Organization of Social Pre-School Education in Bukovyna (Late XIX – Early XX Cent.)

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The article elucidates issues of originating and development of pre-school institutions in Bukovyna in the late XIX – early XX century, which took place under influence of Western European public and pedagogical thought. It has been discovered that the beginning of Bukovynian pre-school education is connected with founding of a distinction pre-school institution at Chernivtsi State Women's Seminary according to the order of Austrian Ministry of Faith and Education of August 16, 1875. Part of public religious and civil societies has been shown in formation of pre-school education system, particular role in the process taken by Catholic charity society, Catholic nun community «Maria's Family», Greek-Catholic society «Mirth Carriers», Society of orthodox Rus Women, Society of Romanian Women of Bukovyna. Peculiarities of founding and functioning of first pre-school institutions which were divided into kindergartens and shelters («zakhoronkas»), as well as forms of public and state support in practice have been researched. The idea has been grounded that a particular feature of pre-school education during the period under analysis was functioning of multilingual pre-school educational institutions which laid traditions of pre-school education in the conditions of polycultural environment of Bukovyna.

Keywords: public society, pre-school education, kindergarten, shelter, «zakhoronka», teachers' seminary

Introduction

Originating and development of pre-school education in Bukovyna, which belonged to Austrian (Austrian-Hungarian Empire) in the second half of the XIX century as an autonomous administrative unit, took part under influence of various social-political and cultural-educational processes. Among them of particular significance were democratization of state Austrian system, reform of people's school, establishment of pre-school education in different crown lands of the Empire, including Galicia, and

development of public initiative which brought to life vast feminist movement (Hnatchuk, 2004).

The new all-Austrian education law (14.05.1869) not only declared mandatory and free education in people's schools, arranged pedagogical staff training, but also acknowledged pre-school education as a primary link of system of educational institutions in the country. As famous Bukovynian pedagogue I. Karbulytskyy stated, this law «in one move put Austrian people's schooling on a totally different way, became a breaking point for our land, too» (Karbulytskyy, 1907).

The law presupposed creating new pedagogical institutions – men's and women's seminaries which had to change so called «teacher's preparatory courses» – pedagogical courses taught at some main and county schools. Teachers' seminaries had to terminate acute lack of teachers which was vividly seen in connection with general development of school education. Women's seminaries had to become key centers for training new pedagogues – pre-school teachers.

Another significant factor was active development of pre-school educations in different lands of Habsburg Empire, including neighbouring Galicia, where in 1839 first pre-school educational institution was organized in the village of Soroky near Lviv. In 1844 there were 5 «institutions for young children care» or «okhoronkas», as they were referred to in mass media, acting in Galicia, three of them – in Lviv. All of them were the result of public and private initiative (Kvasetska, 2017).

Ukrainian and Romanian feminist movements originated in Bukovyna in the late XIX century and focused on fight for women's spiritual emancipation and intellectual development, for establishing honorary place in social life alongside with men. Main forms of the movement were national-cultural, educational and charity activity needed most of all by poorest Bukovynian population, within vast national-social movement of representatives of both native people of Bukovyna (Mihăilescu, 2000); Hnatchuk, 2004).

Representatives of women's movement in Bukovyna were, on Ukrainian side, «Mirth Carriers» society (1886), «Society of Rus Women» (1894), «Women's Community» (1906), Society of Orthodox Rus Women (1908), and on Romanian side – Society of Romanian Women of Bukovyna (Societatea Doamnelor Române din Bucovina) (1890). They all, in some or other extent, contributed to originating in the late XIX – early XX century of the new area of women's responsibility – pre-school social education.

Theoretical basic

The research is based on the statement of dependence of educational systems and contents of pre-school pedagogy on social-political, social-economic and cultural-educational processes, necessity to generalize and spread advanced pedagogical experience as one of high-priority tasks of scientific-methodical provisions of pre-school educational system. Interaction of historical experience and modern pedagogical theory and practice is a significant prerequisite for improvement of contents and forms of work with children of pre-school age, professional training of would-be pedagogues.

Discussion and reserach results

Creating new pedagogical institutions – state men's and women's seminaries in Chernivtsi became a significant event in the history of people's education and pre-school education in Bukovyna. A men's state seminary was founded in 1870 and in 1872 on Landhausstrasse (currently A. Sheptytsky St.) a women's teachers' seminary was opened in a local women's people's school. Both teachers' seminaries were considered independent, but were governed by one director Demetr Josopesku (Ungureanu, 2007).

