

Yuliana Petrovska¹, Vasyl Kuzmych²

**PEDAGOGIC ACTIVITY OF IVAN LEVYNSKY
AT LVIV SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
IN THE LATE 19TH CENTURY – EARLY 20TH CENTURY**

¹ *Senior Lecturer of the Department of Design and Basics of Architecture,
Lviv Polytechnic National University, Lviv
e-mail: yuliana.r.petrovska@lpnu.ua,
orcid: 0000-0001-8519-7065*

² *Senior Lecturer of the Department of Design and Basics of Architecture
Lviv Polytechnic National University, Lviv
e-mail: vasyli.kuzmych@lpnu.ua
orcid: 0000-0002-6783-0602*

Received: 14.12.2019 / Revised: 04.06.2020 / Accepted: 08.07.2019

© Petrovska Yu., Kuzmych V., 2020

<https://doi.org/10.23939/as2020.01.157>

Abstract. This research introduces us into the pedagogic activity of Ivan Levynsky at the Polytechnic School. Historical documents from the State Archives of Lviv region helped us to examine and analyze curriculums of the Faculty of Construction (Program szkoły politechnicznej we Lwowie), including names of academic subjects, number of academic hours for different years of study, and short summaries of the courses taught by the professor Ivan Levynsky.

Key words: Lviv School of Architecture, Ivan Levynsky, curriculums, academic subjects, pedagogic activity.

1. Introduction

Nowadays, the name of the great Ukrainian architect, pedagogue, entrepreneur, public figure and construction specialist Ivan Levynskyi is known to the limited circle of specialists in the sphere of architecture and construction, however, in the early 20th century he was widely known in all artistic, academic and manufacturing societies, and the industrial community.

The anniversary date is a weighty reason to rethink the great role of Ivan Levynsky in the history of modern Ukrainian culture. Within the framework of the celebration of the year of Ivan Levynsky in Lviv, several academic institutions, public organizations and art galleries launched a large-scale cultural and research project that presented a wide spectrum of the creative activity of this famous artist. The municipal Department of Protection of the Historic Environment and the Department of Development organized and carried out various joint activities dedicated to this anniversary date for the popularization of historical monuments designed by this great architect.

At the same time, the activity of Ivan Levynsky as a representative of the professor elite of Lviv of the early 20th century is not sufficiently covered in works of Lviv researchers. Particularly, some aspects of his activity are still poorly explored, such as his pedagogic activity that should be singled out and researched through the study of archive sources and historical and biographical literature. Oles Noha, a researcher of Ivan Levynskyi's activity from Lviv, published two monographs (Noha, 1993; 2009) exploring biographical data of the famous Ukrainian engineer, architect, constructor, entrepreneur, professor, pedagogue of Lviv Polytechnic Institute, initiator of the Ukrainian national industry, public and political figure, and illustrated his creative heritage. The architectural heritage of Ivan Levynsky is covered in the monograph "The Art of Lviv Secession" written by Yu.Biriuliov (Biriuliov, 2010). In their

specialized research papers, O. Oleshko and Yu. Petrovska describe the impact of Ivan Levynsky on the formation and development of the Lviv School of Architecture (Oleshko and Petrovska, 2019). The world-view and aesthetic fundamentals of the activity of artists of Lviv School of Architecture of the end of the 19th – early 20th century were collected by Yu. Petrovska (Petrovska, 2012).

Reference works containing short information on the life and creative activity of Ivan Levynsky written by the researchers Anna Kos and Liliya Onyshchenko (Kos and Onyshchenko, 2009), scholar Ihor Zhuk (Zhuk, 2010), encyclopedic publications, collection of theses of the International Scientific Conference “Education, Memory, City”, the book of bibliographic references (Linda et al, 2019) include biographic stories and objects of the architectural heritage of Ivan Levynsky.

2. Basic Theory Part

Studying at the Faculty of Construction of the Higher Technical Academy, Ivan Levynskyi developed as a construction engineer and mastered the fundamentals of the architecture. During his studies, he showed himself as a talented student, and upon graduation, in 1874 he was allowed to pursue his academic activities as a lecturer. A bit later, in 1902, Ivan Levynsky headed the Department of the Utilitarian Construction at the Polytechnic School. In 1903, the board of professors of the Polytechnic School awarded him a title of the professor of the Department of Construction, and in 1908 Ivan Levynsky became an ordinary professor. In academic years of 1912–1913, I. Levynsky worked as a dean of the Faculty of Construction (Noha, 1993, pp. 9–11).



Fig. 1. The Program of the Polytechnic School for 1907–1908 (State Archive of Lviv Region, F.27. Inventory. 2. File 1206).



