

THE BEGINNINGS OF TOURISM IN SCHOOLS THE RZESZÓW REGION UNTIL 1939

Agnieszka HUZARSKA, Maciej HUZARSKI

Faculty of Physical Education, Rzeszow University, Rzeszów, Poland

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Abstract:

The article briefly presents the beginnings of tourism in Poland and the growing interest in this field in the XIX century. The main aim of the article is to describe how tourism in schools contributed to a great extent to the advancement of tourism movement in the Rzeszów Region until 1939. The paper also pays attention to the role of the National School Board in the main subject. The article mainly shows the activities of the schools from Rzeszów and other places in the region in the beginning of the XX century and after the First World. It depicts the way how particular institutions organized tourism activities for their students such as hiking excursions to the areas surrounding their home towns, trips to the mountains to see the beauty of the Polish nature and trips to small and big towns in order to learn about the national heritage and achievements.

The beginnings of tourism in Poland are closely connected with travelling abroad in order to gain education. Polish people were particularly interested in Italy. Polish interest in this country was influenced by the marriage of Sigismund the Old and Bona Sforza and the foundation of the Jagiellonian University which enabled scientific contacts with professors from Italian universities. Poles went to Italy more eagerly and later to other countries to learn about the heritage of different cultures.

The second half of the XVIII century brought about a major change in tourism development. Political contacts between Warsaw and Dresden and consequent journeys made the Lower Silesia health resorts with their healing and relaxation properties more popular. Education reforms by Stanisław Konarski and later by the Commission of National Education improved the standards of the nobility training. In the times of partition tourism was mostly related to the countries of the invaders. Nevertheless, there were many positive examples of activities done by great Polish patriots. What Stanisław Staszic and Julian Ursyn Niemcewicz did paved the right way for tourism development. Staszic and Niemcewicz introduced a cognitive element to tourism. Stanisław Staszic was the first person whose goal was to acquire knowledge about the country. He visited vast areas of the country, including the Beskidy and the Tatry Mountains, travelling on foot, on horseback and by carriage. Moreover, he visited Italy, France and Germany. Julian Ursyn Niemcewicz described his trips around Poland, Europe and even the United States and he always referred to historical events. Next, Wincenty Pol and other outstanding Polish artists followed Staszic and Niemcewicz. Their works embodied deep love for the country and showed the beauty of the Polish land.

The increasing interest in sightseeing led to the foundation of the first Polish tourism organization – the Galician Tatry Society in 1874, which was later turned into the Tatry Society and eventually in 1919 into the Polish Tatra Society¹. In that time Cracow, Zakopane

¹ Kulczycki Z., *Zarys historii turystyki w Polsce*, Warszawa 1985, s. 78

and Lviv became the main centres of tourism. There were more trips which aimed at seeing historical monuments, but also trips to the Karpaty, the Beskidy and the Tatry Mountains. In the Prussian partition, the people of the Greater Poland had rich traditions because it was where Stanisław Staszic came from and other travellers followed his example. Young people in particular went for self-learning trips across the whole country and on religious pilgrimages. New societies helped to develop tourism (the Gymnastic Society "Sokół", the Rowing Society and sports clubs). However, tourism movement in that time was limited due to political reasons. In the Russian partition tourism was initiated by emerging societies and sports clubs. It was possible thanks to the changes which were observed in Warsaw. Rich townspeople supported tourism as a form of their social life. The foundation of the Polish Sightseeing Society in Warsaw in 1906 was also an important factor². One of the statutory goals of the Polish Sightseeing Society was to show the beauty of the country. The society focused on the two main fields: general tourism and sightseeing³. They collected and spread sightseeing news, gathered scientific material and organized different trips above all⁴.

There were more opportunities for tourism after the First World War when tourism, after it had been made a part of Ministry of Public Works, was soon supported by other ministries: of Communication, of Religion and Public Enlightenment, of Foreign Affairs and of Military Affairs. Since 1924 Interdepartmental Tourism Commission of the Ministry of Public Works provided significant help. The second stage of forming stage administration for tourism included two actions: the establishment of Interdepartmental Commission for Tourism Issues Investigation in 1928 and next the General Tourism Department of the Ministry of Communication in 1932⁵.

