

**POLISH HERITAGE OF VILNIUS BOOK STUDIES  
BETWEEN THE TWO WORLD WARS**

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Although this is a comparatively new field, the world book science has its rich history. Just like Polish book science, which roots in the middle of the 18th century, when the first drafts on the history of printing and bibliography appeared. However only the achievements of Joachim Lelewel, the author of *Two Bibliographic Books* [20], set path for the whole generations of librarians and bibliologist. It was right in Vilnius where the first Polish book study theoretician published his *Books*. So the traditions of book study in Vilnius root in the 19th century – the times of J. Lelewel but also Aleksander Bohatkiewicz, who here at the University started lectures on bibliography – as was bibliography then called. So Vilnius contribution into the book study did not start only in the period of exceptional movement of librarianship and book science, so in the period between the two World Wars. In this university town of great traditions – Vilnius Academy was the second higher education unit in Poland after Jagiellonian University (Uniwersytet Jagielloński) – there definitely exists a *genius loci*, which prevailed for many centuries; it is visible in the creativity of such persons as Adam Łysakowski, Tadeusz Turkowski (who often used the nick name Jerzy Czarnecki), Ludwik Abramowicz or Michał Brensztejn.

However neither the mentioned-above theoreticians and practicians of bibliography nor the between two World War period in Polish book science have come by the

holistic study, let alone the treatises covering the subject of book study in Vilnius region in the period interesting for us. Also the institutions and organizations of the between two World Wars Vilnius in such literature are usually treated marginally. There is lack of sound monographies, taking into consideration the up-to-date state of the research on Polish Librarians Association (Związek Bibliotekarzy Polskich) or Vilnius scientific libraries. There is a lot written about A. Łysakowski, but M. Brensztejn, L. Abramowicz or T. Turkowski are not rewarded with great interest of book culture historians (their biography were published in *Dictionary of polish book employee*) [40]. Henryk Baranowski in his bibliography on Vilnius University, selected a section devoted to The Library and Archives [3, 51–53], but this literature is very inconsiderable and mainly in Lithuanian.

And the between two World Wars period was a breakthrough in Polish librarianship, as right after regaining independence there have been worked out brand new rules of organizing librarianship, and scientists tried to create the legal basis for library functioning or fully professionalize the work of a librarian. The bibliological knowledge was indispensable for these activities, and it is thanks to Vilnius theoreticians and practitioners of librarianship that we broadened theoretical reflection. Vilnius since long has been the capital of independent Lithuania, but before, for many centuries it has been the centre of Polish culture and science. There is no reason then, that its history, also in the aspect of book science was not the subject of interest for Polish book historians. The material collected in following article was presented through the prism of persons and insitutions important for Vilnius book culture; the particular problems occur at the background of activity of A. Łysakowski, T. Turkowski, M. Brensztejn, L. Abramowicz and Polish Librarians Association, Society of Friends of Arts and Sciences (Towarzystwo Przyjaciół Nauk), Vilnius University Public Library (Uniwersytecka Biblioteka Publiczna w Wilnie) and other scientific libraries.

One of the outstanding individualities to develop the between World War librarianship and book study to a large degree was A. Łysakowski (1895–1952), the employee and head librarian of Vilnius University Public Library. His work *The subject catalogue* [25] practically revolutionized the field of subject study in Poland. A. Łysakowski used subject catalogue in the library run by him in Vilnius. He started it in March 1926 and no longer than two years later he published the first work on this subject, and in 1928 there appeared *Subject catalogue. Part One The*

*theory* [25], (*Subject catalogue. Manual* appeared after the War, in 1946) [26]. A. Łysakowski based his catalogue works not only on theoretical thoughts but also on observations and experiments. The great supporter of using subject catalogues instead of systematic ones, he first tried to create this catalogue for reading room library, and professor reading room which were as if smaller reflection of all the collections of Vilnius University Public Library. Creating subject catalogue was not easy as there were no Polish examples, and the foreign ones were not suitable for Polish libraries due to the character of Polish language. A. Łysakowski's works started discussions on subject catalogues in Polish librarianship and encouraged other libraries to use its experience and create their own subject catalogues (like for instance Lvov University Library) [14, 125].

