedly come across Ukrainian-language texts. Another focal point of the program was devoted to solving the Jewish problem in Galicia. According to the newspaper's editor, it is necessary to fight for the equality of the Jews and Christians, establish a dialogue between the Christian and Jewish communities of the city, and share their ideas with the conservative Jewish community. The publishers argued that since Drohobych

was a scale model of relations in Galicia, only such a broad national program would unite all the region's citizens for organic multinational work on the revival of Poland.

The program principles of the newspaper were embodied in the leading articles of the first issue. The first two articles, entitled "Despotism or Autonomy?" and "Public Control" was dedicated to the problem of expanding local self-government in the region ("Despotyzm czy autonomia?", 1884, p. 1). Another article – "More enlightenment, schools and reading rooms" – promoted educational values, was firmly against drunkenness, ignorance, rudeness among the burghers ("Więcej światła", 1884, pp. 1–2).

The structure of the first issue of the newspaper remained the same for all subsequent editions. The first two pages were usually occupied by program articles, which reflected the editorial board's vision of the most pressing issues of state and regional development. On the third page, there was a column "Correspondence", which published interesting letters from Galicia and the villages of Drohobych district and other parts of the empire. The most significant events in the city's life and its environs were reflected in the "Chronicle" section, which was usually located on the fourth or fifth page. From 1886 (third issue) the rubric "Chronicle" was divided into two rubrics – "Local Chronicle" and "Outside Chronicle". Some newspaper issues included a column "The Activity of Societies", which covered the dynamics of public life in the city. The materials of this column allow us to learn that there were such public organizations in the city as the "Family Society", the "Mutual Aid Society", the "Sokil Gymnastics Society", the "Society of Peasant Communities", and numerous professional organizations. Most of the issues also contained the section "Accidents", which described mainly accidents at the oil and ozokerite mines of Boryslav. The ads took up a third of the last page. Unlike the vast majority of other Polish newspapers in Drohobych, "Gazeta Naddniestrzańska" had a relatively insignificant literary section that featured one or two poetic or prose works in one issue. However, the literary and artistic section of the newspaper gradually expanded from the fourth year of publication. An expert on the Boryslav issue and one of the newspaper's contributors, Stefan Kovalev, published several articles about its relations (Hrytsak, 2005, pp. 315–316).

The largest number of publications in "Gazeta Naddniestrzańska" focused on discussing national relations in the region and establishing Polish-Ukrainian understanding. The most resonant articles were "Rus business as a whole and in Galicia" (it contained expansion of the newspaper's program) ("Sprawa ruska", 1884, pp. 1–2) and "Colonization of Rus" (which was targeted against the views of some Polish politicians on the need for the latest cultural and political colonization of Ukrainian lands in Galicia) ("Kolonizacya Rusi", 1884, p. 2). The newspaper's editor's positions on resolving the Ukrainian question in the region are presented in the articles "Rusyns and the Sejm" and "Rus Affairs in the Galician Sejm". L. Soletsky advocated increasing the number of Ukrainian representatives in the Galician Sejm and developing schooling in the Ukrainian language ("Sprawa ruska", 1886, p. 1). The editor's views on the Ukrainian issue often came into conflict with state censorship. Thus, such articles as "Our magnates, Rus and Rusyns (a voice from the land)" and "Rus Chamber in Kosovo" were confiscated.

It should be noted that the Ukrainian press welcomed the newspaper's policy on the Ukrainian issue in Eastern Galicia. For example, the newspaper "Dilo" has repeatedly noted the tolerant public position of the magazine, its popularity among Ukrainians, the defence of equality between the most numerous peoples of the region ("«Dilo» o «Gazecie Naddniestzańskiej»", 1884, p. 2). One of the authors of positive reviews was I. Franko, who approved the democratic position of the newspaper's editor and called it a model for the provincial press (Moroz, 1997, p. 230). E. Soletsky responded to these friendly words of the Ukrainian poet with a poetic message "To Ivan Franko in Lviv" (El., 1885, p. 6). The editor's pro-Ukrainian sentiments are also evidenced by his intention to publish his Polish translations of Taras Shevchenko's poems on the pages of the newspaper. However, although translations were ready, they did not appear in the newspaper. In general, we can say with confidence that the magazine was aimed at promoting Polish-Ukrainian cooperation.