The Gymnastic Society "Sokół" and educational institutions also contributed to the development of tourism. They both drew attention to educational role of sightseeing trips so they organized hiking, cycling and canoeing trips and rallies as well as hiking and stationary camps. School programmes of physical education emphasized the importance of trips and the cooperation with the Polish Sightseeing Society and the Polish Tatra Society was initiated. There were other factors which fostered the development of tourism: more and more excursion hostels, sightseeing clubs at school and youth societies left and right-wing oriented.

In the Rzeszów region, the branches of Gymnastic Society „Sokół” were a precursor of tourism. They followed proven models of tourism taken from Cracow and Lviv. They organized trips aimed at learning about the Polish history and culture, and also sport and recreation trips. At the same time, regional tourism aroused alongside the developments in education.

In the Rzeszów Region education had many problems to contend with. One of the most crucial ones was the lack of proper facilities. As schools did not have appropriate conditions for physical education classes, school authorities organized sightseeing and educational trips for their students. Such trips were arranged mostly in the warm season as their objective was to take care of their students' health. In the beginning, there were trips of recreational nature and organized for groups of students, usually in May. For this reason they were called May Day picnics. Students left in the morning and marched in fours to the forest nearby. They were guided by special leaders with flags in their hands and bands on their arms. The participants spent their time playing games and having fun. As education progressed, the goal of most trips was either science or tourism in general, but their goal was also the students'

² Gaj J., *Dzieje turystyki w Polsce*, Warszawa 2006, s. 44-47

³ Kulczycki Z., *Historia turystyki*, Warszawa 1982, s. 110

⁴ Leszczycki S., *Rola Polskiego Towarzystwa Krajoznawczego w rozwoju krajoznawstwa i turystyki w Polsce 1906-1950*, w: *PTTK w 20 - leciu PRL*, Warszawa 1967, s. 42-43

⁵ Gaj J., *Zarys historii turystyki w Polsce w XIX i XX w.*, Poznań 2001, s. 21-26

physical fitness⁶. May Day picnics became a part of gymnastics classes as the National School Board required. Classes were accompanied by teachers and the headmaster⁷. The reports of the National School Board describing the Galician Secondary Schools emphasized how important trips were in young people's upbringing. According to historical archives "the significance of trips for the physical development of young people was essential, and also for deepening knowledge in other fields. They were always undertaken by teachers in order to have fun or for scientific purposes or most often both goals were combined. The aim of some trips was to learn about the neighbourhood, and others' goal was to travel across Poland or even abroad"⁸.

More and more people got involved in tourism for schools. One of the people who contributed to the advancement of sightseeing tourism for schools was a deputy Paweł Gnoiński. He allocated some financial assets to help organize trips for secondary school students from Galicia across Poland and abroad. As many schools were interested in the new idea, the National School Board issued a regulation on domestic school trips on 1st April 1907. Following German, Swiss and English models, the importance of trips was appreciated. The Board pointed out that the main objective was to show young people the beauty of the homeland, visiting historical monuments and places famous for historical events, battlefields and places connected with historical victories. According to the National School Board young generation would be able to love their homeland deeply only if they knew it well. During trips headed by experienced teachers young people focused on learning self-observation of the laws of nature. Visiting and looking closely at industrial and agricultural institutions students were able to learn what the country owed its development and progress in different fields to. Furthermore, they paid special attention to culture. So young people were supposed to see museums and collections of fine arts but also factories and workshops to have an idea of the meaning of work. The National School Board let headmasters to be independent as far as sightseeing trips were concerned, but they issued some guideline for those who were going to deal with tourism for the first time:

- planned trips should be organized in small groups (40-50 students),
- experienced teachers should supervise the group,
- students should be prepared for trips; geography and nature teachers would be most useful as they could give students information about the area they were planning to see;
- making new societies was desirable;
- teachers should encourage students to describe their impressions after trips⁹.