A. Łysakowski did not intend to create a theory of subject catalogue, but wanted to make a useful tool of bibliographic search. That is why he was interested in readers' opinions on subject catalogue; he started a special book where they could write their questions and doubts, and the answers were delivered within a week. Choosing the most appropriate form of entry to the catalogue, A. Łysakowski used an experiment. *Psychological experiment in librarianship* is the title and at the same time subject of one of A. Łysakowski's articles, presented for the first time in Polish Librarians Association Circle in Vilnius (Związek Bibliotekarzy Polskich. Koło Wileńskie) [23]. It was a special experiment however, which was to examine the way of functioning of consciousness, the way of remembering the perceived reality. The same approach was presented by A. Łysakowski in his work *Psychological bases of catalogue instruction* [31]. He wrote about the experiment and the observation: to create the catalogue „It has been developed a l o n g-t e r m e x p e r i m e n t a l w o r k done by the author <...>. The experiment was focused first of all on the readers, who have used the Vilnius University Public Library and subject catalogue since 1932. There has been made an observation over the way of using the catalogue card index <...>. On the other hand, the ability of a librarian to consequently create the subject catalogue” [26, 8].

A. Łysakowski was the theoretician and practician of librarianship, who first touched the problems of normalization of librarian work, and library works economics. He wanted to organize library works according to the rules of new science, prakseology [29; 27]. He highly appreciated libraries as the most important tool for intellectual work [31, 442] and that is why he thought they should be modern. And

this – in his opinion – ment the necessity of specialization in collection gathering, cooperation with other libraries, simplifying and normalizing library work techniques, and creating bibliographical departments as well as conducting historical-bibliological research [31, 448] A. Łysakowski completed all these resolutions in the Vilnius University Public Library that he was running.

And with the engagement in publishing the work of Jan Ladislav Živny *Handbook of Bibliography* [51], A. Łysakowski popularized modern book study stream in Poland. He wrote about this work to Marian Łodyński in the following way: „The fruit was not mine but I had to put far more work in it than I expected. It was the hardest work” [6, 109]. But he was too modest – he developed two paragraphs describing the theory of polish bibliography and he added five paragraphs presenting latest views on book science in Poland, Germany, England, France and Russia. A. Łysakowski also gave informative lectures on bibliography and librarianship for the students of Vilnius University.

He was also deeply interested in the matters of regional bibliography and printings statistics; many times did he write about it, both in professional and local press. He announced the results of bibliographic research in the local press, he also used the radio to popularize the news, as he was convinced the readers should get used to constant information on books and libraries, not only in professional but also in daily newspapers. Starting with 1927 on A. Łysakowski’s initiative in „Dziennik Wileński” they printed regional bibliography of 4 voivodeship – Vilnius, Białystok, Nowogródek and Polesie.

During his stay in Vilnius, A. Łysakowski was also interested in educating the librarians and their professional status. He was even thinking of creating librarian school in Vilnius; in his letter to the librarian school in Warsaw he asked for the details of this institution’s functioning [15]. In his correspondence with Marian Łodyński often did he cover this subject [6, 153–154]. This project had never been completed however. To picture how much he was into the matters of professional education, one can notice that in 1928 asked by Polish Librarians Association he agreed to become the editor of a planned librarians’ manual. Unfortunately the publication did not come to an end due to the lack of funds.

T. Turkowski (1883–1957) often emphasized that for many centuries in Poland Vilnius was the most important cultural centre next to the capital city (Cracov, and then Warsaw). He was convinced that in Vilnius civilization heritage until the 19th

century the most important was printing. He wrote about it both in his book *On Vilnius graphics* [44] as in his work *The Genesis and Character of Vilnius as literary circle* [42]. He postulated interest in the history of Vilnius science and education – he published monumental, three-volume work called *Materials to the History of literature and education in Lithuania and Russia from the Archives of Printing House and Józef Zawadzki Book shop in Vilnius from 1805 to 1865* [43]. He published there the materials found in Zawadzky's archives, mostly correspondence. This way he tried to save the papers that constituted for him a very interesting material for the history of book in Poland. He tried to collect the documents distracted earlier and in 1931 he placed them in the collection of Society of Friends of Arts and Sciences – he gathered 11 packets with letters and documents and 115 accounting books.