On August 16, 1875, Austrian Ministry of Faith and Education made a decision to open a «distinction pre-school institution» at Chernivtsi women's teachers' seminary. According to this order, the kindergarten had to be organized at the beginning of 1875-1876 academic year. However, at that time there was not a single one certified pre-school teacher, and the board of Chernivtsi teachers' seminary sent a people's school teacher Helena Slyvinska to the Austrian city of Gratz where the system of pre-school staff training had been arranged at the local women's teachers' seminary. After successful theoretical studies and proper practical training He. Slyvinska returned to Chernivtsi and headed up the kindergarten at the teachers' seminary which was opened in the second part of 1875-1876 academic year (Dubensky, 1890).

The kindergarten, which had the status of a «distinction pre-school educational institution», was meant not only for teaching young children of pre-school age, but also for providing a possibility to have mandatory pedagogical practical training to students of the teachers' seminary who were studying to receive a profession of a people's teacher and pre-school teacher, as well as to those candidates for a pre-school teacher's profession who were engaged in the Froebel course or studied independently to take qualification examinations.

Opening the first pre-school educational institution in Chernivtsi caused interest among parents and public. In 1876-1877 academic year the kindergarten accommodated 74 children (34 boys and 40 girls) and in the following year this number made 76 children (Oliinyk & Kvasetska, 2012). However, the first kindergarten did not immediately lead to spreading of pre-school institutions in Bukovyna. Neither country school council, nor appropriate local authorities considered formation and government-funded support of new pre-school institutions their priority and let this work to be done by public organizations. They were just forming, though.

In 1885 Catholic charity society was formed in 1885 in Chernivtsi. Ukrainian newspaper «Bukovyna» in their issue of October 15, 1885 (by old calendar) informed that the land government of Bukovyna dukedom approved the statute of the recently founded Catholic charity society. The newspaper article mentioned that «the purpose of the society was helping poor Catholics of Chernivtsi, namely Latin, Armenian and Greek rite, first and foremost – providing care to poor orphans and children of poor city dwellers of Catholic religion». Every Catholic city dweller who had Austrian citizenship and donated 1 gulden 20 kreutzers to the public fund on a yearly basis could become a member of the society. One-time donation of 25 guldens served a ground for acknowledging such citizen a founding member of the society («Statute of Catholic Society», 1885).

It looks like in 1885 a children's shelter was founded as well, which was called in German as «Kinderasyl» («children's shelter»), «Kindebewahranstalt» («children's care institution», «okhoronka» or «zakhoronka»). Sometimes the name «Kindergärten» – «kindergarten» was used. In the first half of the following 1886 year festive laying and sanctifying of the cornerstone for the building of the «first children's shelter» took place. This event was broadcast not only on the pages of Bukovynian press, but also in the all-Austrian newspaper «Neuigkeits Welt-Blatt» («Czernowitzer Wohltätigkeitsverein», 1886).

As the article had it, on May 29, 1886, the decorated building site of the first children's shelter in Chernivtsi welcomed not only members of Catholic charity society headed by Doctor Karl Vexler, but also numerous guests – honorable prelates Ignatsiy Kornitskyy (Roman-Catholic priest), Florian Mytulskyy (Armenian-Catholic priest), honorable canon Kelestyn Kostetskyy (Greek-Catholic priest), mayor of Chernivtsi city Wilgelm von Klimesh, patrons and honorable city dwellers, members of Catholic parishes. Sanctifying of the cornerstone was performed by representatives of three denominations – Roman-Catholic, Greek-Catholic and Armenian-Catholic.

Catholic charity society was well prepared for building the first children's shelter in Chernivtsi, three years later it was sanctified and opened.

As it was written in the newspaper «Bukowinaer Nachrichten», the building was located on Franz Street (Franzengasse, currently 28 of June Street), opposite the building of Russian consulate (60, 28th of June Street). Its value made over 6000 florins («Katholisches Asylhaus», 1889).