Fig. 2. The portrait of Ivan Levynsky. Drawing, paper, pen-and-ink, 26×30 cm (author – Vasyl Kuzmych)

The archive curriculums of the Polytechnic School for academic years of 1902–1909 contain the names of academic subjects taught by Ivan Levynsky (State Archive of Lviv Region, fund 27, description 2, case 1044, pp. 30–32) in particular those described below.

Utilitarian Construction (4 hours of lectures and 8 hours of design classes weekly in both semesters). The course program envisaged study of aspects of the general use of buildings for the technical hygiene and detailed use of buildings with account for dimensions, construction stage and situational location. The course also included such elements as general design, approximate cost estimate, detailed design of residential houses,

leased premises, hotels, establishments, schools, saunas, governmental buildings; design of buildings of railway stations, seaports, postal offices, telegraph and phone cabins; completion of construction works, construction management, detailed estimate, manufacturing of construction materials.

Encyclopedia of Construction (2 hours of lectures and 3 hours of design classes weekly in the winter semester; 2 hours of lectures and 6 hours of design classes weekly in the summer semester). Use of the space: internal utility systems, fire protection facilities, preventive measures in case of extraordinary situations, hygiene of houses, drainage system, heating and ventilation, constructions of houses; designing of dormitories, production facilities and stores; completion of construction works and field supervision, construction estimate (State Archive of Lviv Region, fund 27, description 2, case 1337, pp. 20, 21, 22).

Agricultural Building Construction (academic years of 1909–1910) (State Archive of Lviv Region, fund 27, description 2, case 1337, pp. 20, 21, 22).

In 1907, Ivan Levynskyi authored the publication “Hygiene of the Building as a Foundation for Changes of Construction Regulations of Lviv City” (Fig. 3). Its first section deals with the issue of the soil hygiene, air hygiene in the house, problem of warmth and dryness of house premises, hygiene of lightening and soundproofing of houses. The second section of the book is dedicated to fire protection, house ventilation systems, requirements to staircases, etc. The economic approach to the provision of conditions for human living and preservation of health in residential premises and the legal approach to the construction process are also very interesting. Consideration of these and other issues evidences the comprehensive knowledge of I. Levynsky (Lewiński, 1907). The main formative principles of I. Levynsky in the architecture are expressed in some articles and reports. In particular, in 1901 he gave the lecture “On Utilitarian Construction” presenting his views on problems of construction and architecture (Fig. 4). This was an introductory lecture reflecting the professional position and life philosophy of Ivan Levynsky. He believed that science should not be “lifeless” and routine. His views can be characterized as a theory of “rational architecture”. By supporting the rationalism of the new secession architecture, he emphasized the importance of the aesthetic moment in the process of form creation. He believed that each building should be a piece of art, and the main functional elements should have the aesthetic form and be adorned with decorations. The world-view principles of Ivan Levynsky are characterized by the aspiration to rational and constructive decisions, to the harmony of the architecture and nature (Lewiński, 1902) (Petrovska, 2012).

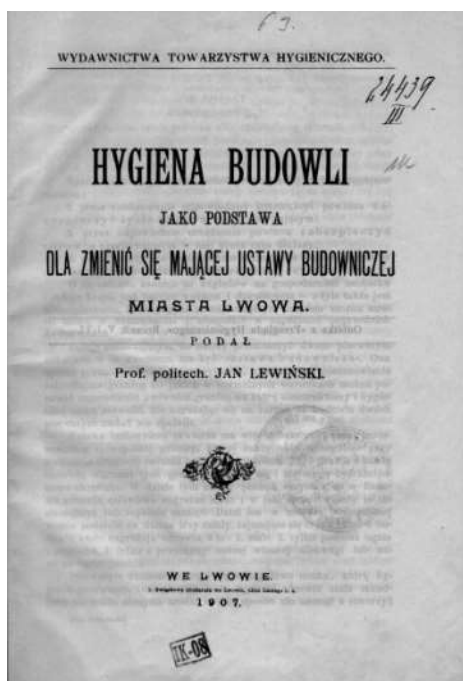


Fig. 3. Title page of the essay

“Hygiene budowli jako podstawa się mającej ustawy budowniczej miasta Lwowa” in the collection of scholarly works of the Hygiene Society (Lewiński, 1907)