T. Turkowski also published the articles on Vilnius book trade and Vilnius book, he organized book exhibitions. In his work *Vilnius in the history of Polish book* [47] he paid attention to the contribution of 19th century librarians – Gotfryd Grodeck, Kazimierz Kontrym or J. Lelewel – in the development of Vilnius scientific press.

His work was also the translation of the fore-mentioned work of the eminent Czech bibliologist J. L. Živny, called *Handbook of Bibliography* [51], the publishing of which was proposed to A. Łysakowski by the management of Warsaw Public Library (Biblioteka Publiczna m.st. Warszawy). This work was to appear in a series published by the Library. The story of J. L. Živny's work publishing is a real epos. At the beginning of 1931 they turned to A. Łysakowski with the proposal of *Rukověť* translating. He agreed to be an editor, and selected the translator from the members of Polish Librarians Association. It was a Vilnius bibliophile and bibliographer T. Turkowski. J. L. Živny agreed for the translation and refused the payment, bearing in mind the financial problems Polish book study (Czech also) had during the period between two World Wars. In April 1931 T. Turkowski started translating and A. Łysakowski was ready to start editing the work. For two following years the case was still open – only in 1934 Leon Bykowski, the director of Warsaw Public Library got interested with the translation. A. Łysakowski assured the translation was waiting ready and promised to send it in the beginning of 1935. The work was published in the middle of 1936 and finally after 5 years thanks to the activity of Vilnius book scientists – A. Łysakowski and T. Turkowski – the circle of Polish bibliologists could get to know the most important work by J. L. Živny,

especially that L. Bykowski assured in the letter to the author: “free copy were used in such way, that they could best serve the popularization of your bibliological and bibliographic ideas in Poland” [15].

Another interesting person in Vilnius library studies and book science of between two World Wars was L. Abramowicz (1879–1939), the administrator of the Wróblewski Library. He had a rich collection of printings connected with Lithuania and Vilnius – his lithuanica, vilenisia, pictures, engravings and litographies were donated for public use. From his collection there was also created the Iconographic Museum in Vilnius (Muzeum Ikonograficzne). Apart from this he also worked on regional bibliography of Great Principality of Lithuania, but he never finished it. His work *Four Centuries of Printing in Vilnius* still remains one of the most important studies of this field [1].

Vilnius librarian M. Brensztejn (1874–1938), although he lacked formal education, in 1936 was awarded for his contribution to science with the diploma *honoris causa* at the Stefan Batory Vilnius University. He was an autodidact and due to his health problems did not even complete high school. It did not stop him from publishing 400 works on Lithuania history and ethnography and more than 20 in scope of bibliography, book history and libraries of this region. He was interested in the cultural history of the lands of the former Great Principality of Lithuania, and also the history of scientific institutions and biography writing – he worked at the creation of Polish Biographical Dictionary.

M. Brensztejn was managing the ethnographic department of The Library of Society of Friends of Arts and Sciences (Biblioteka Towarzystwa Przyjaciół Nauk) for many years. He was a deserving employee of Vilnius University Public Library; he ran the reading-room, completed the reference collections, dealt with special collections and selected cartographic collections. M. Brensztejn also worked out the monograph of this library. He often organized exhibitions, which pictured for instance the history of Vilnius University (in 1919) or Vilnius libraries – this exhibition was organized in 1927 on the initiative of Stefan Rygiel, the head-librarian of Vilnius University Public Library. There were presented the history and collections of a few libraries – University Public Library, Vilnius Evangelic-Reformed Synod Library, Zan Reading Room and others. Two years later M. Brensztejn organized an exhibition on the occasion of 35 years of founding the Vilnius University and in 1935 on the occasion of the 4th Congress of Polish Historians in Vilnius he organized an exhibition called *Poland and Lithuania in historical unity* [10].

