

Larisa Bondar
Marina Ponikarovskaya*

The President of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences, Kazimierz Nitsch and the Saint-Petersburg Academy of Sciences (according to archival documents)¹

Kazimierz Nitsch² (1874–1958), together with his elder colleagues Jan Łoś (1860–1928) and Jan Rozwadowski (1867–1935), was the founder of the Polish or, more precisely, Krakow linguistic school. Each of these scholars deserves special attention, each one contributed a great deal to the development of Slavonic studies and all three were closely connected with Russian linguistics.

K. Nitsch was born on February 1, 1874, in Krakow (and died in the same place on September 26, 1958). After graduating from Jagiellonian University in 1898 and obtaining the title of doctor, he began working in the same university as a lecturer from 1905 and then professor of Slavonic philology from 1910. His career there was broken in 1917 when K. Nitsch became a professor in the University of Lvov. In 1920 he returned to Krakow University, where he stayed till the end, working as a professor of Slavonic

* Larisa Bondar – PhD in history, academic secretary, the Saint Petersburg Branch of the Archive of the Russian Academy of Sciences; fields of research interest: history of science, history of linguistics, Russian – German, Russian – Polish, Russian – Belorussian academic links; e-mail: l007@list.ru

Marina Ponikarovskaya – the Saint Petersburg Branch of the Archive of the Russian Academy of Sciences, research worker; fields of research interest: history of science, history of ancient theatre, history of ancient Greek tragedy; e-mail: poni-marina@yandex.ru

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² Kazimierz Nitsch, *Ze wspomnień językoznawcy*, Krakow 1960; Stanisław Urbańczyk, *Nitsch Kazimierz Ignacy*, [in:] PSB, Vol. 23, Wrocław 1978, pp. 145–150; *Kazimierz Nitsch 1874–1958*, editorial series “W służbie nauki”, no. 18, Krakow 2011.

philology (1920–1929), and then Polish language (1929–1939) and Slavonic dialectology (1947–1952). K. Nitsch was also elected doctor honoris causa in the Sorbonne and other universities.

On May 19, 1911, K. Nitsch was elected as a corresponding member of the Academy of Arts and Sciences in the Philological Department and, on June 17, 1924, he became a full member. In 1924 he became the secretary of the Philological Department (while the director of the department was J. Rozwadowski), discharging his duties for some time in 1925 (when J. Rozwadowski left his post due to his election as the president of the Academy) and returning with the election to the post of director of J. Łoś in 1927. K. Nitsch worked in this status till 1936 (the directorship of J. Łoś ended in 1928 owing to his death). After the war (in 1945), K. Nitsch became the director of the Philological Department, which he left soon afterwards due to his election as president of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences (1946). After the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences ceased to function, K. Nitsch (who stayed in the post of president till 1957) and the general secretary Jan Dąbrowski (1890–1965) kept their positions in order to solve the problems connected with the Academy's foreign branches, which were created in Paris and Rome. In addition, K. Nitsch worked actively in different commissions and committees, set up in the Academy of Arts and Sciences. Thus, between 1935 and 1952, K. Nitsch held the post of chairman of the Language Commission founded in the Philological Department (in this Commission he performed the function of secretary even before his election to the Academy of Arts and Sciences, in 1904–1918). In 1935, he was the chairman of the Orphographical Committee, in 1945–1947 – the Committee of Geographical Names, then in 1947–1952 – the Committee of the Study of Polish Dialects³. In 1928, K. Nitsch became the editor of the “Słownik staropolski” (“Old Polish Dictionary”)⁴ staying in this position till 1952, and in 1947–1952 he headed the specially established academic Committee of the Old Polish Dictionary. Apart from the academic projects, K. Nitsch was a delegate in the ministerial Commission on the elaboration of topographical names (1929–1933).

³ *Poczet członków Akademii Umiejętności i Polskiej Akademii Umiejętności w latach 1872–2000*, edited by Rita Majkowska, Krakow 2006.

⁴ He replaced J. Łoś in this position after the death of the latter, who was the editor of the dictionary in 1927–1928.

The scholar was the author of more than 700 works on dialectology, history of the Polish language, theoretical grammar, lexicography and onomastics⁵. He became the creator of Polish dialectology, took the leading role in the work on the album of dialects⁶ and started work on the new dictionary of Polish dialects.

K. Nitsch was the editor of a number of publications and philological journals. With his direct participation, the following periodicals appeared: "Rocznik Sławistyczny" ("Annual of Slavs", 1908)⁷, "Lud Słowiański" ("Slavonic People", 1929)⁸ and "Język Polski" ("The Polish Language", 1913), of which he was the editor-in-chief from 1919. K. Nitsch attached great importance to the popularization of linguistic scholarship. He participated in the creation of the *Towarzystwo Miłośników Języka Polskiego* (Society of the Enthusiasts of the Polish Language; 1920) and the *Polskie Towarzystwo Językoznawcze* (Polish Linguistic Society; 1925).

