

PUBLISHING ACTIVITY OF THE OSSOLIŃSKI NATIONAL INSTITUTE IN THE YEARS 1817–1939 AGAINST THE BACKDROP OF LVIV'S PUBLISHING SCENE

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From its very beginnings, the Ossoliński National Institute was one of the most important research institutions of the city. As desired by its founder, count Józef Maksymilian Ossoliński, it was engaged in publishing activities as early as 1828, becoming an important part of Lviv's publishing market. The history of the Ossolineum Publishing House in Lviv was divided into three parts – the first dividing line is not the moment when Galicia became an autonomous province within the Austrian empire, but the moment of implementing organisational changes that had a major impact on Ossolineum's publishing business. The article presents the most important facts and data about Ossolineum's publishing activity in the years 1817–1939 against the backdrop of Lviv's publishing scene.

Keywords: Ossoliński National Institute, Ossolineum Publishing House, Lviv, publishing movement, printing houses.

Introduction. In the first half of the nineteenth century, Lviv's publishing and printing trade was thriving¹. The most active and well-known of the city's houses included: Pillers' printing house started in 1773 by the printer Antoni Piller; a bookshop run by Karol Bogusław Pfaff (initially, in 1780–1795, operating as a branch of M. Gröll's bookshop) who was granted the title and licence of a university bookseller in 1785; a bookshop and library owned by Karol Wild that operated from 1796 and was engaged, as of 1816, in publishing activities; a printing house run by Józef Schnayder, active in the years 1808–1853, which was important for the Ossolineum as it was there that the Institute printed its first publications.

¹ The situation of Lviv's printing houses, publishing companies and bookshops in the years 1772–1830 is discussed by: Halina Rusińska-Giertych, “Stosunki wydawniczo-księgarskie”; “Oferta księgarska”; “Lwowska produkcja wydawnicza,” in *Kultura książki polskiej we Lwowie w okresie Oświecenia* (Wrocław: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego, 2018), 111–273. See also: Anna Aleksiewicz, *Historia drukarstwa Galicji Wschodniej w latach 1815–1860* (Wrocław: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego, 1992); Mieczysław Opałek, *Biblijopole lwowscy* (Lwów: Nakł. Kola Lwowskiego Związku Księgarzy Polskich, 1928); Adam Bober, *Historia Drukarni i Stowarzyszeń Drukarskich we Lwowie 1875–1925* (Lwów: Nakł. Stowarzyszenia Drukarzy, 1926).

In the article, the publishing activities of the Ossoliński National Institute are broken down somewhat unusually for a Lviv (or even Galician) institution: the first dividing line is not the moment when Galicia became an autonomous province within the Austrian empire, but the moment of implementing organisational changes that had a major impact on Ossolineum's publishing business.

(1817) 1828–1877. The oldest among present-day Polish institutions of this type, the Ossolineum Publishing House has operated, for most of its history, as part of a foundation set up in 1817 by Józef Maksymilian Ossoliński. In addition to their basic purpose of founding a library offered to the Polish nation, the Statutes of the Ossoliński Institute also required that the institution must have its own printing house and pursue publishing activities². The Ossolineum library did not open in Lviv until the death of its founder in 1826. As soon as 28 June, 1827, the Austrian authorities passed a decree which enabled the Ossolineum to have a printing house and a lithography workshop. The following year saw the publication of the first issue of the *Czasopismo Naukowe Księgozbioru Publicznego im. Ossolińskich* [Scientific Journal of the Ossoliński Public Book Collection]. In accordance with the intention of the founder, the journal, whose first editor-in-chief was the then director of the Institute, Fr. Franciszek Siarczyński, gave account of the state of the collection (including the donations made to enlarge it) and published historical and literary texts. In 1831, the journal changed its title to *Czasopismo Naukowe: od Zakładu Narodowego imienia Ossolińskich wydawane* [Scientific Journal Published by the Ossoliński National Institute]. It remained a quarterly and was edited by subsequent directors of the Institute – Konstanty Słotwiński and, later, Adam Kłodziński. After the Austrian authorities closed down the Institute and the printing house in 1834, the journal stopped appearing for several years. Following its reactivation in 1841, it changed its title again, in 1842, this time into *Biblioteka Naukowego Zakładu imienia Ossolińskich. Pismo poświęcone dziejom, bibliografii, rozprawom i wiadomościom naukowym* [Library of the Ossoliński Scientific Institute. Journal of History, Bibliography and Scientific Treatises and News]. Its editor was still Adam Kłodziński. In the years 1849–1861, there was another break in the publication of the Ossolineum journal. It was reactivated in 1862 by August Bielowski, eminent historian and Ossolineum's director at the time, as *Biblioteka Ossolińskich. Pismo historyi, literaturze, umiejętnościom i rzeczom narodowym poświęcone. Poczet nowy* [Ossolineum Library. Journal of History, Literature, Learning and National Matters. New Issues]. In spite of all the changes to the title and publishing frequency, the journal continued to be published until 1869. At the time, it was one of the most important and renowned scientific journals in Galicia that was recognised by researchers, especially in the territory under Russian rule (many articles, commentaries and polemic pieces related to texts published in the Ossolineum journal appeared, for example, in *Biblioteka Warszawska*).