According to the guidelines of the National School Board many schools in the Rzeszów Region gave consideration to the significance of sightseeing trips and their role in young people's upbringing, both mental and physical. The Real School in Krosno would be a good example. They paid lots of attention to trips and pointed out precise goals for that kind of activity:

- to deepen teaching geography and doing it with more visual aids,
- to do botany with students,
- to visit factories and oil mines in the neighbourhood – the factory in Sanok, the factory of sulfuric acid in Gorlice, the oil mine in Krościenko Niżne and the refinery in Maryampol,

⁶ Sprawozdanie Dyrekcji c. k. I Wyższego Gimnazjum w Rzeszowie za rok szkolny 1905. Rzeszów 1905. Biblioteka Muzeum Okręgowego w Rzeszowie sygn., 1330

⁷ Sprawozdanie dyrektora c.k. Gimnazjum w Sanoku za lata 1898-900, Sanok 1899-1900. Podkarpacka Biblioteka Cyfrowa, sygn., 9394, 3761

⁸ Sprawozdanie C. K. Rady Szkolnej Krajowej o stanie Galicyjskich Szkół Średnich w roku szkolnym 1908-1909, Lwów 1910, Biblioteka Muzeum Okręgowego w Rzeszowie sygn., 2218

⁹ Sprawozdanie C. K. Rady Szkolnej Krajowej o stanie Galicyjskich Szkół Średnich w roku szkolnym 1905-1907 Lwów 1907-1908, Biblioteka Muzeum Okręgowego w Rzeszowie sygn., 2215-2216

- to make students accustomed with aerial perspective and to teach drawing,
- to do language exercises,
- to promote health and fun objectives,
- to promote cognitive goals – making all-day excursions to the ruins of the castle in Odrzykoń, to Dukla, to “Cergowa” Mountain and to the hermitage in Piwniczna¹⁰.

The students also went on longer trips such as to Okocim (to the brewery) and Cracow and Wieliczka (to see the biggest historical monuments and the salt mine)¹¹

In the times of annexation tourism for young people was hard because there was little money for it and there were problems with transportation. Despite the problems, school managements tried to organize at least one trip a year to fulfil cognitive aims.

One of the schools which dealt with tourism in spite of difficulties was the secondary school in Jarosław. They visited historical places in Chłopice, Zarzecze and Czerc. In Przeworsk they learned how the sugar plant operated and they saw some objects from the past. During winter holidays they organized a trip to the Tatra Mountains. A great number of students enjoyed the trips to Cracow and Lviv where they saw the most important historical monuments and in Wieliczka they visited the salt mine. In 1912 young people from the school in Jarosław took part in 20 trips. They went to Przeworsk, Przemyśl (to take part in a railway workshop), Lviv and Chyrów. At Pentecost the school board organized a three-day trip. First they went to Rzeszów by train where they saw the town and later they went to Krosno. The students had an opportunity to learn about the history of the town, admire the ruins of the castle in Odrzykoń and “Prządki” rock formation in Czarnorzeki. On the second day they saw architectural sights in Krosno: the Parish Church, the Franciscan Church, the Capuchin Church and the Market Square. Then the students spent the afternoon in Iwonicz and Iwonicz-Zdrój where they learnt about the healing properties of the springs there. On the third day they admired wonderful views in the valley of Osława River, visited Stary Zagórz (the ruins of the monastery) and Nowy Zagórz¹². In the secondary school in Brzozów the scout teams were responsible for making trips together with their leader professor K. Kautzki. During physical education classes they went on excursions in the surrounding area and they went to Stara Wieś, Jabłonki, Domaradz and Bachórz to fulfil some of their cognitive aims¹³.