The columns of the newspaper published discussions around Jewish question. Deep in content and diverse in genre, these publications promoted the idea of equal rights of Jews and Christians, freeing the Jewish community's poorer members from the total dependence on its leaders ("Żydzi a sprawa wojskowa", 1885, p. 2). Despite isolated

articles, there were several thematic series of publications on the Jewish problem. For example, a series of articles "Comments on the Jewish Question" discussed the complex relations within the Kahal, the relationship between its ordinary members and the top, showed the exploitation system on the example of the Drohobych community ("Nieco w kwestyi żydowskiej", 1884, p. 1). Another series of articles entitled "Messiada" was devoted to understanding Jewish statehood's current idea, defining the terrain for the compact settlement of the people. The newspaper describes the lawlessness inflicted on ordinary members of the Jewish community who fell into the financial trap of their leaders, especially the Gartenberg and Goldhammer families ("Kahał drohobycki", 1888, p. 1). The latter were called true anti-Semites in the newspaper ("Antysemityzm istotny!", 1885, p. 3).

At the same time, the newspaper strongly opposed the domination of the Jewish mafia in the city. According to the newspaper, it hoarded most of the finances, and its representatives managed the life of the whole city ("Naruszanie osobistości", 1884, pp. 1–2). The newspaper pages reveal to readers a picture of the actual disenfranchisement of the majority of the city's population hoarding of wealth by the top of the Jewish community. Some publications ridiculed the traditionally stereotyped negative national traits of Jews, especially their stinginess and cunningness. The newspaper also published an allegedly true story about a Jew from Drohobych who wanted to buy a horse and, thanks to various tricks, brought down the price from 200 zlotys to several cents. The wise owner then signed a contract under which a Jewish man had to pay twice as much for a horse for 25 days every day, starting with one cent. The new owner was surprised when it turned out that the horse is worth 167772 zlotys 16 cents.

The discussion of interethnic relations in Boryslav was the sharpest on the pages of "Gazeta Naddniestrzańska". In general, the confrontation between Christian and Jewish communities in Boryslav was pervasive for the magazine. The newspaper demonstrated impunity for crimes committed by members of the Jewish mafia against the workers of Boryslav as most of the Boryslav mines were in Jewish hands. Workers were forced to work 12 or more hours for little or no pay. The mines and loose security measures resulted in people dying almost every day (a series of articles under the general title "Accidents in Boryslav" was devoted to this). Those accidents led to growing social

and national tensions in the city, constant clashes on ethnic grounds, which killed both sides' representatives (covered in a series of articles under the general title "Murders in Boryslav").

The newspaper contributor's opinion on Jewish issues and polemical publications were constantly exposed to criticism from the elite of the Jewish community in the city and the whole region, who actively accused the newspaper of anti-Semitism. The urgency of discussing the Jewish question in the magazine is evidenced by the fact that it quickly outgrew the local theme, went beyond the city community and spread to the press of the eastern part of the empire. We can trace the controversy between the Drohobych newspaper and the Warsaw magazine "Israeli".

"Gazeta Naddniestrzańska" paid much attention to public affairs in the city and the district. The newspaper's editorial board advocated for the expansion of community rights in the management of the city, public involvement in the control over the actions of the government, transparency in the appointment of officials, rotation of executive representatives ("Autonomiczna kontrola z urzędu!", 1884, pp. 2–3). The newspaper informed readers continuously about Drohobych County's activities, Village Councils and elections to these self-governing bodies. It was fascinating for the newspaper to cover Xenophon Okhrimovich's struggle for the post of mayor. The magazine supported the latter in every possible way, hoping for a radical change in relations in the city. Fighting the apathy of the local population, which, being in poverty, cared little about the problems of city life, the newspaper called to take an active part in public life and consciously exercise their right to vote ("Tak zwana apatya wyborcza", 1885, p. 1).