² Ustanowienie familialne Biblioteki Publicznej, pod imieniem Ossolińskich we Lwowie, 18 Oct. 1816, par. 37.

Unfortunately, the journal was closed down at the end of the 1860s, largely due to financial difficulties, even as new socio-cultural, literary and scientific periodicals started to appear in Lviv after the region gained autonomy³. The Ossolineum would not publish its next periodical, *Rocznik Zakładu Narodowego im. Ossolińskich* [Ossoliński National Institute Yearbook], until the interwar period.

Opened in 1830 and 1833 respectively, Ossolineum's lithographic workshop and printing house carried out work that was mainly commissioned externally as the financial situation of the Institute was not yet good enough to enable larger investments or take business risks, its priorities being to keep the Ossolineum Library running, expand it and complete the renovation of the facilities where the Institute was housed, i.e. the former Calced Carmelite monastery. This explains why, with the total number of the publications printed in the Ossolineum house amounting to almost 2,000, the number of books actually published by the Institute does not go beyond 200⁴.

The history of the Institute took an important turn when the Ossolineum house printed the so-called clandestine prints that were banned by the Austrian authorities. This was done in the years 1832–1834 in full knowledge and with the support of the then director, Konstanty Słotwiński⁵. We know of 127 such publications (not all titles have survived until the present day): mainly patriotic, political and literally texts prohibited in the Austrian Empire. Unfortunately, the Austrian police uncovered the operation following which both the printing house and the library were closed, incriminated prints were impounded and searches were carried out in the library collection. Słotwiński himself was arrested⁶. As a result, the Institute stopped publishing its journal for 7 years (*Czasopismo* reappeared in 1841) and had a 13-year-long break in its printing activities (it was only in 1841 that the Ossolineum printing house resumed business).

In the years 1851–1889, the printing house was leased. For instance, in 1851–1863, it was run by Wojciech Maniecki who prioritised historical publications, source editing and novels (such as reprints from Lviv's *Dziennik Literacki*). Textbooks were almost never published. Next, it was leased to Aleksander Vogel (1864–1875) and Aleksander Vogel Jr. (1875–1877). During their tenure, the Ossolineum printing house produced a lot of publications by Lviv's social institutions or other Lviv publishers in addition to textbooks and texts in German and Ukrainian.

³ Jerzy Jarowiecki, "Czy Lwów był «pustynią kulturalną»? Czasopisma społeczno-kulturalne i literackie w latach autonomii galicyjskiej," in *Kultura książki ziem wschodniego i południowego pogranicza Polski (XVI–XX wiek)*, red. Edward Rózycki, Jolanta Gwioździk (Katowice: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Śląskiego, 2004), 229–251; Jerzy Myśliński, "Czasopiśmiennictwo naukowe w Galicji w dobie autonomii," *Rocznik Historii Czasopiśmiennictwa Polskiego* 8, z. 4 (1969): 477–500.

⁴ A detailed bibliography of all the prints produced by the Ossolineum in the years 1828–1918 is to be found in: *Druki oficyny ossolińskiej 1828–1918*, oprac. Ewa Galos, Teresa Madejska, pod red. Krystyny Korzon (Wrocław: Wydawnictwo Ossolineum, 1987), 45–169.

