

## Vygotsky's early works: Literary and theatrical reviews in newspaper "Nash ponedel'nik" [Our Monday] (Gomel'), 1922-1923

A. Yasnitsky

The two most recent issues of our journal, PsyAnima, Dubna Psychological Journal, feature early works of Lev Vygotsky that were prepared for publication by an international team of enthusiasts—researchers, archival workers, and library staff—from Belarus, Brazil, Canada, Israel, Italy, the Netherlands, Russia, and Switzerland, who joined their efforts and put together highly impressive collection of L.S. Vygotsky's published texts. In the course of research several publications were first discovered by the members of the team and, thus, these texts have not been included in any of the existent bibliographies of Vygotsky's works to day. For the list and an overview of all major bibliographies of Vygotsky's works see (Yasnitsky, 2011a, 2011b, 2011c, 2011d, 2011e). Until most recently, these works of early 1920s have not been available in any of the later editions of the Soviet or post-Soviet period, including the largest to date—yet definitely not the most reliable one—six-volume *Collected works* of Vygotsky that came out in 1982-1984 in the Soviet Union in Pedagogika Press, or, for that matter, its even less reliable English clone, the Plenum six-volume edition of *The Collected Works of L.S. Vygotsky*; for critique of these publications see (Van der Veer & Yasnitsky, 2011).

Despite the fact that, according to the copyright laws of the Russian Federation, all these—as well as any other works of Vygotsky that were published during his lifetime—are now considered as non-restricted open access materials, the texts themselves due to their extreme rarity and virtual inaccessibility remain essentially unknown to the broad readership in East Europe and the rest of the world. These publications in PsyAnima are to remedy this utterly intolerable situation with the early scientific legacy of the classic of Soviet and Russian psychology and the most cited Russian psychology all over the world. This publication continues the publication of early works of Vygotsky, namely, his theatrical and literary reviews that have been previously published only once, in Gomel' newspaper "Nash ponedel'nik" (Our Monday) in 1922<sup>1</sup>. This journal issue presents such reviews that came out in the same newspaper in 1923.

A note on the original publications is in order. Newspaper "Nash ponedel'nik", a political and literary weekly, was published in Gomel' in 1922-1923 in *Gomel'skii rabochii* publishing house. In 1922 issues 1-20 were published, in 1923—issues 21-58. The first Vygotsky's publication that came out in this newspaper in 1923—several theatrical reviews under general header "Ne sovsem retsenzii" ("Not quite reviews")—was published in the very first issue of the journal in 1923, issue 21 of January 15, 1923. The very last issue of this edition, issue 58, was released on September 17, 1923, and then the newspaper was closed down, or, more precisely, merged with another similar periodical edition, local "Poleskaia Pravda" (The Truth of Polesia<sup>2</sup>). The very last Vygotsky's publication in "Nash ponedel'nik" (issue 52), titled "Gastroli vtoroi studii MKhT" ("The Guest Performance of the Second Studio of Moscow Art Theatre [MKhT]") came out on September 3, 1923. Since then Vygotsky kept writing reviews for the united edition that continued operating under the brand name of "Poleskaia Pravda". His first publication in this periodical edition, an article "Petr III i Ekaterina II" ("Peter the Third and Ekaterina the Second") came out in

<sup>1</sup> For full texts in Russian see: <http://www.psyanima.ru/journal/2011/4/2011n4a7/2011n4a7.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> On Polesia region of Belarus see: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polesia\\_Voblast](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polesia_Voblast)

issue 1006 of September 25, 1923. One of the following issues of *PsyAnima* will also publish these works of Vygotsky of his Gomel' period that first—and last—appeared in press in local “Polesskaia Pravda” in 1923.

### References:

1. Van der Veer, R., & Yasnitsky, A. (2011). Vygotsky in English: What still needs to be done. *Integrative Psychological and Behavioral Science*, 45(4), 475-493.
2. Yasnitsky, A. (2011a). El Vygotskiy que (no) conocemos: Principales trabajos y cronología de su composición. Retrieved August 20, 2012, from <http://vygotski-traducido.blogspot.ca/2012/07/yasnitskiy.html>
3. Yasnitsky, A. (2011b). "Kogda b vy znali iz kakogo sora...": K opredeleniiu sostava i khronologii sozdaniia osnovnykh rabot Vygotskogo ["I Wish You Knew From What Stray Matter...": Identifying the set of Vygotsky's major oeuvre and determining the chronology of their composition]. *PsyAnima, Dubna Psychological Journal*, 4(4), 1-52.
4. Yasnitsky, A. (2011c). Le Vygotskij que nous (ne) connaissons (pas). Les principaux travaux de Vygotskij et la chronologie de leur composition. *PsyAnima, Dubna Psychological Journal*, 4(4), 71-79.
5. Yasnitsky, A. (2011d). O Vigotski que nós (não) conhecemos: os principais trabalhos de Vigotski e a cronologia de sua composição. *PsyAnima, Dubna Psychological Journal*, 4(4), 62-70.
6. Yasnitsky, A. (2011e). The Vygotsky That We (Do Not) Know: Vygotsky's Main Works and the Chronology of their Composition. *PsyAnima, Dubna Psychological Journal*, 4(4), 53-61.