Vilnius University Public Library, the Wróblewski Library, Society of Friends of Arts and Sciences or Vilnius Circle of Polish Librarians Association were the most important centers of bibliological scientific life in the period between two World Wars. It was there were fore-mentioned and many more book scientists ran their scientific and professional activity. Few scientific libraries in Vilnius voivodship were collected in one place, right in Vilnius. It was University Public Library that constituted between the two World Wars the source of library human resources. Here worked Stefan Rygiel, A. Łysakowski, Helena Hleb-Koszańska, Michał Ambros, Ludwik Czarkowski, L. Abramowicz or M. Brensztejn. The library had own publishing series, in the frames of which there appeared such important positions as still current *The subject catalogue* by A. Łysakowski [25] or a monograph by M. Brensztejn *University Library in Vilnius until 1832* [8] or *In Vilnius University Public Library* by Stefan Rygiel [39]. The Library regularly published list of acquisitions.

In this library in the period between two World Wars there took place a very significant for the development of documentative and bibliographic services event – A. Łysakowski organized Bibliographic Office (Biuro Bibliograficzne) there – which in contemporary language would mean – scientific information department. He presented the basis for functioning of such offices on the 4th Congress of Polish Librarians (Zjazd Bibliotekarzy Polskich) in Lvov in 1936. But a few years earlier, in 1929 during 2nd Congress in Poznań he appealed to the managers of libraries for organization of information offices for students in their libraries [14, 72–74]. It was he who started the creation of scientific information departments in Polish libraries, as he was convinced they had a significant role in the development of scientific research and will have a significant role in the whole 20th century. The Bibliographic Office gave bibliographic, library and matter information and gave schoolings for students as well as inter-library book exchange. The Office was proud to have their own, rich reference collection, that each reader could easily use thanks to open access. Unfortunately very few scientific libraries in Poland followed Vilnius University Public Library and decided to open special agenda for scientific information.

The Wróblewski Library (after the War Central Library of Lithuanian Academy of Sciences) in the period between two World Wars was to be a central library of the former Great Principality of Lithuania, Courland and Livonia. There existed a

project to deposit the collection in Vilnius University Public Library but things changed and the library got its autonomy back. Although it was created by promotor Stanisław Wróblewski, it was L. Abramowicz who took care of the collection for many years. The honorable opening took place in 1935, but the Library worked earlier and starting from 1932 had right to deposit copy from Vilnius region. The Wróblewski Library contained valuable collections – lithuanica, vilniana, maps, atlases, plans, theological works, law and medical books. Most of them were catalogued by L. Abramowicz.

The library of Vilnius Society of Friends of Arts and Sciences owes a lot to Ludwik Czarkowski (1855–1928), a well known librarian, an activist of Vilnius Circle of Polish Librarians Association. L. Czarkowski was interested in history of journalism in Poland and history of Polish printings published in Vilnius. The Society of Friends of Arts and Sciences published from 1923 to 1939, 14 volumes of “Vilnius Athenaeum”. It was a perfect historical magazine devoted to the past of the lands of former Great Principality of Lithuania, where also Vilnius book scientists published their works; for instance A. Łysakowski placed there his texts on Vilnius University Public Library and Vilnius regional bibliography. The members of the Association were the representatives of Vilnius intellectuals and professional scientists. They were going to “take care of the science, skills and literature written in Polish, and especially examine the country when it comes to natural environment, ethnography, history, economy and statistics” [51, 51]. In the end of the between two World Wars period, the library had about 120 thousands volumes of works from various fields, including many nonesuch ones – manuscripts and incunabula.