⁵ We know that some items were printed with the use of ornamental gothic fonts borrowed from the Stauropedic Printing House in Lviv.

⁶ Henryk Łapiński, preface to *Tajne druki Ossolineum (1832–1834)* (Wrocław: Wydawnictwo Ossolineum, 1977).

The house was then leased (in the years 1878–1889) to the excellent Lviv printer Edward Winiarz. One of the historians of the Ossolineum wrote that what started in the 1870s as “clear downturn in the fortunes of the printing house coincided with the revival of publishing activities caused by the recently gained autonomy of the Galicia region. The creation of many new printing houses, including Russian and Jewish, and very dynamic publishing endeavours of Lviv’s booksellers left the Ossolineum house far behind for years to come. On the one hand, this was because, as an institution responsible to the society for preserving and expanding its material resources, the Ossolineum avoided taking any risks; on the other hand, Ossolineum decision-makers showed no interest or willingness to become leaders in the publishing market”⁷.

In spite of its decline, the house tried to launch its own publishing initiatives. At the end of the 1840s, largely due to the efforts of the library’s curator, Jan Szlachtowski, the Ossolineum published editions of fiction, books for young readers and textbooks⁸. In later years, these were followed by scientific publications mainly thanks to the eminent historian and editor August Bielowski, director of the institution in the years 1869–1876. Apart from the University, the Ossolineum was the best well-known scientific institution in Lviv, many of its employees being engaged in scientific research, including source editing. It was on the initiative of August Bielowski that the Institute published such books as a re-edition of the “Polish Dictionary” by Samuel B. Linde (Vol. 1–6, 1854–1860), the first volumes of the excellent source edition “Monumenta Poloniae Historica” (Vol. 1–2, 1864–1872) and the text of “Queen Sophia’s Bible” (1871), the so-called Sárospatak Bible (fifteenth-century translation; 1871).

Initially (from the 1840s onwards), the period of 1828–1877 in Lviv was marked by the emergence of many printing houses and bookshops. As a characteristic feature of the period (especially from the moment of gaining autonomy), some of the newly created professional companies combined publishing with bookselling and printing. Among the most important of such companies were the bookshop opened in 1866 by Franciszek Richter who, from 1867, also pursued printing and publishing activities; Gubrynowicz & Schmidt publishing house founded in 1868 (Władysław Gubrynowicz, Władysław Schmidt) and the Seyfarth & Czajkowski bookshop (Gustaw Seyfarth, Damian Czajkowski) offering books published both by the company and by other publishers. In 1869, Adam Dominik Bartoszewicz started publishing the journal *Mrówka* and the famous series *Biblioteka Mrówki*, opening his own bookshop (Księgarnia Polska) in 1872⁹.

⁷ Krystyna Korzon, “Ossolińska oficyna 1828–1918,” in *Druki oficyny ossolińskiej 1828–1918*, 32–33.

⁸ Irena Lewandowska-Jaraczewska, “Inicjatywy wydawnicze Zakładu Narodowego im. Ossolińskich w latach czterdziestych XIX wieku,” *Ze Skarbca Kultury* 32 (1979): 155–184.

⁹ Maria Konopka, *Adam Dominik Bartoszewicz – redaktor, księgarz i wydawca lwowski, 1838–1886* (Kraków: Wydawnictwo Naukowe WSP, 1995).

In Lviv of the second half of the nineteenth century, the publishing offer was dominated by literature, books for children and scientific publications. The period also saw the development of “booklet novels” and publishing series. While most of Lviv publishers followed these trends, the Ossolineum, whose publishing activities slowed down at that time, as has already been mentioned, published neither of the these. It was only in the interwar period that publishing series were offered by the Institute.

The publishing industry that developed in the second half of the nineteenth century was concentrated in the largest cities, especially those, such as Lviv, with assets in the form of universities, libraries and museums. According to available studies, large cities were responsible for 80 % of the publishing production of that period. When it comes to the largest Galician cities, 55 % of provincial production was published in Kraków (and 24 % of publications written in Polish), 31 % in Lviv (13.5 % of Polish publications)¹⁰.