The newspaper columns included information about the life of the Sejm and reported to the public on the activities of its ambassadors. The newspaper criticised the neglect of urban structures, pollution of city streets and markets, problems with street lighting, excessive payments for public transport services, lack of municipal public clinic, corruption of city authorities, non-transparency in making important decisions for the community, the danger on the streets of the city (pickpockets in the markets and churches, bandits and robbers on the streets in the evening); child beggary; gambling; general demoralisation of the population; unsatisfactory condition of city baths where people died from burns due to technical violations; the state of

emergency of many houses (impressive statistics were given that more than twenty houses collapsed in five years); lack of functional sewerage, the dominance of the German language in the city and the lack of clean drinking water. The newspaper repeatedly put through multiple proposals to improve the situation in the city. For example, it discussed problems with the organisation of municipal police. The newspaper continuously criticised the ignorance of the Ukrainian language by city officials. Discussions of public issues in the city and in the region also received a harsh reaction from the authorities that repeatedly confiscated such publications.

Along with important social problems, "Gazeta Naddniestrzańska" also raised important public life topics in a broader worldview and philosophical dimension. For example, from the second year of its existence, the newspaper introduced a new column "Public Conversations", in which active contributors to the newspaper shared their vision of essential topics of today ("Pogadanki społeczne", 1885, pp. 2–3). For example, the article "Past and Future" was devoted to discussing the place of women in the rapidly modernized world of the late nineteenth century and understanding the very phenomenon of emancipation. The decline of agriculture in the region, the degradation of the peasantry and calls for public self-organization were the subject of the article "On their own". The column also discussed the crisis in crafts, public education, the burden of military service, national relations in the Austro-Hungarian Empire, especially the Jewish question, and growing anti-Semitism.

Another exciting topic raised in the newspaper was the discussion of the new socialist ideology. It should be noted that the editor of the newspaper was often accused of socialist sympathies, but he stated that he was not a supporter of these ideas, although he did not see anything wrong with the latter and in principle stated the need for political pluralism. The suspicions about E. Soletsky's participation in socialist circles, cultivated among the city leaders' police, resulted in occasional searches of the editorial office (for example, in March 1886), although they were always unsuccessful ("Nic to «Wam» nie pomoże", 1886, pp. 1–2). However, as Y. Hrytsak notes, it was these periodic searches, as well as criminal cases initiated by E. Soletsky's enemies against him for insulting the majesty (the emperor's person), that gave the local authorities a reason to suspend "Gazeta Naddnies-

trzańska's" further publication (Hrytsak, 1999, p. 114). Prosecutions and closures of the newspaper undermined the health of E. Soletsky, and he died in 1896.

Despite the thematic priority of the city's problems and the district, the newspaper often responded to the most painful difficulties in the development of the whole region. Among the most discussed issues, the newspaper prioritised corruption of the authorities at various levels, reorganising means and ways of communication, sanitary and environmental problems, and the decline of spirituality. This information has also been repeatedly censored, resulting in empty columns in the Chronicle. "Gazeta Naddniestrzańska" closely monitored the growth of civic self-awareness among the people of Austria-Hungary, widely covering such manifestations ("Walne zgromadzenie robotników", 1887, p. 2). For example, the newspaper widely covered the protests of the citizens of Ternopil against the overpowering city authorities ("Zajścia Tarnopolskie", 1884, p. 2). It should be noted that the newspaper often provided valuable information about the life of other surrounding cities and counties. Its pages highlighted interesting facts from the life of Krakow, Stanislav, Sambir, Halych, Stryj, Turka, Brzezany, Rzeszow, Chortkiv. Publications covering the growth of the resort in Truskavets may be of great interest to modern researchers. There were also many reports from other parts of the empire – Serbia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and around the world – the United States, Russia, China, Asia and Africa, Latin America.