In January 1923 on initiative Helena Drège, L. Czarkowski and M. Brensztejn originated Vilnius Circle of Polish Librarians Association. This organisation also published own materials – books and brochures. Such publications – unknown or forgotten fragments of Polish literature – were to appear once a month. The members of the Circle gave public lectures about books and libraries, popularizing the knowledge on books in the society. First they were focused on public librarianship, later on scientific one. The aim of the Circle was also to broaden the librarian knowledge of their own members with the lectures and discussions. Half of these meetings were devoted to theoretical subjects the other half were on historical knowledge. The members of the Circle were sightseeing different Vilnius libraries and archives to get to know the rules of their functioning and the character of the

collection (Library of Vilnius Society of Friends of Arts and Sciences, Zan Reading Room, State Archive, Jewish Library, the Wróblewski Library and others). The meetings were taking place every couple of weeks and during each there were papers presented. It is impossible of course to list all speakers, but for instance T. Turkowski presented a paper on intellectual life on Lithuanian-Russian lands until the 18th century in the scope of their writings, or on Vilnius libraries in 19th century, and A. Łysakowski spoke on current professional issues, and the problem of printing and publishing books in Vilnius circle.

In Circle they also wanted to collect information about Vilnius libraries and take care of the smaller libraries. That is why they organized a library course in July 1927 for 60 employees of small Vilnius libraries, where lectures were given by Stefan Rygiel and A. Łysakowski. In Vilnius there was not a regular school educating librarians, so such courses were of great importance. A few years later in July 1938 Circle was again organizing a course for librarians, this time however it was for employees of scientific libraries and bigger educational libraries with a few-year professional experience. That is why during the lectures there were emphasized the subjects of library organization and library policy, and not library routines. The course took place in Werki near Vilnius and 46 persons participated in it. The course manager was A. Łysakowski, and the lectures were given by such eminent book scientists as Aleksander Birkenmajer or Marian Łodyński. The novelty was gathering on the meetings the representatives of both the scientific librarianship (39 persons) as well as public one (6 persons), who usually existed in different circles. Apart from everyday lectures and classes there were organized scientific trips in order to visit the most important Vilnius libraries [33].

In June 1932 in Vilnius there was organized the 3rd Polish Librarians Congress (III Zjazd Bibliotekarzy Polskich). A. Łysakowski was the chairman of the committee. As in the meeting took part 155 participants and 24 guests, it was a great organizational effort for the Vilnius Circle, especially that there was economic crisis. Actually the Congress was to take place a year earlier, but due to the difficult economic situation in the country, the meeting of Polish librarians had to be postponed. The proceedings were conducted in three sections – bibliographic, scientific libraries, and public libraries. The event was accompanied by exhibitions, its tutor was T. Turkowski. There was presented the history of Vilnius book in chronological order, starting with Bible of Brześć from 1563, to modern editions (among the

exhibited works there were protestant, jesuit, piar prints as well as university editions) and cartographic exhibition from J. Lelewel collection. The exhibitions met great interest. On the occasion of the Congress there was published a book called *Vilnius Libraries* [7], because the members of the Circle wanted to acquaintance the participants of the Congress with the history and current state of the most famous Vilnius libraries.

The period between the two World Wars is of great importance for the development of Polish book science, and Vilnius those days played an important role in book research. All fore-mentioned librarians were truly interested in the history of Lithuania lands; they published many works devoted to this region, enriching the knowledge on the history of a book, printing and libraries in Poland. By reminding such persons as Józef Zawadzki or Adam Kirkor they cared not to forget the people who contributed to cultural and scientific life of Vilnius. So even this short numbering of contributions of only a few of dozens Vilnius librarians makes us realize, to what degree they contributed to the development of bibliological and also historical research taking into account old Vilnius traditions. It is also thanks to them that in the period between two World Wars we witnessed a significant development of book science in Poland. Their writings perfectly document the history of book culture in Lithuania, and through the activity in Vilnius Society of Friends of Arts and Sciences, Polish Librarians Association or bibliophile associations A. Łysakowski, T. Turkowski, L. Abramowicz, M. Brensztejn and others were engaged not only in pure librarian works, but also in social and scientific life of Vilnius. Bibliographic or book science works created by them, devoted not only to town or the surroundings but to whole Lithuania, helped to make Vilnius one of the most important book culture centers in the period between the two World Wars. They often emphasized the many-year-standing duality of Poland, where Vilnius constituted the major centre of science and culture next to the capital city. Studying this area Vilnius librarians contributed in a large degree to the development of history of Polish and Lithuanian education, science and culture.