K. Nitsch was elected as a member of different academies of sciences, first of all of Slavic countries (Bulgarian, Serbian and Slovenian), Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres in Paris, and some others. Moreover, he became an honorable corresponding member of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR (1933). However, the Krakow scholar was in contact with the Russian academic environment much earlier, even at the beginning of his research work.

In the collection of the Chancellery of the Department of Russian Language and Literature, stored in the Saint-Petersburg Branch of the Archive

⁵ The majority of his works (with the full bibliography) were reprinted in: Kazimierz Nitsch, *Wybór pism polonistycznych*, Vol. 1–4, Wrocław 1954–1958.

⁶ He was the editor of the two first volumes of the study: *Mały atlas gwar polskich*, edited by Kazimierz Nitsch, Vol. 1–2, Wrocław 1957–1959.

⁷ The edition also has a name in French – "Revue slavistique". K. Nitsch was the editor of this journal together with J. Łoś and J. Rozwadowski. The annual was issued ceaselessly from 1908 till 1915. The First World War was the reason for an intermission in the publishing of the annual and the new volumes (VIII–IX) appeared only in 1918. From that time, the publications of the journal were irregular and, after the death of J. Rozwadowski, just several issues were published. Later the publishing was resumed and the second series of the annual started to be issued in 1956. The editorial council of the first volume also included Leon Mańkowski. After J. Łoś' death, Tadeusz Lehr-Spławiński became a member of the council, after the death of J. Rozwadowski – Mieczysław Małecki.

⁸ J. Rozwadowski was also a co-organizer and member of the editorial board of this journal.

of the Russian Academy of Sciences (SPbB ARAS), documents that prove these academic contacts are kept. The reason is that K. Nitsch, while being a privatdozent of Jagiellonian University, due to the recommendation of J. Rozwadowski and Jan Baudouin de Courtenay (1845–1929), was invited to become an author (for the part on Polish dialectology) of the multi-volume “Encyclopedia of Slavonic Philology” (“Энциклопедия славянской филологии”), which was published by the Russian Academy of Sciences under the lead of Aleksey A. Shakhmatov (1864–1920)⁹ and the editorship of Vatroslav Jagić (1838–1923) from 1908. For these aims, to some extent, K. Nitsch in 1908 planned to make a several-week-long journey in July–September to the Polish Kingdom, then part of the Russian Empire, in order to collect dialectological material. He sent a letter on May 5, 1908, to the Academy, while on a scientific journey to Sofia¹⁰, with the request to receive documents from the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs. Those documents could simplify the stay and work of a foreigner in those territories and ensure the leniency of local authorities¹¹. In the documents there is a note dated May 13, 1908, and signed by the academic A. A. Shakhmatov, who headed the Department of Russian Language and Literature. The note provides information about the pleas to the Ministry of Internal Affairs concerning the covering letter for K. Nitsch to be used during his journey through the provinces of the Polish Kingdom¹².

He received such a permit for the year 1909 in March the next year (March 3). A. A. Shakhmatov informed K. Nitsch about this, enclosing the received document (“Open letter”) to the official letter dated March 10/23,

⁹ A. A. Shakhmatov – Russian linguist, founder of the historical study of the Russian language, old Russian chronicles and literature; member of the Imperial St. Petersburg Academy of Sciences (1899, from 1894 – adjunct), chairman of the Department of Russian Language and Literature (1906–1920), director of the 1st (Russian) Department of the Library of the Academy of Sciences (1900–1920); professor of St. Petersburg University.

¹⁰ See the letter (February 12, 1908, Lviv) on the allocation of the scholarship to K. Nitsch to the amount of 800 kronas by the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Education in Lviv for a research trip to Serbia and Bulgaria: AUJ, Katedra i seminarium filologii słowiańskiej, ref. no. WF II 155.

¹¹ He had to write an article on Polish dialectology in the lands belonging to Prussia and Austria, but he ensured the Academy that studying the other dialects would be useful for him too, addressing the Academy as the Institute supporting various scientific research: SPbB ARAS, F. 9, L. 1, Fl. 914, pp. 6–6 reverse.

¹² SPbB ARAS, F. 9, L. 1, Fl. 914, p. 5.

1909¹³. However, in 1908 K. Nitsch already made a short trip to the Polish Kingdom's lands, thanks to a grant he had received from the Academy of Arts and Sciences. In January–March 1909, the scholar visited St. Petersburg, Moscow, Vilnius and Warsaw and became acquainted personally with the academic circles of these cities¹⁴.

The dialectological journey, planned for the year 1909, took place at the beginning of the summer. We know this from other parts of the documents containing information on the subject: K. Nitsch's personal letters to A.A. Shakhmatov, whom the Krakow linguist met during his stay in Saint Petersburg¹⁵. In the first of these letters, dated June 07/20, 1909¹⁶ (from Grodno), the Krakow linguist reported that he was traveling through the Polish Kingdom's lands for about a month and was going to return to Krakow soon. This letter also shows how important it was to have the "open letter" as every gendarme and guard "demands an identity card and a passport doesn't satisfy him"¹⁷.