Young people from secondary school in Rzeszów often spent time sightseeing villages around Rzeszów: Nosówka, Boguchwała, Niechobrz, Czudec, Tryńcza, Głuchów, Zwiężczyca, Słocina and Chmielnik. They also went to Łańcut where they learned the history of the castle and the town. School managements organized trips to further destinations to teach students different things. They went to the Tatra Mountains, for example to Zakopane. They also travelled to Strzyżów and Rakszawa to visit the textile manufacture. During a four-day trip to the Pieniny Mountains young people from Rzeszów went hiking in the mountains. They went from Rzeszów to Nowy Sącz by train and later to Stary Sącz on foot along the railway track. On the next day, the local peasants were so kind and let the students travel in their wagons to Krościenko. They had a stroll in the town and then set off from Połoniny and went to climb one of the summit of the Three Crowns – Okrąglica. Later they visited a hermitage built in the location where there was a Castle of St. Kinga of Poland in the past. After that they went to Czerwony Klasztor and Sromowce Niżne. On the next day they hired boats and sailed on the

¹⁰ Drugie Sprawozdanie dyrektora c.k. Szkoły Realnej w Krośnie za rok 1908, Krosno 1908. Podkarpacka Biblioteka Cyfrowa, sygn., 636

¹¹ Sprawozdanie Dyrekcyi c.k. Szkoły Realnej w Krośnie za rok szkolny 1908-1909, 1912, Krosno 1908-1909, 1912. Podkarpacka Biblioteka Cyfrowa, sygn., 5605, 5902, 6760

¹² Sprawozdanie dyrektora c.k. Gimnazjum w Jarosławiu za rok szkolny 1895, 1907-1908, 1910-1911, 1912, 1914, Jarosław 1895, 1907 – 1908, 1910-1911, 1912, 1914. Podkarpacka Biblioteka Cyfrowa, sygn., 2590, 5313, 5575, 6157, 6442, 6724, 7317

¹³ Sprawozdanie Dyrekcyi c.k. Gimnazjum w Brzozowie za rok szkolny 1916-1917, Brzozów 1917. Podkarpacka Biblioteka Cyfrowa, sygn., 7728

Dunajec River from Czerwony Klasztor to Szczawnica. Furthermore, during other trips the students saw historical places in Krosno, Stawiarski's oil distillery in Krosno, oil mine in Rogi, historical monuments in Dukla, Iwonicz, Rymanów Miejsce Piastowe, Targowiska, the old town in Jasło, the sugar plant in Przeworsk, Rymanów, Korczyna, the castle in Odrzykoń, Głogów, Sandomierz, Piwniczna, Kraków, Wieliczka, the glass factory in Tarnów and the historical monuments in Warsaw¹⁴. When they went to Warsaw, they first travelled to Sandomierz by train, and came back home by train with a break in Częstochowa¹⁵.

The secondary school in Łańcut was also active in the field of tourism. When there were no extra classes in the afternoon, regular classes of students went on trips to close and far-away places, both for scientific purposes and for fun. At Pentecost the headmaster's office organized an educational trip to Kraków and Wieliczka for the willing students. Young people from Łańcut also visited the sugar plant in Przeworsk, the textile manufacture in Rakszawa and the historical monuments in Rzeszów¹⁶. Students from the secondary school in Dębica, similarly to other places, participated in excursions to the area surrounding Dębica, mostly for health reasons and they also went for far-away trips to see interesting places in the country. They visited historical Cracow, they learned how interesting the salt mine in Wieliczka was and how the brewery in Okocim worked. In addition, the school organized trips to Jarosław, Wiśnia (the Lubomirski Family Castle), Bochnia, Przecław (the Rej Family Castle), Krościenko, Korczyna, Odrzykoń and Krosno where they saw the town, learned about the oil and textile industries. The students admired the rock formations in Prządki and the ruins of the castle in Odrzykoń. The teachers from the school in Dębica were more and more active in tourism every year. In the next years there were trips to Warsaw, Częstochowa, Zagłębie Krakowskie (to learn about the industry and earth treasures), Trzebinia (to visit a wood impregnation workshop, a foundry, an ironworks and a sulphurous acid plant), Chrzanów (a refinery), Kąty (a galman mine), Jaworzno (a coal mine) and also some other places in Silesia, Tarnów, Lviv and Moravia. The goal of the trip to Lviv was to see the sights and the domestic fair organized by the Lviv society "Industrial Help". Young people from Dębica saw the products made by several dozen Polish companies and later they visited the city. They saw the "Battle at Raclawice" painting, the Museum of Fine Arts, National Bank, a slaughterhouse, the plant and foundry of the priest Andrzej Lubomirski, the Armenian and Latin Cathedrals and wealthy shop windows. The students gained valuable experience during the trip to Moravia and Silesia. They started in Moravian Ostravia. After the night they went to Witkowice by tram and they visited ironworks, foundries, rolling mills, machine manufactures and bridge factories. They also saw "Louis" coal mine. On the following day the students went to Karwina by tram and later to Cieszyn where they saw the town, the town park, the castle and the Polish House printing office. In the afternoon they moved to Bielkso Biala, but unfortunately they were not able to visit any manufacturing plants as they had been captured by the Germans who were hostile towards Polish people. The destination of another long trip was the Pieniny Mountains where the students saw Nowy Targ, Czorsztyn, Czerwony Klasztor, Szczawnica, Piwniczna and parts of the Pieniny Mountains¹⁷.