Significance of this event was enlarged by presence of high official guests – President of Bukovyna dukedom Felix baron von Pino, city mayor Anton von Kokhanovskyy, numerous representatives of Roman-, Greek- and Armenian-Catholic denominations. To emphasize international character of the event, head of Catholic charity society Doctor Karl Vexler gave a speech in German, Professor Emmaluel Dvorsky in Polish and Professor Stepan Smal-Stotsky – in Ukrainian.

During the festivity the end goal of the building was clarified, namely as «humanitarian institution» which is a part of «children's shelter and orphanage». While the children's shelter, as a pre-school institution, was meant to «educate children in religious and moral values during their early childhood, the orphanage had a goal to provide care to children who do not receive parental care.

The mayor of Chernivtsi city A. Kokhanovskyy in his speech called «enlargement of this humanitarian institution» as a significant «preliminary success» which proved the institution's power and served a guarantee of its successful functioning. The words of the mayor of Chernivtsi about the building as «the main building» of the humanitarian institution which was «not only preserved from the moment of its founding, but was also able to spread» indirectly state that a pre-school educational institution in the form of a children's shelter («okhoronka») had been founded before laying the cornerstone in its building in May, 1886, that is at the end of 1885 or beginning of 1886 («Katholisches Asylhaus», 1889).

Catholic society tried to draw attention of vast Bukovynian publicity to their institutions – pre-school «okhoronka» and orphanage. Bukovynian mass media informed about participation of patrons and official civil servants in support events.

Melania and Anna West were pioneers in creating non-state (private) pre-school institutions in Chernivtsi and in Bukovyna in general. Melania West (married name Romstorfer), like her sister Anna, was educated as a teacher and decided to try herself in teaching young children. On December 30, 1893 Melania West-Romstorfer addressed the Regional School Board with an application to let them open a private kindergarten in Chernivtsi. In her application she stated that the kindergarten was about to open on May 1, 1894, will be based at 6 Petrovych St. and will work on the grounds of the Order of Ministry of Religion and Education of June 22, 1872. The

kindergarten will admit children aged 3-4 and Melania's sister, Anna West, who has a degree in pedagogy, will take care of them.

As archives documents prove it, 30 children were taught in the kindergarten during January-October 1899. Sometime later the number of children increased and equaled to 40 boys and girls, that was the number stated in the normative documents. In 1911 the number of pupils reached 67. At that time Melania Romstorfer had quit the kindergarten affairs and Anna West carried on. Olga Tarnauretska became a teacher.

The Regional School Board acknowledged the achievements of the first private kindergarten by regularly putting it on the second place in its reports after a state kindergarten of Chernivtsi State Women's Teachers' Seminary.

On September 3, 1895, the board of Saint Maria's Family school (53 Semyhorodska St., Chernivtsi city) wrote a letter to Country School Council, the reason being numerous requests from parents to grant permission to opening a kindergarten so it could admit children before school age. Since such children could not be admitted to school, the teachers had to arrange appropriate classes for them. The founder of the kindergarten was Yuliya Schmitd, head of the Maria's Family monastery. The kindergarten was headed up by Aurelia Milinkevych, Kamilla Kudla, a professional pre-school teacher, being her assistant (Kvasetska, 2017).

A few months were spent to arrange formalities and prepare statutory documents which had to conform to the legislative and normative standards. In April, 1896, the requestors addressed the country school council again and submitted for review their new statute of an «independent kindergarten» alongside with the curriculum. This time the documents were considered sufficient and the verdict of the country school authority was positive.

The kindergarten in the Maria's Family monastery occupied two spacious light rooms on the ground floor, equipped with necessary furniture and educational means. In the monastery garden the children could move, do easy gardening jobs, have planned classes and organize various games under the teacher's supervision (Oliinyk & Kvasetska, 2012).

While the pre-school educational institution of Catholic charity society, based on its organizational form, belonged to care institutions – «okhoronkas» where children stayed for a whole day when their parents or relatives were busy at their work, the pre-school institution at «Maria's Family» nun community was a kindergarten with a slightly different schedule. As a rule, kindergartens admitted children in the first three hours before noon (from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.) and 2 hours after noon (from 3 p.m. to

5 p.m.). the schedule could be changed, though, based on certain season (Kvasetska, 2017).