One of Polish most famous poets, Nobel prize winner Czesław Miłosz wrote in *Dialogue about Vilnius*: “I think that the young today may find it difficult to understand the character of pre-war Vilnius as an enclave: Poland still not Poland, Lithuania still not Lithuania, not a province, not a capital city” [35]. One can only sigh with nostalgia: let there be more such ‘provincial cities’.

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## POLISH HERITAGE OF VILNIUS BOOK STUDIES BETWEEN THE TWO WORLD WARS

AGNIESZKA ŁUSZPAK

### Abstract

Although this is a comparatively new field, the world book science has its rich history. Just like Polish book science, which roots in the middle of the 18th century, when the first drafts on the history of printing and bibliography appeared. However only the achievements of Joachim Lelewel, the author of *Two Bibliographic Books*, set path for the whole generations of librarians and bibliologist. It was right in Vilnius were the first Polish book study theoretician published his *Books*. In this university town of great traditions definitely exists a *genius loci*, which prevailed for many centuries; it is visible in the creativity of such persons as Adam Łysakowski, Tadeusz Turkowski (who often used the nick name Jerzy Czarnecki), Ludwik Abramowicz or Michał Brensztejn.

One of the outstanding individualities to develop the between World War librarianship and book study to a large degree was Łysakowski, the employee and head librarian of Vilnius University Public Library. His work *The subject catalogue* practically revolutionized the field of subject study in Poland. And with the engagement in publishing the work of Jan Ladislav Živny *Handbook of Bibliography*, Łysakowski popularized modern book study stream in Poland. He was also deeply interested in the matters of regional bibliography and printings statistics. During his stay in Vilnius, Łysakowski was also interested in educating the librarians and their professional status.

Turkowski often emphasized that for many centuries in Poland Vilnius was the most important cultural centre next to the capital city (Cracow, then Warsaw). He postulated interest in the history of Vilnius science and education – he published monumental work called *Materials to the History of literature and education in Lithuania and Russia from the Archives of Printing House and Józef Zawadzki Book shop in Vilnius from 1805 to 1865*. Turkowski also published the articles on Vilnius booktrade and Vilnius book. The translation of the fore-mentioned *Handbook of Bibliography* was also his work.

Abramowicz was a administrator of the Wróblewski Library. He had a rich collection of printings connected with Lithuania and Vilnius – his lithuanica, vilnensia and others were donated for public use. From his collection there was also created the Iconographic Museum in Vilnius. He also worked on regional bibliography of Great Principality of Lithuania. His work *Four Centuries of Printing in Vilnius* still remains one of the most important studies of this field.

Vilnius librarian Brensztejn, although he lacked formal education, in 1936 was awarded for his contribution to science with the diploma *honoris causa* at the Vilnius University. He published 400 works on Lithuania history and ethnography and more than 20 in scope of bibliography, book history and libraries of this region. He organized exhibitions, which pictured the history of Vilnius University or Vilnius libraries.

University Public Library, the Wróblewski Library, Society of Friends of Arts and Sciences or Vilnius Circle of Polish Librarians Association were the most important centers of bibliological scientific life in the period between two World Wars. It was there were fore-mentioned and many more book scientists ran their scientific and professional activity. Their writings perfectly document the history of book culture in Lithuania, and through their activity Łysakowski, Turkowski, Abramowicz and Brensztejn and others were engaged not only in pure librarian works, but also in social and scientific life of Vilnius. They often emphasized the many-year-standing duality of Poland, where Vilnius constituted the major centre of science and culture next to the capital city. Studying this area Vilnius librarians contributed in a large degree to the development of history of Polish and Lithuanian education, science and culture.