From a letter dated April 6, 1910, we find out that K. Nitsch asked for an "open letter" again for the year 1910 to make a journey to the Polish Kingdom and Lithuania, as he was planning to visit the Grodno and Vilnius provinces and was going to start the expedition at the beginning of July 1910¹⁸. The Ministry denied the application for a covering letter that time with the explanation that "the Austrian authorities hamper Russian people" (as indicated by A. A. Shakhmatov in his letter to K. Nitsch dated June 3, 1910). In the same letter, A. A. Shakhmatov wrote: "This caused astonishment and perplexity in the Academy. The board of the Academy decided to communicate with the Ministry and try to settle the affair"¹⁹. As a result, the

¹³ Ibidem, pp. 23–24.

¹⁴ Aniela Gruszecka-Nitschowa, *Całe życie nad przyrodą mowy polskiej. Kazimierz Nitsch i jego prace*, Krakow 1977, pp. 123, 126.

¹⁵ In total, the personal papers of A. A. Shakhmatov contain 9 letters in Polish for the period from 1909 to 1914.

¹⁶ K. Nitsch dated his letters according to the New Style, but the post card was post-marked in conformity with the calendar used in Russia that time.

¹⁷ "However, the difference with the Prussians concerning the cultural level of the authorities is enormous", – the scholar notes: SPbB ARAS, F. 134, L. 3, Fl. 1066, p. 1.

¹⁸ SPbB ARAS, F. 134, L. 3, Fl. 1066, p. 6.

¹⁹ AN PAN i PAU, Spuścizna Kazimierza Nitscha (1874–1958), ref. no. K III-51, 206.

Department of Russian Language and Literature provided K. Nitsch with its own certificate, which A. A. Shakhmatov mentions in a later document²⁰.

Later, K. Nitsch (already signing as a professor of Slavonic philology) again sent a letter to the Academy with a request to intercede for the “open letter” concerning his planned trip to the Polish Kingdom in April–May. In the event of refusal from the Ministry, he asked the Academy for its certificate²¹. This letter has no date. In the text, K. Nitsch mentions that he had such a letter two years ago (it is known that he received such a letter in 1909 and everything seems to indicate that he had not received another one). In addition, K. Nitsch wrote that “last year” he also submitted such an application which was denied by the Ministry, the scholar believing that the reason was the fact that he had mentioned Lithuania in the request. Here, it seems to be obvious that he refers to the letter of the year 1910. Thus, even though this letter is placed among the Chancellery’s documents for 1912 (with the other papers that appeared in response to K. Nitsch’s request (see below), the letter itself must have been written in 1911. On January 7, 1912 K. Nitsch sent a personal letter to A. A. Shakhmatov, where he asked again for an “open letter” with the hope (even not a great one, according to his words), that “this time the Ministry will be less suspicious”. He added a note based on his own experience to his request: “...Without an »open letter« the journey through the Kingdom is not too pleasant, because even with it one cannot rely on the support of the authorities but only on them not breeding impediments”²².

In 1912, the Department of Russian Language and Literature issued its certificate again (with the signature of A. A. Shakhmatov as the chairman) concerning K. Nitsch’s scientific journey from May 15 to September 15, where it addressed “the local authorities with the request to assist Mr. Nitsch” and assured that the board of the Academy had informed the governor of this general-governorship of the scholar’s arrival to the Polish Kingdom’s provinces²³. In the letter to K. Nitsch dated April 4, 1912, A. A. Shakhmatov explained: “Unfortunately, we have failed to succeed in getting another paper for you except the sent one. We have made attempts, but the Ministry of Internal

²⁰ SPbB ARAS, F. 9, L. 1, Fl. 977, p. 73.

²¹ SPbB ARAS, F. 9, L. 1, Fl. 977, pp. 71–71v.

²² SPbB ARAS, F. 134, L. 3, Fl. 1066, p. 8. From that time in the letters of K. Nitsch his new address appeared (for the previous address – see note 34): “Kraków X, Salwator, ul. Gontyna, 12”.

²³ SPbB ARAS, F. 9, L. 1, Fl. 977, pp. 73–74.

Affairs refuses on principle (not in the special case). I guess that the Academy board's communiqué to the Warsaw general-governor will be enough"²⁴. On April 12, 1912, K. Nitsch sent a letter of thanks to A. A. Shakhmatov for the received certificate with the note: "...Though, unfortunately, it cannot be compared with a letter from the minister"²⁵. It is not quite clear whether this trip was made or not: the documents of the Saint-Petersburg Branch of the Archive of the Russian Academy of Sciences and Archive of Science of the Polish Academy of Sciences and the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences in Krakow do not contain any information on the matter. Moreover, the wife of the Krakow scholar, Aniela Gruszecka-Nitschowa, did not mention the journey in her book *Cale życie nad przyrodą mowy polskiej. Kazimierz Nitsch i jego prace*, dedicated to K. Nitsch, despite the abundance of other facts. Only in the archives of Jagiellonian University has a letter dated February 23, 1912 (Lviv) been preserved which states that the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Education in Lviv, by the rescript of December 25, 1911, gave permission to K. Nitsch during the semi-annual vacation in 1912 for a research trip to study the dialects of the Polish language. The letter also informs that a decision on the allocation of the subvention for the trip will be made later²⁶. Any subsequent documents about the trip of 1912 are not present in the folder. Thus, even this document does not confirm the fact that the trip took place²⁷.