First pre-school educational institutions, though they had different founders – state, secular and religious societies, were still meant mostly for German-speaking children. However, under the conditions of growth of national consciousness among native people of Bukovynian land, that is Ukrainians and Romanians, national and cultural movements spread across Bukovyna. Ukrainian and Romanian women's societies defined providing care to children of pre-school age as a significant direction of their activity.

The first women's Ukrainian society originated in Chernivtsi in 1886 at a local Greek-Catholic church and was called «Mirth Carriers» after one of those women who brought mirth to apply on Christ's body after it was taken off the cross, based on Evangelic tale. Mirth carriers is also a name for women who are especially kind to other people's sufferings and participants of religious processions (Hnatchuk, 2004).

The first head of the society was elected Natalia Shankovska, secretary – Kateryna Chertenko-Kostetska. As stated by the statute of the society, «Mirth Carriers» had their task, on one side, to «try to decorate the Greek-Catholic church in Chernivtsi», «to enhance glamour of a church rite» and on the other side – to help poor girls of Greek-Catholic faith in their education (Hnatchuk, 2004).

For some time the society's activity was focused on church and religious charity, but later more time was dedicated to communal work, especially after the society organized the first in Chernivtsi and Bukovyna Ukrainian pre-school institution.

Until recently the theory was popular that the «zakhoronka» run by «Mirth Carriers» sisters was founded in 1896, its origin being the article «Women's Organizations in Bukpvyna» by L.Burachynska (Kvitkovskyi, Bryndzan & Zhukovskyi, 1956). However, thanks to the newspaper publications it became possible for us to establish erroneousess of this theory. The Ukrainian newspaper «Bukovyna» in the article «First Rus Zakhoronka in Bukovyna» of June 7, 1906 informed that «... the local «Mirth Carriers» society started on May 16 of this year the first Rus (Ukrainian) zakhoronka in Bukovyna which is located in a rented building at 9 Artyleriyna St.». Children care was provided by four representatives of the Greek-Catholic sisters community («First Rus Zakhoronka», 1906).

The newspaper also informed that the society possessed a building which could accommodate 40 children of poor workers who bring their children at 6 a.m. before leaving for work and pick them up at 6 or 7 p.m. after their workday is over.

«Mirth Carriers» society started preparation for opening of the pre-school institution at the beginning of 1906. «Bukovyna» newspaper of February 16, 1908 informed about organization of a «friendly gathering» in the People's House hall. Participation fee was 1.50 koronas. «Net amount for opening the first Russian kindergarten in Chernivtsi».

In March 1906, a general meeting of «Mirth Carriers» society took place in the People's House in Chernivtsi. New management of the society was elected. The management included: Emilia Smal-Stotska (head), Olga Kaluzhniatska (deputy head), Evgenia Kordubova (cashier), Kateryna Kostetska (scribe) and other active representatives of Ukrainian women. It was them who contributed to organizing the first Ukrainian kindergarten.

The children's pre-school educational institution run by «Mirth Carriers» was located in Chernivtsi several hundred meters to the east from the Greek-Catholic church – at 9 Artyleriyska St.. The street got its name due to the fact that it led to artillery barracks. Later it was renamed after famous Austrian field marshal Radetsky (currently Zinovii Kaniuk St.) (Kvasetska, 2017).

It is quite obvious that teaching at the institution of «Mirth Carriers» society was assigned to representatives of Serving Sisters nuns, which was founded by the priest Kyrylo Seletsky and the monk Yermiya Lomnytsky of Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church with the purpose of teaching children of pre-school age. Thanks to a new nun society, the first Ukrainian kindergarten was opened in Galicia in the village of Zhuzheli (currently Zhuzheliany, Sokal district, Lviv region) on May 15, 1893. During a few years the Serving Sisters nuns organized a vast network of Ukrainian pre-school educational institutions. One of the first were kindergartens in the villages of Samolusky, Husiatyn district and Tsyhany, Borshchiv district, in the towns of Khrystynopil, Ternopil, Monastyrsky.

In 1896 the first Ukrainian manual for kindergartens «Short Catechesis Exercises and Bible History for Use by Christian Mothers, Kindergartens and Priests» prepared by Kyrylo Seletsky was published. It included foundations and forms of religious-moral education of children of pre-school age. By developing Christian virtues in their children, Serving Sisters nuns helped the young children to «lean about God» through play. By doing so they contributed to preserving national identity of Ukrainian children in the conditions of discrimination of their language and culture.

