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Personal Provenance Fonds of Russian Emigrants in the Archives of the Republic of Slovenia

Abstract

The article reviews personal provenance fonds of the Russian emigration representatives in the Archives of the Republic of Slovenia, Ljubljana. Ljubljana, unlike Belgrade, accumulated a relatively small number of the first wave Russian emigrants during the interwar period, but some of them were outstanding scientists and well-known public figures. The article focuses on fond SI AS 1901 of E.V. Spektorsky (1875-1951), well-known lawyer, philosopher, historian, who was a professor at the University of Ljubljana in 1930-1945. The fond consists of four boxes; its most valuable part is letters to Spectorsky from numerous representatives of the Academe of the Russian abroad: P.M. Bitsilli, G. V. Vernadsky, N.O. Lossky, S.I. Metalnikov, P.A. Sorokin, P.B. Struve, F.V. Taranovsky, G.V. Florovsky, M.V. Shakhmatov, and others. In total, the fond contains over 1,000 letters dating from 1920s to early 1940s. The article focuses on the correspondence with Taranovsky and Shakhmatov. It cites circumstances of attempted publication of an 'migr' articles collection 'Difficult issues' (1931) and that of a jubilee book for

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the 100th anniversary of St. Vladimir Kiev University (1934). It describes organization of Shakhmatov's doctoral thesis defense in Belgrade (1938). It assesses high information value of letters to Sectorsky written by his relatives. The article gives an overview of the fonds of Al. D. Bilimovich (SI AS 1320), engineer-surveyor D. V. Frost (SI AS 1419), engineer and professional military officer D. V. Shulgin (SI AS 1021), son of the famous politician V.V. Shulgin. The Shulgin's fond includes the last (13th) part of Sectorsky's 'Letopis' (diary) dated May 1944 - May 1945. It is a valuable source on the history of Yugoslavia and that of the Russian emigration. There are other emigrant fonds: of E. G. Shulgina, first wife of V. Shulgin, (SI AS 1022) and of A. I. Shulgina (Guadanini), first wife of D. Shulgin, (SI AS 877). These fonds are small; each contains one folder of personal documents. Documents of personal provenance fonds of the Russian emigrants in the Archives of the Republic of Slovenia are undoubtedly of great value to researchers.

Keywords

Foreign archival Rossica, Archives of the Republic of Slovenia, Russian emigration, personal provenance fonds, E. V. Sectorsky, F. V. Taranovsky, M. V. Shakhmatov.

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