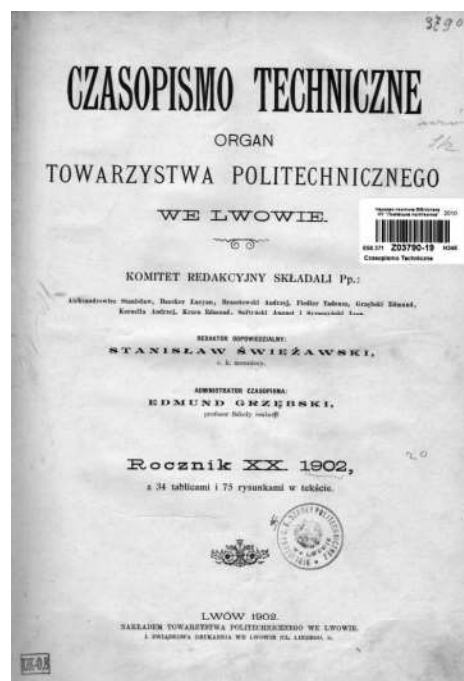


Fig. 4. Title page of the introductory lecture

“O budownictwie uylitarnem” in the collection of scholarly works *Czasopismo Techniczne*, (Lewiński, 1902)

3. Results and Discussion

Throughout the years of his activity in Lviv Polytechnic Institute, Ivan Levynsky raised the whole pleiad of eminent Ukrainian and Polish constructors and architects, including Tadeusz Obminski, Oleksandr Lushpynsky, Mykhailo Kovalchuk. He established the architectural school of thought, prepared several talented Ukrainian architects and himself was a paradigm example of an architect. The high level of professional activity in the regional construction industry was evidenced by the constantly increasing number of students of the Faculty of Construction of Lviv Polytechnic Institute. Thus, in the first years of operation of this Faculty, the number of students was around 20–30, in the mid-1900s it reached 100, and on the threshold of 1914, it was already nearly 250 (Noha, 1993, p. 11).

The Department of Utilitarian Construction headed by Levynsky fully corresponded to his views and experience. This Department of the Faculty of Construction did not teach architecture, art and aesthetics to students since Levynsky believed that an architect should act more as a constructor because the majority of buildings serve the specific needs of their residents. Some public buildings played a certain symbolic role, but first of all, they must be comfortable for their residents, conveniently planned and technically equipped. The sufficient natural lightening of a building is also important since it positively impacts human health. According to Ivan Levynsky, a good specialist must possess such knowledge and skills and be able to calculate the plan of the specific building, be aware of the global technical achievements and inventions and rationally use building materials and structures in the process of construction. His assistants at the Department were represented by such specialists as Vitold Minkevych, Vladyslav Derdatsky, Yevhen Chervinsky, who also worked at his factory and later on became famous architects of the interwar period. Namely, the experience of working with Ivan Levynskyi played a crucial role in their professional views.

At the end of 1989, the Faculty of Architecture of Lviv Polytechnic Institute established Ivan Levynsky Award. It is awarded to students of architecture for the best projects of architectural buildings and interiors in the national Ukrainian style. Besides, the Board of Lviv Regional Organization of the National Society of Architects of Ukraine annually submits the best architectural projects for the contest, the winners of which receive Ivan Levynsky Regional Awards (Oleshko and Petrovska, 2019).

4. Conclusions

As an eminent Ukrainian architect, constructor, engineer, entrepreneur, professor of Lviv Polytechnic School acting on the cusp of the 19th and 20th centuries, Ivan Levynskyi embodied his ideas of the revival of the Ukrainian folk style and folk motives in architectural buildings, constructions and pieces of art. As a scholar and pedagogue, he managed to establish his own system of training of specialists that promoted the development of scientific and technical researches in Galicia. Studying under the professor Ivan Levynskyi, senior students developed as specialists of the Polytechnic School since they did the intensive practical training at his design and construction company. The professor actively engaged in scholarly activities published his researches in collections of scholarly works and gave speeches presenting his professional position. Speaking at public meetings, Ivan Levynskyi explained his own methodology of teaching that envisaged teaching of academic subjects based on lecture materials that in the professor's opinion should accompany every discipline. At the same time, he emphasized that students need to study the newest samples of buildings outside the territory of the country, carry out observations of nature and do architectural sketching both in the form of sketches and in the form of academic drawings.

References

- Program szkoły politechnicznej we Lwowie na rok naukowy 1904–1905. Fund 27, Inventory 2. File 1044. Lviv: State archive of Lviv region.
- Program szkoły politechnicznej we Lwowie na rok naukowy 1907–1908. Fund 27, Inventory 2. File 1206. Lviv: State archive of Lviv region.
- Program szkoły politechnicznej we Lwowie na rok naukowy 1909–1910 (XXXVIII). Fund 27, Inventory 2. File 1337. Lviv: State archive of Lviv region.