From the sixth issue of "Gazeta Naddniestrzańska" in 1884, the editorial board offered readers to discuss the most acute problems of the society of that time under the general theme "Injustice of our people". Then each issue contained a detailed discussion of oppression suffered by the population of the region. Among the biggest injustices there were legal powerlessness of many social groups; the land issue and its most painful aspect – the mass landlessness of the peasantry; soldiering of the people; bail as a way of robbing society; growing environmental problems resulting from the barbaric exploitation of natural resources; lack of a state program to regulate the level of rivers and reservoirs, which resulted in significant damage during spring floods; detachment of the upper strata of society from life and the needs of the general public; corrupt judiciary; the terrible condition of public schools and teachers; the Ukrainian question and ways

to solve it in Galicia; Hypocrisy and corruption in the church environment, which led to a decline in the authority of the church; military service reform; state monopolies; state of communications in the region; poor condition of publishing houses for the people and public reading rooms; organization of public granary to prevent seasonal starvation of the ordinary people; unregulated tariff payments; lack of proper control over construction and sanitation; lack of veterinary control; growing social apathy; forced emigration; weakness of the provincial press, etc. In total, the editors counted more than 30 unjust problems. The tone of these articles was so oppositional that some newspaper issues were confiscated entirely by censors, as happened, for example, in 1884, which contained a critical note on school state in Galicia general and Drohobych Gymnasium in particular. An article on military service was also confiscated. In 1885 there were five such confiscations, in 1886 – 6, in 1887 – 6. That is, every year, a quarter of the newspapers were subject to confiscation.

The publishers of the newspaper cared about the problems of spirituality and education. The newspaper sharply criticised drunkenness, ignorance, rudeness among the burghers. Many articles called for the reform of school education, raising teachers' status, increasing salaries, reducing working hours, and relieving them of responsibilities that are not appropriate for schooling. The newspaper cites eloquent facts of the teachers' indignant pay (their salary was less than that of stray dog hunters), their dependence on the school principal's mood. The newspaper also offered to discuss the school curriculum's content, advocating for reducing students' workload, especially given the lack of hygiene in many schools. The newspaper proposed reforming school education in the city, subordinating it to community control through the Drohobych District School Board's constant rotation. In the columns of the newspaper, we find very detailed coverage of various progressive pedagogical activities, such as periodic meetings of teachers of public schools in the region ("Krajowy wiec nauczycieli ludowych", 1884, pp. 2–3). The authors of the newspaper paid particular attention to the school curriculum's reform, introducing a full-fledged course of school physical education, which was to ensure the full physical development of children. At the same time, the magazine editors stressed the need for moderate educational campaigns that would be based on the general level of education and the needs of the community. As an

example of not entirely correct actions in this direction, the newspaper published the story of the teacher Volya Yakubova, who was expelled from the village reading room for propagating Darwin's ideas about the origin of man.

Characterizing the worldview values professed by "Gazeta Naddniestrzańska", the anti-clerical orientation of many publications in the magazine stands out, as well as the ridicule of ignorance and hypocrisy among the clergy, regardless of their religious affiliation ("Reforma klasztorów", 1884, pp. 2–3). Most of the criticism in the newspaper was directed personally against the priests Terletsy and Kurek. They were accused of collusion with the Jewish mafia of the city, desecrating their responsibilities, ignorance, rudeness, excessive stinginess, immoral behaviour (for example, keeping numerous maids or using one vessel for hygienic needs and water consecration) (Rz. K., 1884, pp. 1–2).

Most of the magazine's materials concerned the Polish community's situation in the city and the district. "Gazeta Naddniestrzańska" provided the information about the most significant phenomena of the socio-political, economic and cultural life of the Polish community of Drohobych at that time. Among the most notable cultural and educational events of the city level, the newspaper mentioned the solemn processions of the anniversary of John III in Drohobych, the celebration of the Constitution Day on May 3, the millennium of Saints Cyril and Methodius, the anniversary of the Battle of Vienna, the anniversary of the January Uprising, the anniversary. Meetings with participants of the Polish uprisings of the mid-19th century, who were returning from exile in Siberia, were held with great interest in the Polish community. As we learned from the newspaper, there were frequent tours of Polish art groups (for example, the Popel Theater), which aroused lively interest among the townspeople. The pages of the newspaper also contained extensive articles about prominent figures in Polish history and culture. Among them, we will highlight the extensive obituary of Ignatius Kraszewski, the jubilee silhouette of Frantsysk Smolka, the memories of contemporaries about Kosciuszko and Joachim Lelewel. Other exciting materials covered the lives of Poles in different parts of the world. Many publications of this kind have

discussed the important issue of Polish migration to the Americas and the Polish community's situation in the United States ("Blaga amerykańska", 1887, p. 2).