Young people from the secondary school in Jasło went mostly on excursions in the areas surrounding the town and they visited Biecz, Podzamcze, Kołaczyce, Dębowiec,

¹⁴ Sprawozdanie Dyrekcji c.k. II Gimnazjum w Rzeszowie za rok szkolny 1903, 1905, 1907-1912, 1914, 1918, Rzeszów 1903, 1905, 1907-1909, 1911-1912, 1914, 1918. Podkarpacka Biblioteka Cyfrowa, sygn., 4307, 1905, 5428, 4306, 5999, 6000, 6573, 6574, 6576, 6576, 6580

¹⁵ Sprawozdanie C. K. Rady Szkolnej Krajowej o stanie Galicyjskich Szkół Średnich w roku szkolnym 1908-1909, Lwów 1908, Biblioteka Muzeum Okręgowego w Rzeszowie sygn., 2218

¹⁶ Sprawozdanie Dyrekcji Gimnazjum Realnego w Łańcutcie za rok szkolny 1910-1913, Łańcut 1910-1913. Podkarpacka Biblioteka Cyfrowa, sygn., 6503, 6788, 7098

¹⁷ Sprawozdanie Dyrekcji c.k. Gimnazjum w Dębicy za rok szkolny 1907-1912, 1916/17, Dębica 1907-1912, 1917. Podkarpacka Biblioteka Cyfrowa, sygn., 5837, 5838, 6126, 6694, 7806

Gorlice, Krosno, Żółków and Odrzykoń¹⁸. Moreover, to support the educational progress, the headmaster's office organized longer trips. One of them was the trip to the Tatry Mountains. The students and supervising teachers went to Zakopane by train and further on foot to admire some places like Czarny Staw Gąsienicowy (a lake), Świnica (a summit), Zawrat, the valley of Pięciu Stawów, Siklawy waterfall, Morskie Oko (a lake) and Czarny Staw (a lake) at the bottom of Rysy summit. What was more, the students went to Krynica, Muszyna, Poprad, Piwniczna and Rytro. They also had a trip to the Pieniny Mountains – they went to Stary Sącz by train, later to Krościenko in carriages pulled by horses and there they had a look around the neighbourhood, went to Krościenko Zdrój and the castle and climbed Three Crowns summit. Next they travelled on foot to visit the castles in Czorsztyn and Nidzica and afterwards they had a long walk along the River Dunajec to Sromowce Niżne. On the following day the students used sailboats to get to Szczawnica. After seeing Szczawnica Zdrój they moved back to Jasło. During another trip they had a chance to do sightseeing in Cracow¹⁹.