Due to the limited number of sources, it is difficult to provide any accurate data on the volume of publishing production in Lviv in the discussed period. It may be estimated that about 4,000 titles were published in the city in the years 1828–1877¹¹. Compared to that, the 200 editions published by the Ossolineum is about 5 %. It must be remembered, however, that the National Institute treated publishing as an additional activity, its main task being to expand, catalogue and make available the collection of the Ossolineum Library and, from 1870, the Lubomirski Museum. Another important, albeit often forgotten, fact is that the books published in Lviv (including a small number of Ossolineum publications) were present in the territory under Russian rule. Almost 72 % of Lviv editions arrived there (not always legally) in the last decades of the nineteenth century, traces of which can be found in contemporary press published mainly in Warsaw¹².

1878–1918. As early as 1863, the Board of the National Institute, represented by Kazimierz Krasicki, made efforts in Vienna to obtain a licence authorising the Ossolineum to print schoolbooks. At the same time, similar steps were taken by the Stauropegic Printing House, which managed to obtain a licence for schoolbooks in Ukrainian already in 1863¹³. Largely because the Board pursued a more conservative

¹⁰ Anna Źbikowska-Migoń and Marta Skalska-Zlat, red., *Encyklopedia książek*, T. 2, K–Z (Wrocław: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego, 2017), 504; According to Antoni Potocki, in 1893, Lviv accounted for 33 % of Galicia’s entire publishing production (Antoni Potocki, *Polska literatura współczesna*, Cz. 2, *Kult jednostki 1890–1910* (Warszawa: Gebethner & Wolff, 1912)).

¹¹ According to research conducted by Maria Konopka – 3,091 titles were published, by Polish publishers, in Lviv in the years 1867–1880 (Maria Konopka, *Polski rynek wydawniczy Lwowa w dobie autonomii galicyjskiej (1867–1914)* (Kraków: Universitas, 2018), 72).

¹² Janusz Kostecki, “Lwowska oferta wydawnicza w zaborze rosyjskim w latach 1865–1914,” in *Modernistyczny Lwów. Teksty życia, teksty sztuki*, pod red. Ewy Paczoskiej, Dawida Marii Osińskiego (Warszawa: Wydział Polonistyki Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego, 2009), 39–51.

¹³ For more information about publishing activities of the Stauropegic Printing House see: Ольга Палюх, “Українське книгодрукарство у Львові XIX ст.: роль друкарень Ставропігійського інституту та Наукового товариства ім. Шевченка,” *Записки Львівської національної наукової бібліотеки України імені В. Стефаника* 1 (2008): 54–72.



Fig. 1. Device of the “Schoolbooks Publishing House in the Ossoliński National Institute” (1878–1918).

policy (e.g. it was averse to exposing the company’s assets), it was only in 1878 that the Ossolineum signed a very profitable contract with the Schoolbooks Publishing House in Vienna, which enabled it to publish schoolbooks in Galicia. Under the contract, which was renewed twice (in 1889 and 1911), the Institute could publish schoolbooks for Galician primary schools (including those where the language of instruction was German or Russian) and distribute them in the territory of Galicia. For many years, the ZNiO Schoolbooks Publishing House, run by the poet Władysław Bełza in the years 1891–1913, provided a basic source of income for the entire Institute. Among other things, the money paid for the expansion of the book collection, subsidies of scientific periodicals and investments into printing facilities¹⁴. As “Wydawnictwo Księżyk Szkolnych w Zakładzie Narodowym im. Ossolińskich”, the Ossolineum published 82 titles¹⁵, which amounted to 281 in total taking account of subsequent editions¹⁶.

The Ossoliński National Institute remained an important centre of Lviv’s cultural life, which was undoubtedly helped by the research activity (editing and publishing) of many Ossolineum employees such as Antoni Małecki or Wojciech Kętrzyński. Among other things, W. Kętrzyński, historian and director of the Institute in the years 1876–1918, prepared three volumes of the “Catalogue of the Manuscripts in the Ossoliński National Institute Library” published by the Ossolineum in 1881–1898 (1881, 1886, 1898).