- Lewiński Jan, 1902. "O budownictwie uylitarnem", Czasopismo techniczne, No. 3; No. 4.
- Lewiński Jan, 1907. Hygiena budowli jako podstawa dla zmiany się mającej ustawy budowniczej miasta Lwowa. Lwow: Wydawnictwa Towarzystwa Hygienicznego.
- Biryulov Y., 2004. Mystetstvo Iivivskoyi setsesiyyi. Lviv: Tsentr Europy.
- Zhuk I., 2010. Lviv Levynskoho : misto i budivnychy. Kiev: Grani-T.
- Noha O., 1993. Ivan Levynskiy. Khudozhnyk, arkhitekt, promyslovets, pedahoh, hromadskiy diyach. Lviv: Vydavnytstvo "Osnova".
- Noha O., 2009. Ivan Levynskyy: Arkhitekt, pidpryemets, metsenat. Lviv: Tsentr Europy. 76 s.
- Kos A. ta Onyshchenko L., 2009. Spadshchyna velykoho budivnychoho. Profesor Lvivskoyi politekhniki Ivan Levynskiy (1851–1919). Lviv: Vydavnytstvo Lvivskoyi politekhniki.
- Linda S., Klymenyuk T., Ponkalo S., Petrovska ta in. 2019. Ivan Ivanovych Levynskiy. Biobibliografichnyy dovidnyk. Lviv: Vydavnytstvo Lvivskoyi politekhniki.
- International scientific conference "Osvita, pamyat', misto. Prysvyachuyetsya pamyati arkhitekta Ivana Levynskoho" : Collection of Abstracts and Materials of the International Scientific Conference, Lviv, September 27, 2019. Lviv: Vydavnytstvo Lvivskoyi politekhniki.
- Petrovska Yu. R., 2012. Svitohlyadno-estetychni osnovy tvorchosti myttsiv Lvivskoyi arkhitekturnoyi shkoly. XIX–XX st. Visnyk Lvivskoho natsionalnoho ahrarnoho universytetu. No. 13, Lviv: PP "Aral".

Юліана Петровська¹, Василь Кузьмич²

¹ Старший викладач кафедри дизайну та основ архітектури,
Національний університет "Львівська політехніка", Львів
e-mail: yuliana.r.petrovska@lpnu.ua
orcid: 0000-0001-8519-7065

² Старший викладач кафедри дизайну та основ архітектури,
Національний університет "Львівська політехніка", Львів
e-mail: vasyli.kuzmich@lpnu.ua
orcid: 0000-0002-6783-0602

**ПЕДАГОГІЧНА ДІЯЛЬНІСТЬ ІВАНА ЛЕВИНСЬКОГО
У ЛЬВІВСЬКІЙ АРХІТЕКТУРНІЙ ШКОЛІ КІН. ХІХ – ПОЧ. ХХ ст.**

Анотація. Наукове дослідження знайомить із педагогічною діяльністю Івана Левинського у Політехнічній школі. Історичні документи з Державного архіву Львівської області допоможуть розглянути та проаналізувати навчальні плани Відділу будівництва (*Program szkoły politechnicznej we Lwowie*), які включають назви навчальних дисциплін, години їх вивчення на різних курсах та короткі анотації змісту предметів, які викладав професор Іван Левинський. Як науковець і педагог, він зумів започаткувати власну систему підготовки кадрів, яка сприяла розвитку науково-технічних досліджень у Галичині. Під його керівництвом студенти старших курсів формувались як спеціалісти Політехнічної школи, оскільки проходили поглиблену практику в проєктно-будівельній фірмі. Активно займався науковою роботою, публікував свої напрацювання у збірниках наукових праць та виступав із доповідями, в яких висвітлював свою професійну позицію. На громадських зібраннях Левинський трактував власну методику викладання навчальних дисциплін, що полягала у викладанні навчальних предметів, основою яких є лекційний матеріал, котрий, на думку професора, повинен супроводжувати кожну дисципліну. Водночас наголошував на тому, що слід вивчати новітні зразки будівель, виконаних за межами країни, здійснювати натурні обстеження та виконувати архітектурні замальовки і в ескізній формі, і в техніці академічного рисунку. Кафедра, яку він очолив під назвою "утилітарного" будівництва, повністю відповідала його поглядам і досвіду. Окремі громадські будівлі відігравали певну символічну роль, проте найперше повинні бути комфортними для її мешканців, зручно розпланованими та технічно оснащеними. Важливим елементом було достатнє природне освітлення будівлі, яке сприятливо впливало на здоров'я людини. Іван Левинський, як видатний український архітектор, будівничий, інженер, промисловець, професор Політехнічної школи у Львові, на зламі ХІХ та ХХ століть, втілював свої ідеї відродження українського народного стилю в архітектурних будівлях, спорудах та мистецьких творах, мотиви народної творчості.

Ключові слова: Львівська архітектурна школа, Іван Левинський, навчальні плани, навчальні дисципліни, педагогічна діяльність.