The first women's Romanian organization in Bukovyna was Society of Romanian Women of Bukovyna (Societatea Doamnelor Române din Bucovina).

Its statute was approved by the regional government of Bukovyna on April 6, 1890. The first general meeting of the new society was held in

Chernivtsi on February 6, 1891 and in April 1891 another additional general meeting took place which resulted into introducing changes to the statute and holding an additional election of the society management body. Helena Popovych was elected the head of the Society of Romanian Women and baronesse Viktoria Styrcha was elected the deputy head. The society committee included Alma Volchynska, Helena Popovych and Sofia Zalozetska. Yevfrosynia Wilhelm became the auditor 7 («Romanischer Frauenverein», 1891, April 17).

Men's patronage over the Society of Romanian Woman was provided by the Society of Romanian Literature and Culture (Societea pentru literatura și cultura română din Bucovina) .

As put by modern Romanian authors, Chernivtsi socialites under management of Society of Romanian Literature and Culture (Societea pentru literatura și cultura română din Bucovina) tried to combine fight for emancipation with national-patriotic fight of Romanians in Austria-Hungary 19 (Mihăilescu, 2000).

Society of Romanian Women of Bukovyna organized a boarding school for Romanian girls who studied in teachers' seminary and secondary educational institutions in Chernivtsi, people's school with Romanian language of instruction, as well as two national pre-school educational institutions for children from low-budget families aged 3 to 6.

The State Archives of Chernivtsi region contains materials of the correspondence between Chernivtsi City and Bukovyna Regional School Boards which took place in 1900 and referred to granting permission to the Society of Romanian Women of Bukovyna to opening a pre-school educational institution.

As one can see on the well-preserved front page of the message of the Regional School Board of July 23, 1900, the institution in question was a kindergarten (Kindergärten), that is a higher form of a children's pre-school educational institution which is intended for children's long stay at the institution in the first and second halves of the day with a lunch break when children are taken home («Correspondence with Chernivtsi City», 1900). Still, at that time considerably more social and cultural-education support was needed by children from low-income families whose parents were working full-time. That was why such children of pre-school age were provided with a caregiving children's institution – «zakhoronka» in Ukrainian and «azil» in Romanian (which means «shelter»). This was the form of an institution that the Society of Romanian Women of Bukovyna chose later.

The first educational institution of the Society was opened in Chernivtsi on October 1, 1902 at 4 Hereskul St. (currently Shchepkin St.). As it was said in the annual report prepared by the committee of the Society

of Romanian Women of Bukovyna, the newly founded institution was intended for children of labor workers who lived in the northern district of Chernivtsi and in the suburbs. Administrative issues of «the shelter for Romanian children» were handled by Anna Visteh (head), Stefania Hurmuzaki, Anesia Mustatsa and Elena Popovych and Aurora Filiyevych was responsible for teaching (Mareci-Sabol, 2013).

The house on Hereskulgasse had been bought and given to the Romanian women's society with the purpose of organizing a children's shelter by Volodymyr Repta, who was at that time an archimandrite, a vicar general of Bukovyna Orthodox metropole and later, starting from October 1902 – a metropolitan of Bukovyna and Dalmatia (Masiian, 2016, December 29).

When the shelter started its activity, the number of children aged 3-6 was quite low – up to 10 young children, but gradually it grew and in 1906 it made it to 50. Also, the pre-school educational institution provided bed and board to 16 pupils from low-income families from the neighboring villages.

The mixed character of the institution, where children of pre-school and primary school age were taught might be the reason why the «zakhoronka» (kindergarten) run by the Society of Romanian Women of Ukraine was not mentioned in official data of both School Board of Chernivtsi City and Regional School Board of Bukovyna before 1906, as well as in nationwide statistical data collections.

On June 1, 1906 the Society of Romanian Women of Bukovyna opened another pre-school educational institution. It was located in the south of Chernivtsi – at 178 Monastyriska suburb. The «zakhoronka» was patroned by baron Nicu Flondor and Lily Flondor. According to the official report prepared by the head of the institution Emma Krismanich, it was attended by 37 children (20 boys and 17 girls) in 1911 (Oliinyk & Kvasetska, 2012).