¹⁴ Józef Wojtal, *Wydawnictwo Księżyk Szkolnych w Zakładzie Narodowym imienia Ossolińskich. 1878–1918* (Wrocław: Wydawnictwo Ossolineum, 1976); Korzon, “Ossolińska oficyna 1828–1918,” 5–51; Konopka, *Polski rynek wydawniczy Lwowa*, 109, 314, 342.

¹⁵ Józef Wojtal, “Bibliografia podręczników i książek pomocniczych wydanych w czterdziestoleciu 1878–1918,” in *Wydawnictwo Księżyk Szkolnych w Zakładzie Narodowym imienia Ossolińskich*, 169–185.

¹⁶ Konopka, *Polski rynek wydawniczy Lwowa*, 342.

In the years 1878–1918, the Institute published 400 titles in total. Unfortunately, the in-house printing house was underinvested and, as a consequence, much worse than the many other establishments in Lviv. This was yet another factor that contributed to the decline in Ossolineum's printing production¹⁷. It was only in 1910 that its curator, Andrzej Lubomirski, invested in new printing equipment, persuaded to do so by the publisher Rudolf Wegner (who was active first in Łódź and then in Lviv and Poznań). Thanks to his efforts, right before the outbreak of the First World War, the printing house and bindery run by the Institute were one of the most technologically advanced in Lviv. The investment was to pay off in later years.

At the turn of the twentieth century, Lviv's professional publishing companies offering in-house or external books continued to flourish. It was then that some of the largest and finest publishing and book selling firms were established. Such was the case of Hermann Altenberg who opened his business in 1880. His company, which was inherited by his son, Alfred, was to become a paragon of editorial quality among other Lviv's houses for years to come. In 1889, Bernard Poloniecki¹⁸ took over Księgarnia Polska founded by A. D. Bartoszewicz to develop it into a modern publishing company.

In addition to fiction, Lviv's publishing offer of that period was dominated by schoolbooks, which reflected the growth of popular education and the emergence of many education-related social institutions. Publishing series were booming. According to different sources, about 17,000 titles were published in Lviv in that period (1878–1918)¹⁹. Ukrainian publishers became more and more visible. The Shevchenko Scientific Society, which published the "Literary and Scientific Journal" ("Літературно-науковий вістник"), was very active in Lviv in 1898–1906 (and then in Kyiv in 1907–1932). The journal was edited by, for example, Mykhailo Hrushevsky and Ivan Franko²⁰. The Prosvita Society (established in 1868) also pursued publishing activities such as the publication of the "Dilo" ("Діло") newspaper in the years 1880–1939²¹.

¹⁷ Konopka, *Polski rynek wydawniczy Lwowa*, 109.

¹⁸ See: Maria Konopka, oprac., *Bernard Poloniecki, księgarz lwowski. Dzienniki, pamiętniki i listy z lat 1880–1943* (Warszawa: Biblioteka Narodowa, 2006).

¹⁹ There were 16,261 titles published in Lviv by Polish publishers in the years 1867–1914 (Konopka, *Polski rynek wydawniczy Lwowa*, 72).

²⁰ Ярослав Ісаєвич, "Українське книговидання XIX–XX століть," in *Українське книговидання: витоки, розвиток, проблеми* (Львів: Інститут українознавства ім. І. Крип'якевича НАН України, 2002), 402. For more information about Ukrainian publishing activities in Lviv at the turn of the twentieth century, see also: Ольга Палюх, "Українська книга у Львові на зламі XIX–XX ст.: проблеми культури видання (за матеріалами «Записок Наукового Товариства імені Шевченка» та «Літературно-Наукового Вістника»)," *Збірник праць Науково-дослідного центру періодики* 1 (2009): 210–245. For more information about the publishing activities of the Shevchenko Scientific Society see: Ольга Палюх, "Українське книговидання у Львові".

²¹ Ісаєвич, "Українське книговидання," 404.



Fig. 2. Device of the “Ossolineum Publishing House” (1918–1939).