The matter was dealt with again by K. Nitsch in 1914, when he wrote two letters. The first one was a personal letter to A. A. Shakhmatov (dated July 2, 1914) with the request to give him the same document as in 1912²⁸. The second one was an official letter to the Academy, that is stored, by the way, not with the official papers of the Department of Russian Language and Lit-

²⁴ AN PAN i PAU, Spuścizna Kazimierza Nitscha (1874–1958), ref. no. K III-51, 206.

²⁵ SPbB ARAS, F. 134, L. 3, Fl. 1066, p. 9.

²⁶ AUJ, Katedra i seminarium filologii słowiańskiej, ref. no. WF II 155.

²⁷ It should be mentioned that in AUJ and AN PAN i PAU there is no information about the previous trips to the Kingdom of Poland. In AUJ there is a letter informing of the allocation and the payment of the subvention to the amount of 600 kronas for a research trip in the vacation time of 1913 (letters dated August 16, 1913, and March 6, 1914, Lviv): AUJ, Katedra i seminarium filologii słowiańskiej, ref. no. WF II 155.

²⁸ SPbB ARAS, F. 134, L. 3, Fl. 1066, p. 11.

erature, but in the personal correspondence of A.A. Shakhmatov²⁹. Probably due to war-time difficulties the letter was not dealt with³⁰.

Dialectological study tours were one of the reasons for early cooperation between K. Nitsch and the Saint-Petersburg Academy. Two others are also reflected in the letters to A.A. Shakhmatov³¹. The first one was the mutual participation in Slavic editions of other countries. As mentioned above, K. Nitsch was one of the editors of the Krakow journal “Rocznik Slawistyczny”. Besides this, in 1909, while J. Rozwadowski was absent from the city during the summertime, K. Nitsch carried out all the works connected with collecting the second volume of the edition³². For this volume, A.A. Shakhmatov, at the journal’s editors’ request, reviewed Agaphangel Krymsky’s Ukrainian grammar³³. K. Nitsch’s letters to the Russian academic, dated July 15, 1909, and August 15, 1909³⁴, and the letters of A.A. Shakhmatov to K. Nitsch, dated June 25 and 29 and August 24, 1909³⁵, concern the technical questions of the proof’s preparation: unification of the principles of citing, transcribing, the usage of fonts etc.³⁶

²⁹ Ibidem, p. 10.

³⁰ There is one more interesting piece of evidence of K. Nitsch’s research, connected with Russia, although no longer with the Academy of Sciences. In the personal file of K. Nitsch in AUJ, there is a letter from the period of the First World War (November 2, 1915), from the commandant of Krakow, allowing K. Nitsch to conduct linguistic research among the Russian prisoners of war in the Dąbie quarantine station: AUJ, ref. no. S II 619, Kazimierz Nitsch.

³¹ In SPbB ARAS there are 9 letters by K. Nitsch to A. A. Shakhmatov from the period of 1909–1914. The subjects of the letters are fully covered in this article. It should be noted that the correspondence with A. A. Shakhmatov had a more official than private character: as the chairman of the Department of Russian Language and Literature A. A. Shakhmatov spoke, first of all, on behalf of the academic community of the Department.

³² Ibidem, p. 2. See also J. Rozwadowski’s letter to A. A. Shakhmatov: SPbB ARAS, F. 134, L. 3, Fl. 1301, pp. 8–9.

³³ Агафангел Е. Крымский, *Украинская грамматика для учеников высших классов гимназий и семинарий Приднепровья*, Vol. 1, part 1, 2, 6; Vol. 2, part 1, “Rocznik Slawistyczny” 1909, Vol. 2, pp. 135–174. Though the publication of this grammar had not been finished by the time of the review’s writing, A. A. Shakhmatov hastened to write it immediately as he was urged by “the outstanding interest and scientific significance of the new book... of A. E. Krymsky”.

³⁴ SPbB ARAS, F. 134, L. 3, Fl. 1066, pp. 2–3. These letters (post cards) provide the Krakow address of K. Nitsch: “ul. Łobzowska, 27”.

³⁵ AN PAN i PAU, Spuścizna Kazimierza Nitscha (1874–1958), ref. no. K III-51, 206.

³⁶ K. Nitsch writes about this with characteristic rigor: “It is known that Slavonic editions, even the most serious in content, from this point of view, however, differ much from

Of course, the participation of the famous Russian linguist was a great honor for the new Krakow annual.