The most frequent destination for students from Mielec was Przecław with its castle and other places surrounding Mielec. They also did a lot of sightseeing while their trips to Sandomierz, Leżajsk, Warszawa, Dukla, Tarnobrzeg, Ostrówek upon Wisła²⁰, Cracow and Wieliczka²¹. In case of the secondary school in Przemyśl, until 1905 students mostly had excursions in the neighbourhood to learn more about the nature. The first longer trip was organized in 1906 and the students visited the most important sights in Cracow and Wieliczka salt mine. Since then, the headmaster and the teaching staff tried to organize educational trips every year and they wanted their students to visit historical monuments but also places important for the industrial development. In the following years they went to: Przeworsk (to see the sugar plant), Sanok (carriage and machine factory), Grochowiec, Miejsce Piastowe, Jarosław (agricultural and industrial exhibition), Hołuble (sawmill), Rakszawa (textile manufacture), Medyka, Raclawice, Ojców, Krzeszowice and Zakopane. They also had a two-day trip to the Tatry Mountains²². The longest, a four-week trip was arranged for the students during summer holiday in 1913. More than a dozen of students, under the supervision of professor Bolesław Błazek, went to see the Gorgany Range, the Black Forest Range, the Rodnian Alps and the Calimani Mountains. The description of the trip was published in a book entitled *Wakacje pod namiotami (Camping Holidays)*. The students experienced a camping life during this holiday and they slept under a roof occasionally, only when they went to towns to renew their food stock. The trip started in Jaremcz and finished in Dorna Watra Resort and they travelled 480 kilometres on foot²³.

The Real School from Tarnobrzeg organized excursions to the forests surrounding the town both to have fun and to learn something. They also arranged trips aimed at getting knowledge about the homeland. Young people had an opportunity to see the historical monuments in Cracow, the salt mine in Wieliczka and the beautiful landscapes in the Pieniny Mountains²⁴. The secondary school students from Gorlice were able to take part in two types

¹⁸ Sprawozdanie C. K. Rady Szkolnej Krajowej o stanie Galicyjskich Szkół Średnich w roku szkolnym 1908-1909, Lwów 1908, Biblioteka Muzeum Okręgowego w Rzeszowie sygn., 2218

¹⁹ Sprawozdanie Dyrekcji c.k. Gimnazjum w Jasle za rok szkolny 1907-1908, 1911-13, Jasło 1908, 19010-1913. Podkarpacka Biblioteka Cyfrowa, sygn., 5577, 6441, 6726, 7023

²⁰ Sprawozdanie Dyrekcji c.k. Gimnazjum w Mielcu za rok szkolny 1912-1914, Mielec 1912-1914. Podkarpacka Biblioteka Cyfrowa, sygn., 6794, 7107, 7365

²¹ Sprawozdanie C. K. Rady Szkolnej Krajowej o stanie Galicyjskich Szkół Średnich w roku szkolnym 1908/1909, Lwów 1908, Biblioteka Muzeum Okręgowego w Rzeszowie sygn., 2218

²² Sprawozdanie C. K. Rady Szkolnej Krajowej o stanie Galicyjskich Szkół Średnich w roku szkolnym 1908/1909, Lwów 1908, Biblioteka Muzeum Okręgowego w Rzeszowie sygn., 2218

²³ Sprawozdanie Dyrekcji c.k. Gimnazjum w Przemyślu za rok szkolny 1906, 1908-1910, 1913, Przemyśl 1906, 1908-1910, 1913. Podkarpacka Biblioteka Cyfrowa, sygn., 5177, 5694, 5689, 6278, 6841, 7153

²⁴ Sprawozdanie Dyrekcji c.k. Szkoły Realnej w Tarnobrzegu za rok szkolny 1912, Tarnobrzeg 1912. Podkarpacka Biblioteka Cyfrowa, sygn., 6881

of trips. On the one hand, educational one. On the other, to have physical and terrain exercises. The trips were supervised by geography and natural history teachers²⁵. In spring and summer the students from the secondary school in Sanok participated in educational excursions to the areas surrounding their hometown (Liszna, Zagórz, Międzybrodzie, Glinice, Stróże Wielkie, Załóż, Postołów, Biała Góra, Lisko and Mrzyglód). Moreover, they were given a chance to do sightseeing in Krosno and the surrounding areas – the castle in Odrzykoń and the rocks in Prządki. In the academic year 1913/1914 the school board and the teachers organized some trips which lasted a few days each: to Lviv to see the exhibition called “1863” and the most interesting sights, to Cracow and Wieliczka – to see national heirlooms and the salt mine and to the Pieniny Mountains²⁶.