1919–1939. After Poland regained independence in 1918, the organisational facilities of the former Schoolbooks Publishing House were used to create the ZNiO Publishing House (Ossolineum Publishing House) operating as a publishing company owned by the Institute. The house was managed by Alfred Tęczarowski, from 1920, and Antoni Lewak from 1928. Starting from the same year, it was run by the Management Committee headed by its curator, Fr Andrzej Lubomirski, and the director of the Institute, Ludwik Bernacki²². The publishing house had comparatively modern and large printing infrastructure in Lviv: two printing houses (its own and the so-called E. Winiarz, both at Ossoliński Street) and a bindery (5 Kalecza Street). The principal place of business was 11 Ossoliński Street, opposite the Library. In 1925–1935, the company also had its own bookshop (12a Halicki Square and, from 1933, 11 Ossoliński Street). It maintained two local branches: in Kraków (6 Podwale Street, from 1928, and a repository of prints and publications at 11 Św. Anny Street) and in Warsaw where a company bookshop operated from 1919 (69 Nowy Świat Street)²³.

Even though it lost the income generated by the contract for the production of books for Galician schools, the house undoubtedly achieved a major success, both editorial and financial, thanks to its consistent publishing policy²⁴. The range

²² Krystyna Korzon, “W zarządzie Wydawnictwa 1928–1939,” in *Ludwik Bernacki: bibliolog i editor* (Wrocław: Wydawnictwo Ossolineum, 1974), 269–279.

²³ Wiesława Kocyba-Kamińska, *Oficyna ossolińska w latach 1920–1939* (Wrocław: Wydawnictwo Ossolineum, 1973).

²⁴ According to the studies into the publishing industry in the years 1918–1939 carried out by Nina Kraśko, the Ossolineum Publishing House ranked 30th among Polish houses in 1929 with 28 publications, 45th with 17 titles in 1932 and 24th with 33 titles in 1935 (Nina Kraśko, *Instytucje wydawnicze II Rzeczypospolitej* (Warszawa: Biblioteka Narodowa, 2001), 201, 207, 211; N. Kraśko included over 80 institutions in her studies). It is worth noting that, along Gebethner & Wolff, “Rój” Publishing Society and M. Arct Publishing House (all based in Warsaw), the group of the most active publishers of that time included another Lviv house: “Książnica-Atlas”.

of published works was defined broadly to include primarily fiction, literature for children and young people, popular science literature, scientific publications as well as textbooks for all stages of education (especially the very much appreciated textbooks for Polish by S. Maykowski and J. Balicki). In 1920, the House signed a contract with the legal successors of Henryk Sienkiewicz, obtaining exclusive rights to print the books by the Nobel Prize winner for the following 20 years. In addition to schoolbooks and jobbing prints, Sienkiewicz's books, including those published in cheap, popular editions, proved to be the main source of income for the house, enabling it to support the Ossolineum Library and the Lubomirski Museum financially. In 1933, the National Institute bought the rights to publish books in the "National Library" series from the bankrupt company Krakowska Spółka Wydawnicza. Existing since 1919, the series has featured the most important texts of Polish and foreign literature preceded by excellent critical introductions. Up to 1939, the Ossolineum published 8 titles. The series continues to the present day with over 600 titles to its name.

During the interwar period, large cities maintained their domination in publishing production. At the time, Lviv was the second biggest publishing centre after Warsaw (52 % of Polish publications appeared in Warsaw, 14 % in Lviv)²⁵. Admittedly, it was also the centre of Ukrainian publishing in Poland with 68 houses (i.e. 75 % of Ukrainian companies in Poland) whose output amounted to 341 titles in total²⁶. It is worth mentioning the work carried out by Ivan Tyktor, founder of the media company "Ukrainian Press" ("Українська преса"), operating in the years 1923–1939²⁷, and many Ukrainian societies engaged in publishing activity, notably the Shevchenko Scientific Society and the Prosvita Society²⁸.

According to different studies, in the years 1918–1939, 650 publishing companies operated in Lviv, producing 16,958 titles²⁹, out of which the Ossolineum House published 747, that is 4.5 %.

Lviv's publishing houses were prevailingly professional establishments (as in the case of the Ossolineum), mostly private and multi-functional (bookshops/printing houses/publishing houses), although the number of institutions focused only on publishing (Wydawnictwo Polskie, Książnica-Atlas) was growing. All of them produced chiefly scientific and popular literature as well as fiction and textbooks. The offer of the Ossolineum Publishing House was no exception.