The living conditions (care) and food were «staple but quite healthy» at pre-school institutions of the Society of Romanian Women of Bukovyna. The activity of both institutions was funded by subventions of the Regional Seim (council) of Bukovyna, charity donations and income from different fundraising events.

Fig. 1. Development of pre-school educational institutions network in Bukovyna

Before 1918 Society of Romanian Women of Bukovyna was the only public representative of Romanian women, which was a sign of high level of national consolidation. The situation was different among Ukrainian women's movement which was formed by several organizations with consideration for religious and social-political circumstances, namely a vast number of intelligent women belonging to Greek-Catholic community, as well as active internal fight inside Ukrainian community between supporters of moscowphile and people's (ukrainianphile) directions.

Under the conditions of such division, «Mirth Carriers» society, which mostly consisted of representatives of Greek-Catholic faith, first took neutral position, but later got inclination to people's supporters. At the same time, «Society of Rus Women» which, based on the words by the writer Olha Kobylanska, was founded in 1894 by «Rus people of both directions», took a moscowphile position. That was why victory of people's supporters in Ukrainian movement led to rise of new women's organization: «Women's Community» (1906) and «Society of Orthodox Rus Women» (1908) which followed the example of «Mirth Carriers» society and Society of Romanian Women of Bukovyna and focused on organization and management of children's institutions (Hnatchuk, 2004).

Main board meeting of Society of Orthodox Rus Women took place on August 2, 1908. The head of the society was appointed Yevfrozyna

Andriychuk, deputy head – Yevfrozyna Halip, cashier – Viktoriya Popovych, secretary – Yelyzaveta Tyminska. The goal of the society's activity was defined as raising national consciousness, culture and well-being of Rus (Ukrainian) people through uniting and educating women. At the organizational meeting the intention of the society was stated to open a children's shelter in Chernivtsi at 31 Franz St. With this purpose «Orthodox Gentry» Society allocated a building for one-year time period for free to be used as «zakhoronka» – one big room and a kitchen. On November 1, 1908 the shelter accommodated first boys and girls, mostly from families where parents had to do breadwinning while children were left without due care.

In order to draw attention to their educational institution, the Society of Orthodox Rus Women organized various educational and entertainment events. «Great Tea Party» can be considered a successful debut performance for wide audience, which was held in November 1909 in the hall of Ukrainian People's House. Members of academic societies «Union», «Sich» and «Orthodox Academy», as well as representatives of multinational Bukovinian intelligentsia were invited to participate. Around 400 korona was raised for the needs of the children's «zakhoronka» and this fact was considered a success by the management of the Society of Orthodox Rus Women. The only shortcoming of the said event was the fact that the spacious hall of the Ukrainian People's House could not accommodate all those who wished to participate («Tea Party», 1909).

In 1911 10 pre-school educational institutions worked in Chernivtsi, most of them being funded by public religious and secular organizations: Catholic charity society – 1 institution, «Maria's Family» nun community – 1 institution, Society of Romanian Women on Bukovyna – 2 institutions, «Mirth Carriers» – 2 institutions, Society of Orthodox Rus Women – 1 institution.

«Mirth Carriers» opened their second «zakhoronka» in July 1910 at 94 Bila St. (currently Chernyshevskyy St.). As it was stated in the report to the Regional School Board of Bukovyna, in 1911 the pre-school educational institution held 40 children (17 boys and 23 girls). The educational and instructional work was performed by Olga Kaluzhniatska.

In February 1911 the society «Women's Community Circle» (Chernivtsi City Branch of All-Bukovynian Society «Women's Community») informed Regional School Board about transfer of the pre-school educational institution at 6 Radetskyy St. from «Mirth Carriers» society to «Women's Community Circle»/ what was the purpose of this transfer remains unknown. The most plausible reason could be financial problems. And since «Women's Community» society and its branch (circle) in Chernivtsi had declared previously their wish to develop children's

institutions, they took over one of the institutions run by «Mirth Carriers». In May 1911, in People's House in Chernivtsi «Women's Community Circle» compiled lists of children to attend the «zakhoronka» which was located at 6 Radetsky St..

As stated by the head of the society Irena Lutska and director of the institution Oleksandra Mykolayenko, 33 children (14 boys and 19 girls) were taught at the «zakhoronka».