"Gazeta Naddniestrzańska's" materials were also extremely informative in reflecting Drohobych and the county's Ukrainian cultural life. In fact, in the absence of a Ukrainian magazine, the newspaper's materials are the only source from which we obtain information about the cultural life of the Ukrainians of Drohobych at that time. We learn that every year, the Ukrainian community celebrated Taras Shevchenko's birth and death anniversaries, which took place in the form of musical and recitation parties. A notable phenomenon in the city's cultural life was the opening of the Ukrainian-Polish reading room in Drohobych (December 1884), which carried out active public activities – numerous reports, concerts, dances. Another reading room in the city was opened in May 1888. We also learn about the opening of Ukrainian reading rooms in Drohobych County (for example, in Lishnya).

Ukrainian cultural events in the city were often exposed to restrictive actions by the authorities. Thus, during a literary and musical party in Drohobych organized by Ukrainian students from Lviv, the local authorities banned Ivan Franko's speech with the essay "Demolition of Serfdom" and Taras Shevchenko's "Serf". Apart from the local cultural news, "Gazeta Naddniestrzańska" also contains information about the largest cultural events that took place in Lviv and other major cities of the region. We learn about the appearance of a book of Shevchenko's poems in the Lviv publishing house, a loud celebration in Galicia of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the poet's death, a solemn celebration in the region of the 50th anniversary of the "Mermaid of the Dniester" ("Rusalka Dnistrova"), the Ukrainian Chamber in the Valley on August 21, 1884. The newspaper supported ambassador Yulian Romanchuk's resolution on protecting the rights and property of peasants. Notable events in the cultural life of the Ukrainian community of the city were tours of Ukrainian theatres. Thus, Drohobych city has repeatedly hosted the Hrynevych Lviv National Theater (January 1885), and the newspaper responded with favourable critical reviews. The newspaper highlighted Ukrainian national anniversaries, posting relevant posts on its pages. As an example, it pub-

lished an extensive article about the work of Yuri Fedkovych on the occasion of his anniversary ("Józef Jerzy Hordyński-Fedkowicz", 1886, p. 1).

Moreover, the newspaper's materials are an exciting source of extraordinary events in the city's history. For example, we learned that in 1884 the Jewish bath collapsed. According to the newspaper, the townspeople watched for a long time as "naked daughters of Israel" they ran around the ruins in dismay. The newspaper paid attention to the effects of the great flood in the Drohobych region in 1884, which caused a large number of peasants to starve the following winter. Another well-highlighted event was the loud celebration of the anniversary of Franz Joseph in the region. The newspaper also presented an extraordinary demographic event when Drohobych woman gave birth to six children in 1896. The same year, the townspeople found an immense treasure of ancient coins. Neighbouring Stryi was significantly devastated by a terrible fire in April 1886. The description of such events by newspaper contributors enriches the well-known official information about them with personal perception.

Conclusions. The newspaper materials allow us to get acquainted with a range of cultural and socio-economic problems experienced by Drohobych district citizens in the late nineteenth century. The newspaper delivers an extremely dynamic image of the city's daily life, and its articles are emotional and engaged in the interests of its ordinary residents. In addition, the broad public orientation of the newspaper's editorial policy also allows getting acquainted with significant events in the socio-economic history of Galicia, the Austro-Hungarian Empire, Europe and the world. The "perspective from the province" attaches exceptional value to newspaper reports, as it sheds light on the specifics of their perception on the periphery of cultural and political life. The materials of "Gazeta Naddniestrzańska" allow reconstructing only certain aspects of the history of Drohobych and its district in 1884–1889. However, taken together with official documents and periodicals published by the city's Jewish community in the late 19th century, they provide a reliable source base for reconstructing Drohobych's past in its socio-economic, political and cultural dimensions.

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