²⁵ Polish printing production in other Polish cities looked as follows: Poznań – 8.5 %, Kraków – 8 % (*Encyklopedia książek*, 504).

²⁶ Kraśko, *Instytucje wydawnicze*, 39–41.

²⁷ Ісаєвич, "Українське книговидання," 411.

²⁸ Ibid., 404; Józef Hampel, "Lwów ośrodkiem ukraińskiego ruchu społecznego 1919–1939," in *Lwów: miasto – społeczeństwo – kultura* (Kraków: Wydawnictwo Naukowe Akademii Pedagogicznej, 2002), 4: 345–357.

²⁹ Ewa Wójcik, "Produkcja wydawnicza Lwowa w latach 1918–1939. Problemy metodologiczne," *Kraków – Lwów 11, Książki XIX i XX wieku* (2014): 29. Nina Kraśko, who in her research took into account only four years (1929, 1932, 1935 and 1938), calculated that in those years, 316 publishing companies (of all types and nationalities), which were active in Lviv, published 2,442 titles (at the time, in the entire Lviv region, there were 378 companies, publishing 2,634 titles (Kraśko, *Instytucje wydawnicze*, 227).



Fig. 3. Device of the “Printing House of the Ossoliński National Institute” (1832–1939).

Just like the other large and ambitious publishing companies in Lviv, the Ossolineum House also participated in numerous book exhibitions, including foreign ones (Florence, Paris, New York), where its editions were appreciated for their critical, typographic and printing quality. Even though the gold standard for editing finesse was set by the publications by Altenberg or Wegner houses, Ossolineum productions of the time were also praised in the press for decent content and form.

Summary. Over the 111 years of its publishing activity in Lviv, the Ossolineum was a major part of the city’s publishing market – especially important were the Institute’s journal, its Schoolbooks Publishing House and the activities in the interwar period. As we have seen, the importance of the institution was not due to the volume of publishing production (in its heyday, the Ossolineum accounted for 5 % of Lviv’s production), but the content and editing qualities of the published material. It should also be borne in mind that the core of the National Institute was the Ossolineum Library and the Lubomirski Museum, publishing (especially before 1919) coming second to these two fields of activity.

Another important caveat concerns the statistical data related to publishing production in the entire discussed period. It is important to remember that many prints were not registered in any bibliographic records (particularly in the nineteenth century), some publications (Polish, Ukrainian or Jewish) were printed illegally without any identification data (such as the place of publication



Fig. 4. Polish Language Handbook for high school, published by Ossolineum Publishing House, Lviv, 1926 (cover design by Edmund Bartłomiejczyk).

or the publisher, which also applies to prints from 1919–1939) and some were confiscated³⁰. This is why the statistical data provided in the text should be treated as estimates. This, however, does not change the fundamental facts about the over 100-year-long presence of the Ossoliński National Institute in Lviv's publishing landscape.

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³⁰ For detailed information about methodological problems with studying Lviv's publishing production see: Wójcik, "Produkcja wydawnicza Lwowa," 27–37).

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**ВИДАВНИЧА АКТИВНІСТЬ НАЦІОНАЛЬНОГО ІНСТИТУТУ ІМЕНІ
ОССОЛІНСЬКИХ У 1817–1939 рр. НА ТЛІ ЛЬВІВСЬКОЇ ВИДАВНИЧОЇ
СЦЕНИ**

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Від самого початку Національний інститут імені Оссолінських був однією з найважливіших наукових установ міста. За бажанням засновника, графа Юзефа Максиміліана Оссолінського, вона вже з 1828 р. зайнялася видавничу діяльністю, ставши важливою частиною видавничого ринку Львова. Історія львівського видавництва Оссолінеуму поділялася на три частини – першою роздільною лінією є не момент, коли Галичина стала автономною провінцією у складі Австрійської імперії, а момент здійснення організаційних змін, які мали значний вплив на видавничу діяльність Оссолінеуму. У статті подано найважливіші факти та дані про видавничу діяльність Оссолінеуму у 1817–1939 рр. на тлі видавничої сцени Львова.

Ключові слова: Національний інститут ім. Оссолінських, видавництво Оссолінеуму, Львів, видавничий рух, друкарні.

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