## VILNIAUS KNYGOTYROS LENKIŠKASIS PAVELDAS TARPUKARIO LAIKOTARPIU

AGNIESZKA ŁUSZPAK

Santrauka

Nors knygotyra yra gana nauja mokslo sritis, jos pasaulinė istorija yra turtinga. Lenkijos knygotyros šaknys taip pat siekia XVIII amžiaus vidurį, kai pasirodė pirmieji spaudos istorijos ir bibliografijos darbų apmatai. Tačiau Joachimo Lelewelio, *Dvejeto bibliografijos knygų* autoriaus, pasiekimai nurodė kelią ištisai bibliotekininkų ir knygotyryninkų kartai. Pirmasis Lenkijos knygotyros teoretikas išleido savo darbus Vilniuje. Šiame universitetiniame mieste ilgus amžius egzistavo *genius loci*, pasireiškiantis tokių asmenybių kaip Adamas Łysakowski, Tadeusz Turkowski (pravardžiuojamas Jerzy Czarneckiu), Ludwikas Abramowiczius ar Michałas Brensztejnų kūryboje.

Viena iš ryškiausių asmenybių, tarpukario laikotarpiu plėtojusi bibliotekininkystės ir knygos studijas, buvo A. Łysakowski – Vilniaus universiteto viešosios bibliotekos vyriausiasis bibliotekininkas. Jo *Dalykinis katalogas* padarė revoliucinį perversmą dalykinimo tyrimuose Lenkijoje. Prsidėjęs prie Jano Ladislavo Živny *Bibliografijos vadovo* leidimo, A. Łysakowski Lenkijoje išpopuliarino šiuolaikinės knygos studijas. Jis taip pat labai domėjosi regionine bibliografija ir spaudos statistika. Gyvendamas Vilniuje, A. Łysakowski gilinosi į bibliotekininkų rengimo profesijos klausimus.

T. Turkowski dažnai pabrėždavo, jog, be sostinės Krokuvos (vėliau Varšuvos), daugelį šimtmečių Vilnius buvo svarbiausias kultūros centras. Jis skatino domėjimąsi Vilniaus mokslo ir švietimo istorija, išleido monumentalų darbą *Literatūros ir švietimo istorijos medžiaga Lietuvoje ir Rusijoje iš Józefo Zawadzkiego leidyklos ir knygyno 1805–1865 m. archyvo Vilniuje*. T. Turkowski paskelbė straipsnių apie Vilniaus knygų prekybą ir Vilniaus knygas. Jis taip pat išvertė pirmiau minėtą *Bibliografijos vadovą*.

L. Abramowiczius buvo T. Wróblewskio bibliotekos administratorius. Jis turėjo turtingą su Lietuva ir Vilniumi susijusių spaudinių kolekciją, kurią atidavė viešai naudoti. Jo kolekcijos pagrindu Vilniuje buvo įsteigtas Ikonografijos muziejus. Ilgą laiką L. Abramowiczius rengė Lietuvos Didžiosios Kunigaikštystės regioninę bibliografiją. Jo veikalas *Keturi Vilniaus spaudos šimtmečiai* tebėra viena svarbiausių šios srities studijų.

Vilniaus bibliotekininkas M. Brensztejn, nors ir stokojo oficialaus išsilavinimo, 1936 m. gavo Vilniaus universiteto *honoris causa* diplomą už nuopelnus mokslui. Jis išleido 400 darbų Lietuvos istorijos

ir etnografijos klausimais ir daugiau kaip 20 darbų bibliografijos, knygos istorijos ir regiono bibliotekų klausimais, organizavo Vilniaus universiteto ir Vilniaus bibliotekų istorijos parodas.

Vilniaus universiteto viešoji biblioteka, Wróblewskich biblioteka, Meno ir mokslo draugija ar Lenkijos bibliotekininkų asociacijos Vilniaus ratelis buvo svarbiausi bibliologijos mokslinio gyvenimo centrai tarpukario laikotarpiu. Juose knygotyriminkai vykdė mokslinę ir profesinę veiklą. Jų veiklos dokumentai fiksuoja knygos kultūros istoriją Lietuvoje ir kaip tik tai leido šių centrų nariams ne tik dirbti bibliotekinį darbą, bet taip pat dalyvauti socialiniame ir moksliniame Vilniaus gyvenime. Gilindamiesi į įvairias knygotyros sferas, Vilniaus bibliotekininkai prisidėjo prie Lenkijos ir Lietuvos švietimo, mokslo ir kultūros plėtros.