In March 1912 «Women's Community» rented a house in Monastyriska suburb where the «zakhoronka» from Radetsky St. was moved. The children came at 7 a.m. and stayed there till 4 p.m.. Pupils also could stay there after their school classes finished. The children were served breakfast and lunch, pedagogical process was led by the teacher Oksana Lysynetska, active member of «Women's Community».

Two more institutions (kindergartens) were funded by private persons – Anna West and Kamilla Kudla. Still the most perfect example for all children's institutions during tens of years was set by the state kindergarten at Chernivtsi women's teachers' seminary.

For over 30 years it was headed by Helena Nikitovych (maiden name Slyvinska). She did not only managed the whole educational and instructional process at the pre-school educational institution of the Women's Teachers' Seminary, but also gave practical classes to the 3rd and 4th year students of the Seminary, organized a 3-month pedagogical practicum for Froebel course students who were studying part-time. Signatures by Helena Nikitovych can be seen on qualification certificates of the pre-school pedagogues dated 1897-1908.

Professional activity of Helena Nikitovych contributed to spread of ideas of public pre-school education in Bukovyna, approval of Froebel method of pre-school pedagogy, as well as increase in teacher's profession authority. In 1911 Helena Nikitovych retired and on this occasion was rewarded with Gold Cross of Credit by the Austrian emperor Franz Joseph I.

Helena Nikitovych's successor was Silvia Pashkan, a teacher at the exemplary kindergarten at Chernivtsi State Women's Teachers' Seminary. She was born in Chernivtsi and graduated from Teachers' Seminary. From 1908 she worked as a temporary teacher at a higher orthodox 6-grade school in Chernivtsi, from 1910 occupied the vacancy of a freelance teacher and later worked as a freelance practicum teacher at an exemplary kindergarten of the Teachers' Seminary. The report of the activity of the kindergarten in 1911 referred to Silvia Pashkan as to an Austrian emperor's teacher.

Such assignment required not only the candidate's pedagogical education received at the Teachers' Seminary, but also mastery of three

regional languages – German, Ukrainian and Romanian, as well as French additionally. Knowledge of German was confirmed by a certificate which gave right to work at people's schools with German as the language of instruction, knowledge of Ukrainian and Romanian was confirmed by additional qualification documents received on the grounds of evidence of appropriate examinations passed. An argument which strengthened Silvia's Pashkan chances as a candidate was a certificate of additional pedagogical practicum at an exemplary pre-school educational institution of a state women's teachers' seminary in the city of Graz (Austria), one of the most renowned centers of pre-school pedagogues training.

The management of Chernivtsi State Women's Teachers' Seminary considered Silvia Pashkan's experience in practical teaching activity insufficient in spite of her extensive education. That resulted in choosing an experienced assistant for Silvia. It was Kamilla Kudla, born in Bystrytsia (Transylvania), who worked as a teacher in Chernivtsi for about 25 years. First she worked at a pre-school educational institution founded in 1896 by a Roman-Catholic monastery «Maria's Family» and then at a private kindergarten founded by her personally (at 3 Semyhorodska St.).

In 1912 Kamilla Kudla took the position of a freelance teacher at an exemplary kindergarten at Chernivtsi Women's Teachers' Seminary. The new position could be seen as a major promotion. It was supported by a high salary which made 1,200 koronas. Besides, Ministry of Religion and Education of Austria took into account Kamilla's extensive experience of work with children of pre-school age and appointed an annual bonus of 150 koronas for Kamilla Kudla. Thus, a freelance teacher at an exemplary kindergarten at Chernivtsi Women's Teachers' Seminary had 1,350 koronas annual salary. In Bukovyna it could compete with the level of a salary of people's school teacher with vast pedagogical experience, something teachers of private pre-school educational institutions founded by individuals and public organizations could only dream of. At those institutions a teacher's salary was 2-3 times lower.

A professional reward at a children's pre-school educational institution of «Orthodox Rus Women» society can serve as a good example. The staff of the newly founded «zakhoronka» consisted of a pre-school teacher, a graduate of the course at a teachers' seminary, and a maid who did the cooking and helped to take care of the children. At the beginning they were paid 20 koronas monthly, that is 240 koronas a year. In 1912 their salaries doubled and reached 500 koronas a year. However, even with this increase it was considerably lower than that of pre-school teacher at a state kindergarten at the Women's Teachers' Seminary.