Both J. Rozwadowski and K. Nitsch in their letters thanked A.A. Shakhmatov tirelessly, hoping at the same time to get more support for the publication, such as placing reviews of it in the pages of Russian editions³⁷. This was really an important question at that time, because favorable reviews appeared only in several journals³⁸. As for the attitude of V. Jagić, the Krakow linguists wrote about it with disappointment because he forgot to mention the Krakow edition among the numerous reviews in his journal “Archiv für slavische Philologie”³⁹. A.A. Shakhmatov understood the importance of favorable reviews and supported his Polish colleagues, but owing to his busy schedule he failed to make a review of “Rocznik” (see the letters of A.A. Shakhmatov to K. Nitsch dated June 29, 1909, and April 17, 1910⁴⁰).

The letters to A. A. Shakhmatov also inform of the planned, but never conducted, participation of K. Nitsch in Russian publications. Besides the preparation of the mentioned text about Polish dialects for the “Encyclopedia of Slavonic Philology”⁴¹, we know about the offer, made to K. Nitsch,

German ones, and Russian ones yield much to Czech. We want to put RS on a high cultural level from this point of view. That is why we would ask for the observance of uniformity in that point of the proof”. And further apologizing for the criticisms to the text’s design he explains: “I understand their meaning and importance at the same time”: SPbB ARAS, F. 134, L. 3, Fl. 1066, p. 3.

³⁷ As for mentioning this journal, the works published in the annual were fully presented, for example, in the guide “Обозрение трудов по славяноведению” (“Review of the Works on Slavonic Studies”) published in St. Petersburg since 1909 and edited by Vladimir N. Beneshevich with the assistance of A. A. Shakhmatov.

³⁸ See the record of reviews: J. Łoś, K. Nitsch, J. Rozwadowski, *W sprawie “Rocznika Slawistycznego”*, Krakow 1910, pp. 8–9.

³⁹ SPbB ARAS, F. 134, L. 3, Fl. 1066, p. 2. See also J. Rozwadowski’s letter: SPbB ARAS, F. 134, L. 3, Fl. 1301, p. 5 reverse.

⁴⁰ AN PAN i PAU, Spuścizna Kazimierza Nitscha (1874–1958), ref. no. K III-51, 206.

⁴¹ K. Nitsch reports about the course of the work on this research in several letters, tactfully complaining that, at first, when he had enough time for journeys, he failed to get the dialects of the Polish Kingdom’s regions, because for studying the dialects of this territory V. Jagić selected Jan Wiktor Porzeziński, and only later did he appeal again with this matter to K. Nitsch: SPbB ARAS, F. 134, L. 3, Fl. 1066, p. 5 reverse; 9–9 reverse. While writing the paper, K. Nitsch acted with professional care as he was afraid of coming to hasty conclusions. However, in 1910, he published the article *Próba ugrupowania gwar polskich* (“Rozprawy Wydziału Filologicznego Akademii Umiejętności” 1910, Vol. XLVI, pp. 336–365), the text of which he sent to A. A. Shakhmatov with a note in the letter: “...I am reaching

to write an article on the relation of the Kashub dialect to other Polish dialects⁴².

One more aspect of academic contact concerns the issue of a book exchange. New Russian editions rarely reached Krakow academic circles. This problem was touched upon in the letters of J. Łoś and J. Rozwadowski, and by K. Nitsch. In the name of the library of the Academy of Arts and Sciences, he asked A.A. Shakhmatov (in a letter dated April 6, 1910) to ask for the official sending of all new editions to Krakow, as the Academy of Arts and Sciences did for Saint-Petersburg. In addition, this request was also addressed personally to A. A. Shakhmatov, who privately helped Krakow linguists more than once with the matter⁴³. The letter of A. A. Shakhmatov to K. Nitsch dated April 17, 1910, is evidence of this⁴⁴. Krakow's scholars, in turn, worried about the timely acquisition of publications by their Saint-Petersburg colleagues too. Thus in 1910, K. Nitsch, afraid of the delay in the official sending of editions due to censorship, privately sent three copies of the newly published third volume of "Rocznik Slawistyczny": personally to A. A. Shakhmatov, to the library of the Academy of Sciences and personally to J. Baudouin de Courtanay⁴⁵. A member of the Russian (and also the Krakow) Academy, Boris M. Lyapunov (1862–1943)⁴⁶, was the second

a synthesis in this field little by little": SPbB ARAS, F. 134, L. 3, Fl. 1066, p. 5. In the last of the preserved letters to A. A. Shakhmatov, dated July 2, 1914, K. Nitsch tells about the completion of the work on Polish dialects: "Before the autumn for sure I will give it to Prof. Porzeziński for translation" (underlined by the author): SPbB ARAS, F. 134, L. 3, Fl. 1066, p. 11. However, the paper was never published: the Academy failed to issue all the planned volumes due to the war and revolutionary events.

⁴² As K. Nitsch explains, the reason for not writing the article was not unwillingness, but "the pressure of other work together with the fact that I'm always working slowly": SPbB ARAS, F. 134, L. 3, Fl. 1066, p. 5.

