The Ukrainian Museum and Library of Stamford

An Appeal for Archival Materials

by Lubow Wolynetz, Curator



16, our Museum hosted the

second conference of repre-

sentatives of Ukrainian Li-

braries, Museums, and

Archives in the Diaspora, The

first conference had been held 🛫

and hosted by the Ukrainian 👼

Museum-Archives in Cleve-

land, Ohio. One of the con-

cerns discussed at this

conference was the preserva-

tion of Ukrainian heritage in

the Diaspora, especially the

gathering and collecting of

archival material of organiza-

tions and individuals. Many

items of archival value have already been

lost because of neglect, indifference, or sheer

ignorance on the part of those possessing

such material; and who after a time deemed

the material to be useless or of no worth, and

then not knowing what to do with it or where

to send it for preservation, simply discarded

writing about this problem and have ap-

pealed to all who have any archival material.

photographs, books or artifacts dealing with

Ukrainian heritage, or the Ukrainian Dias-

Quite a few times we have been

посотачения.

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for its preservation for posterity.

By sheer coincidence, a few weeks before this conference. I received, in the mail, an envelope which contained four documents of an archival nature. The sender explained that her recently-deceased husband had retained these documents for a long time and finally decided to donate them to an institution which would preserve them for pos-

terity; however, no one was interested in this offer and all declined to accept them. After his death, fortunately for us, his widow decided. as a last resort, to of the years, to state out to appropriate course send them to our Museum and promptly did so.

= = Milmain The four documents are certificates and attestations

belonging to one individual who had served in a variety of official military capacities during the Ukrainian struggle for Independence in 1918-1920. Each document presents a fascinating piece of information about the activities, positions, and responsibilities of only one individual, but at the same time each illustrates the manifold undertakings which had to be made during those tumultuous years.

The first certificate, dated October 2, 1918, states that the following individual is a member of the armed security of the railroad administration of the Slobidska (Eastern Ukraine) region and has the right to bear arms in the form

of a saber and a revolver. The certificate was issued by the Ministry of Transportation of Bijichkobo-Canimapha the Slobidska region and is signed by the lieutenant, and stamped with the regional seal which has a Tryzub (Trident) in its center and a German seal.

The second document, dated October 3, 1918, is an attestation written, signed and stamped with an official seal (with a Tryzub in the center) by the colonel of the Kharkiv brigade. From this attestation we learn that the person in question had served as an interpreter from the Russian to Ukrainian language and also knew how to type on a typewriter. He had held this position from

Військона Рада при Директорії У Н Р гим свідчить, що згідно її ухнали кан (Линтрій Лутчик) Tonumpin Agenzun bijakoha zuedelegt Nor ва участь у визвельній боротьої Українського Народу нагороджустью: Едилибиям хрестом в наметь 10-ти річчя проголовення Соборнести та 11-ти річчи Саместійности України. Ця посвідна має буги сбмінена на відпемідну гузкоту. Дил. 25. 9. 1938 В Тожен різськової Реди: Гонорыя-Хорупеви..... В. Заруманый. OTO COTER Jume a Coptine

the 1st of March to the 31st of August. It also states that he was a hard worker, knowledgeable, of good character, and had fulfilled all of his duties and had thus distinguished himself as a loyal Ukrainian.

The third document was issued January 28, 1920 in Berlin by the Ukrainian Military Medical Mission for Affairs of Prisoners of War in Germany. From the document we learn that this person had been a co-worker at that mission. The document is signed by the military sergeant major and the secretary, and is stamped with an official seal with a Tryzub in the center.

The fourth document issued on Sep-



itary Council of the Ukrainian National Republic, certifies that the person in question, for his participation in the struggle for Ukrainian independence, is awarded the Jubilee Cross commemorating the 10th anniversary of the declaration of the independence of Ukraine.

Although these four documents reflect the activities of only one person, at the same time they tell us volumes about the historical aspects of those days.

In conclusion, I appeal to all who have any kinds of relevant documents, no matter how trivial they may seem to be, -do not throw anything away. Send the items to us or any other institution in the Diaspora which collects and preserves historic and archival items.

Thank you, Lubow Wolynetz

pora in the United States, to send it to us and **Explore and Experience Our Past** let us be the judge as to its value and the need

The Sower September 30, 2012