Another important factor which was a constraint for more active growth of the network of pre-school educational institutions in Chernivtsi was a high rent for housing used by pre-school institutions, as well as lack of such housing. That was why some public organizations, for instance «Mirth Carriers» or Society of Orthodox Rus Women, raised funds for building or purchasing housing. This turned out to be too complicated, though.

The pre-school institutions network developed much more slowly in district centers of Bukovyna. First pre-school educational institutions outside Chernivtsi were founded in the late XIX century. «Bukovynian Pedagogical Paper» in 1901 provided the information about a kindergarten in Radivtsi town which had worked for a few years at the local 6-grade girls' school. Sometime later it was closed down due to unfavorable material conditions. A children's institution in the district center of Suceava also had a short history of existence and stopped its work due to low attendance.

Among resolutions of district teachers' conferences of Bukovyna in 1901 there are ones on reopening those institutions which had closed down, as well as involvement of municipal and state authorities in organization of pre-school educational institutions at local people's schools. Still neither Regional School Council of Bukovyna, nor district school councils put any effort in it. During the time of Austrian ruling, a kindergarten at Chernivtsi State Women's Teachers' Seminary turned out to be the only one founded by state, including municipal, authorities.

In the early XX century pre-school education in district centers of Bukovyna was organized by the following enthusiasts of pre-school education: Laura Porumbescu – in Suceava, Anna Timmer – in Storozhynets, Maria Eidinger – in Seret, Rifka Rezenbaum – in Gura-Gumor. The name of the founder of a kindergarten in Radivtsi remain unknown.

In 1911, 5 children's institutions founded by individuals worked in the cities of Bukovyna.

Fig. 2. Distribution of pre-school institution in Bukovyna based on founders' status, 1911

Among patrons of the first pre-school educational institutions a special place was taken by the Bukovynian Orthodox bishop Volodymyr Repta who supported not only Society of Romanian Women on Bukovyna or Society of Orthodox Rus Women, but Greek-Catholic «Mirth Carriers» society as well. Regular support was also given to new institutions for youngest children by county president Bleileben, mayor First, Bukovynian ambassadors to Austrian parliament.

An extremely important source of income for the societies were subventions from Bukovynian county seim, Austrian ministry of faith and education, Chernivtsi magistrate. For instance, funding allocated by Bukovynian county seim to Ukrainian public organizations for cultural and educational needs in 1909 made over 64 thousand crowns. The money was allocated for building and managing boarding schools, reading halls and people's houses, supporting activity of musical and educational societies, as well as funding management of «zakhoronkas». «Mirth Carriers» donated 1,000 crowns and Society of Orthodox Rus Women – 500 crowns.

While publishing information about significant support by the county government aimed at cultural needs of Ukrainians, the newspaper «Bukovyna» made a special emphasis that equivalent financial support of 64 thousand crows was also allocated to the Romanian organizations of the county («Welfares», 1909).

Before WWII Ukrainian women's organizations managed to create a few more pre-school educational institutions. Namely, thanks to the efforts

of «Women's Community» society a «zakhoronka» was opened in Chernivtsi on Dvirtsseva St. (near the railway station), while Society of Orthodox Rus Women organized pre-school institutions in Kalichanka suburb of Chernivtsi and in the village of Mamayivtsi, Kitsman district. Since Bukovyna found itself in the center of war events, existence of those institutions was quite short-term.

Conclusions

Originating and development of pre-school institutions in Bukovyna in the late XIX – early XX century took place under influence of Western European public and pedagogical thought and constructive reforms in Austrian-Hungarian Empire. A distinction kindergarten at Chernivtsi State Women's Teachers' Seminary founded according to the order of Austrian Ministry of Faith and Education of August 16, 1875 was the beginning of network of pre-school educational institutions in Bukovyna which continued to develop supported by public and private initiative. In formation of pre-school education system particular role was taken by Catholic charity society, Catholic nun community «Maria's Family», Greek-Catholic society «Mirth Carriers», Society of Orthodox Rus Women, «Women's Community», Society of Romanian Women of Bukovyna, as well as pioneers of pre-school education in Bukovyna Helena Nikitovych, Anna West, Kamilla Kudla and others. They laid traditions of public pre-school education in the conditions of multiethnic cultural environment.

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