⁴³ In this letter K. Nitsch names the editions which the Academy of Arts and Sciences received regularly: "Известия Отделения русского языка и словесности" ("Proceedings of the Department of Russian Language and Literature") and "Сборник Отделения русского языка и словесности" ("Collected essays of the Department of Russian Language and Literature"): SPbB ARAS, F. 134, L. 3, Fl. 1066, pp. 6–6 reverse.

⁴⁴ AN PAN i PAU, Spuścizna Kazimierza Nitscha (1874–1958), ref. no. K III-51, 206.

⁴⁵ In the same letter, K. Nitsch writes that A. A. Shakhmatov showed him a phonograph in St. Petersburg, which interested the scholar and he would like to know where and how it is possible to purchase it: SPbB ARAS, F. 134, L. 3, Fl. 1066, p. 7.

⁴⁶ B. M. Lyapunov – Russian linguist, specialist in Slavonic studies, follower of A.A. Shakhmatov, author of the works on the history of the Russian language, comparative gram-

correspondent of K. Nitsch in Saint-Petersburg⁴⁷. He was the author of the review of K. Nitsch's scholarship work, when the latter was recommended for election to the Academy of Sciences of the USSR as a corresponding member in 1933. He noted K. Nitsch's first place in grouping Polish dialects according to phonetic characteristics within all the areas of their prevalence, placing his name together with the authors of dialectological albums in Roman (Jules Gilliéronand, Albert Dauzat) and German regions (Peters Wagner). The academic also noted the importance of K. Nitsch's works on studying the vocabularies of different regions, "on the history of various Polish dialects and the history of the bonds of Polish with neighboring languages and on the valuation of neighboring languages' influence on literary Polish". B. M. Lyapunov completes: "By electing K. Nitsch to the corresponding members of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, we would not only pay homage to the fruitful academic activity of the outstanding Polish scholar, but would also restore the link, broken with the death of J. Łoś⁴⁸, that connected the Academy of Sciences of the USSR with the Polish Academy of Sciences"⁴⁹.

The first of K. Nitsch's letters to B. M. Lyapunov, kept in SPbB ARAS, was written by the Polish scholar on October 3, 1930, and touched the prob-

mar of Slavic languages, etymology, dialectology, lexicography; member of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR (1923, from 1907 – corresponding member), member of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences (1930).

⁴⁷ In the personal papers of B. M. Lyapunov, there are 11 letters from K. Nitsch in Polish for the period 1930–1936, and in K. Nitsch's papers in AN PAN i PAU – 16 letters by B.M. Lyapunov for 1928–1938. The subjects of the correspondence are reflected in the article completely. After the death of A.A. Shakhmatov in 1920 and Evfimy F. Karsky at the beginning of 1931, B. M. Lyapunov became an anchor connecting the Soviet science with foreign Slavonic experts. This became especially obvious after B. M. Lyapunov's election to the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1930.

⁴⁸ B. M. Lyapunov was familiar with J. Łoś due to St. Petersburg University and was his correspondent, and after the death of the Krakow scholar he expressed his deep condolences in the letter to K. Nitsch: AN PAN i PAU, Spuścizna Kazimierza Nitscha (1874–1958), ref. no. K III-51, 196, pp. 61–62. A number of the letters by B. M. Lyapunov addressed to K. Nitsch, written in 1935, when some prominent Polish and Russian Slavonic experts passed away, were dedicated to the memory of the deceased scholars, including J. Rozwadowski: AN PAN i PAU, Spuścizna Kazimierza Nitscha (1874–1958), ref. no. K III-51, 196, pp. 81–88; in the letter of 1938, B. M. Lyapunov recalls the late Stanisław Szober: AN PAN i PAU Spuścizna Kazimierza Nitscha (1874–1958), ref. no. K III-51, 196, pp. 91–92.

⁴⁹ SPbB ARAS, F. 2, L. 16, Fl. 4, pp. 6–7.

lem of book exchange. B. M. Lyapunov sent copies of his works to Krakow (for J. Rozwadowski too) and received, as an answer, K. Nitsch's assurance of his readiness to help him with Krakow editions⁵⁰. In the next letter, dated February 17, 1931, K. Nitsch asked B.M. Lyapunov to send all the possible offprints of his papers, which the latter did⁵¹, and informed that, for foreign members of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences, obligatory distribution of periodical academic editions was provided and that B.M. Lyapunov had the right to demand them for himself⁵². It is not clear from the correspondence whether B. M. Lyapunov received academic publications, but the journal "Język Polski" was regularly sent to him from 1936 to 1938 by the Society of the Enthusiasts of the Polish Language⁵³.

As for the practice of publishing Russian scholars' articles in Krakow editions, we find out that B. M. Lyapunov asked for the publication of the dialectological work of the Soviet linguist Vasilij I. Chernyshev (1866–1949) in the "Lud Słowiański"⁵⁴, which K. Nitsch approved⁵⁵. The letters by B.M. Lyapunov of October 11, 1933⁵⁶ and K. Nitsch of November 23, 1932⁵⁷ tell about the preparation of the work. On February 4, 1933, K. Nitsch wrote about the sending of the offprints of V. I. Chernyshev's article to Saint-Petersburg⁵⁸.

In the years before the war, the opportunities to broaden academic contacts increased, owing to international scientific conferences. Thus, in 1929, the congress of Slavonic researchers in Prague took place, with a delega-

⁵⁰ SPbB ARAS, F. 752, L. 2, Fl. 225, p. 1 reverse.

⁵¹ AN PAN i PAU Spuścizna Kazimierza Nitscha (1874–1958), ref. no. K III-51, 196, pp. 65–66.

⁵² SPbB ARAS, F. 752, L. 2, Fl. 225, p. 2 reverse.

⁵³ AN PAN i PAU Spuścizna Kazimierza Nitscha (1874–1958), ref. no. K III-51, 196, pp. 87–92.

⁵⁴ Ibidem, pp. 69–70.

⁵⁵ SPbB ARAS, F. 752, L. 2, Fl. 225, pp. 3 reverse–4 reverse.

⁵⁶ AN PAN i PAU Spuścizna Kazimierza Nitscha (1874–1958), ref. no. K III-51, 196, p. 75.

⁵⁷ SPbB ARAS, F. 752, L. 2, Fl. 225, p. 6 reverse.

⁵⁸ Ibidem, p. 7 reverse. From the next letter we know that the author's fee was 167 zlotys 50 groshes. We also find out the precise quantity of the sent offprints of the article – 27: SPbB ARAS, F. 752, L. 2, Fl. 225, p. 8 reverse. K. Nitsch also wrote about the willingness to publish an article on the condition of studies in the field of Great Russian dialectics: SPbB ARAS, F. 752, L. 2, Fl. 225, p. 8–8 reverse. As known, this intention was not fulfilled.

tion from the USSR⁵⁹, thanks to which K. Nitsch was able to meet Soviet linguists. In a letter dated March 25, 1936, he noted Nikolay M. Karinsky (1873–1935) and assured of the great importance of Soviet scholars' works for him, which he used for his studies. He also mentioned the names of Aleksandr I. Tomson (1860–1935) and Grigoriy A. Ilyinsky (1876–1937). The Krakow scholar was in correspondence with the latter, who published his works in Polish editions⁶⁰.

The close contact of K. Nitsch with Soviet linguists and the outstanding services of this scholar helped to lead the Academy of Sciences of the USSR to recommend K. Nitsch for election to its members. The first plea was sent by B. M. Lyapunov in 1933⁶¹. He also wrote “Отзыв о научной деятельности К. Нитша” (“The Review of K. Nitsch's Academic Work”)⁶², where the academic put K. Nitsch in the first place after J. Łoś' death in the studies concerning the dialectics of Slavonic languages⁶³. However, the election took place much later, in 1947, when K. Nitsch was already the president of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences.

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⁵⁹ However, there were no scholars from the USSR at the Second Congress of Slavonic researchers that took place in Krakow: SPbB ARAS, F. 752, L. 2, Fl. 225, p. 9 reverse.

⁶⁰ SPbB ARAS, F. 752, L. 2, Fl. 225, p. 11 reverse.

⁶¹ The fact that B. M. Lyapunov sent his greetings to K. Nitsch, when the latter celebrated his anniversary in Krakow in 1934, proves that B. M. Lyapunov treated the Krakow scholar with attention and respect: SPbB ARAS, F. 752, L. 2, Fl. 225, p. 9 reverse.

⁶² SPbB ARAS, F. 2, L. 16, Fl. 4, pp. 6–7.

⁶³ In the personal papers of B. M. Lyapunov, there is also a hand-written document titled “Список трудов Нитша” (“The List of Nitsch's Works”) which has 12 positions (till 1932): SPbB ARAS, F. 752, L. 1, Fl. 166, pp. 1–1 reverse.

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PODSUMOWANIE**Prezes Polskiej Akademii Umiejętności Kazimierz Nitsch
a Petersburska Akademia Nauk (w świetle zbiorów archiwalnych)**

Kontakty Kazimierza Nitscha (1874–1958) – krakowskiego lingwisty, profesora Uniwersytetu Jagiellońskiego, członka i prezesa Polskiej Akademii Umiejętności – z Petersburską Akademią Nauk rozpoczęły się jeszcze przed wyborem polskiego naukowca do jej grona. Świadczenia tych kontaktów można odnaleźć w zbiorach Petersburskiej Filii Archiwum Rosyjskiej Akademii Nauk, Archiwum Nauki PAN i PAU w Krakowie oraz Archiwum Uniwersytetu Jagiellońskiego w Krakowie.

K. Nitsch, jeszcze jako docent prywatny Uniwersytetu Jagiellońskiego, z rekomendacji Jana Rozwadowskiego i Jana Baudouina de Courtenay został zaproszony do grona autorów wieloczęściowej *Encyklopedii językoznawstwa słowiańskiego*, wydawanej przez Rosyjską Akademię Nauk w celu napisania rozdziału na temat dialektologii polskiej. W związku z tym Nitsch podjął szereg wypraw dialektologicznych do Królestwa Polskiego, które były możliwe dzięki wsparciu organizacyjnemu Wydziału Języka Rosyjskiego i Literatury Petersburskiej Akademii Nauk, czego świadectwa zachowały się wśród dokumentów Wydziału.

Wyprawy dialektologiczne to jeden z obszarów wcześniejszej współpracy K. Nitscha z Petersburską Akademią. Pozostałe obszary znajdują odzwierciedlenie w koresponden-

cji prowadzonej przez K. Nitscha z Aleksiejem A. Szachmatowem (1864–1920), prezesem Wydziału Języka Rosyjskiego i Literatury oraz Borysem M. Lapunowem (1862–1943), rosyjskim sławistą, członkiem Rosyjskiej Akademii Nauk, który po śmierci A. A. Szachmatowa i E. F. Karskiego (1860–1931), drugiego wybitnego sławisty i organizatora nauki, został kluczową postacią łączącą rosyjski i europejski świat sławistyczny. W Petersburskiej Filii Archiwum Rosyjskiej Akademii Nauk zachowały się listy K. Nitscha do A. A. Szachmatowa z lat 1909–1914 i do B. M. Lapunowa z lat 1930–1936; w Archiwum Nauki PAN i PAU w Krakowie znajdują się listy do K. Nitscha: A. A. Szachmatowa z lat 1908–1912 i B. M. Lapunowa z lat 1928–1938. Treść tej korespondencji ukazuje dwa podstawowe kierunki współpracy: współdziałanie w wydawaniu polskich i radzieckich publikacji sławistycznych oraz organizację akademickich wymian książek.

Ścisłe kontakty K. Nitscha z językoznawcami radzieckimi oraz jego wybitne osiągnięcia naukowe spowodowały, że Akademia Nauk ZSRR postanowiła przedstawić jego kandydaturę na swojego członka. Pierwszy wniosek złożył B. M. Lapunow jeszcze w 1933 r., jednak wybór odbył się znacznie później – w 1947 r., kiedy K. Nitsch zajmował już stanowisko prezesa Polskiej Akademii Umiejętności.

SUMMARY

The President of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences, Kazimierz Nitsch and the Saint-Petersburg Academy of Sciences (according to archival documents)

Contacts between Kazimierz Nitsch (1874–1958) – Krakow linguist, professor of Jagiellonian University, member and president of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences – with the Saint-Petersburg Academy of Sciences began even before the Polish scientist was elected to be one of its members. Evidence of these contacts can be found in the collections of the Saint-Petersburg Archives of the Russian Academy of Sciences, the PAN and PAU Archives in Krakow and the Archives of Jagiellonian University in Krakow.

K. Nitsch, while still a privatdozent of Jagiellonian University, following recommendations from Jan Rozwadowski and Jan Baudouin de Courtenay, was invited to become an author of the multi-volume *Encyclopedia of Slavonic Philology*, published by the Russian Academy of Sciences, with the goal of writing a section on Polish dialectology. In connection with this, Nitsch undertook a wide range of dialectological trips to the Polish Kingdom, which were possible thanks to the organisational support of the Department of Russian Language and Literature of the Saint-Petersburg Academy of Sciences. Evidence of this support is stored among the Department's documents.

The dialectological trips were just one of the areas of early cooperation between K. Nitsch and the Saint-Petersburg Academy. The other areas are reflected in the correspondence conducted by K. Nitsch with Aleksey A. Shakhmatov (1864–1920), President of the Department of Russian Language and Literature as well as with Boris M. Lyapunov (1862–1943), a Russian Slavonic expert, member of the Russian Academy of Sciences, who after the death of A. A. Shakhmatov and E. F. Karski (1860–1931), the second great Slavonic expert and organiser of science, became a key figure connecting the Russian and European worlds of Slavonic experts. The St Petersburg Archives of the Russian Academy

of Sciences contain letters from K. Nitsch to A. A. Shakhmatov from the years 1909–1914 and to B. M. Lyapunov from 1930–1936; the PAN and PAU Archives in Krakow contain letters to K. Nitsch: from A. A. Shakhmatov during the years 1908–1912 and from B. M. Lyapunov in 1928–1938. The content of this correspondence presents two basic directions of cooperation: participation in the preparation of Polish and Soviet Slavonic publications as well as organisation of the academic exchange of books.

The close contacts between K. Nitsch and Soviet linguists as well as his excellent scientific achievements meant that the USSR Academy of Sciences decided to present him as a candidate for membership. The first application was submitted by B. M. Lyapunov in 1933, however, the election took place significantly later – in 1947 when K. Nitsch had already taken up the position of President of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences.

SŁOWA KLUCZOWE: Kazimierz Nitsch, związki akademickie rosyjsko-polskie, sławistyka, spuścizna archiwalna sławistów

KEY WORDS: Kazimierz Nitsch, Russian-Polish academic links, Slavonic studies, personal papers of Slavonic scholars in archives