Tourism in schools developed in a very effective way in the period after the First World War and cultural tourism in particular. It was a great opportunity for all students to learn about the cultural heritage of the Rzeszów Region, other regions in Poland and even some places abroad. Students from the First Secondary School in Rzeszów went on some trips in their first grade: to the textile manufacture in Rakszawa, to Sandomierz, to Cracow and Wieliczka. In the following year they went to Krosno by train and later their class teachers took them to the castle in Odrzykoń, to Babice and Sielce, and also to Męcinka and Potok to see the oil and natural gas mines. In addition, some classes visited churches and weaving plants in Krosno. All classes did sightseeing in Rzeszów and its surrounding areas. Apart from regular excursions around Rzeszów and the neighbourhood, all classes went on may day picnic to the uninhabited areas. Each year the school would value tourism for their students more and more. From 3 to 4 of September 1922 over one thousand students were in Lviv at the “East fair” and they had also a chance to see the most important historical places of the city. Since then the fair became for the students from Rzeszów an opportunity for annual trips to Lviv. The institution which provided great support and helped organize trips was the Commission of Physical Education established on 23 of September 1922. Another helpful body was the Parents’ Council which also provided financial support.

Scouts organizations in schools helped tourism advance as well in the period of the Second Polish Republic. In the First Secondary School in Rzeszów the scout team was established on 16 of October 1918 and it was named after Stanisław Czarniecki. At first it consisted of 37 members and the team’s leader was Józef Gołąb from grade seven. Soon after the beginning of the academic year the scout team members had an excursion around Rzeszów and they went with professor Władysław Krajewski on a trip to the mine in Węglówka. The team was then supervised by professor Jasiewicz Szczęsny. In the academic year 1924/24 the scouts arranged the first summer camp which took place in Pawłopol near Żyżnów (9 kilometres away from Strzyżów). Twenty students participated in the camp. After the camp most scouts went on a trip to the Tatry and the Pieniny Mountains. Regularly in summer they organized scout camps in Sokolec near Korczyna, on the land of general Szeptycki and in Lutoryż. The camps in Muszyna, Bulowina near Zakopane and Milik near Muszyna were most popular. During the camp in Milik there was a trip to Bukovina in Czechoslovakia where the students saw the Family Lubomirski Castle. Moreover, at least three times a year the students took part in two-day camping trips. In the academic year 1931/32 a Sightseeing Club was established in the First Secondary School in Rzeszów and Stanisław Dhim, a geography teacher from the Second Secondary School, became their

²⁵ Sprawozdanie Dyrekcji c.k. Gimnazjum w Gorlicach za rok szkolny 1914, Gorlicach 1914. Podkarpacka Biblioteka Cyfrowa, sygn., 7305

²⁶ Sprawozdanie Dyrekcji c.k. Gimnazjum w Sanoku za rok szkolny 1895, 19010-1911, 1913-1914, Sanok 1895, 19010-1911, 1913-1914. Podkarpacka Biblioteka Cyfrowa, sygn., 2586, 6569, 7410

counsellor. Thanks to him young people were able to listen to some lectures and go on trips to learn about the most beautiful places in Poland. There were ten tourism classes every week²⁷.

In the Second Secondary School named after S. Sobiński it was also pointed out that tourism was an important element in the students' upbringing. The school started to operate on 4th of September 1918. Students had eight tourism classes a week and they were conducted in the building on 20 Krakowska Street. Students from all classes together with their form teachers went on excursions around Rzeszów and the surrounding areas. Similarly to the First Secondary School the scout team dealt with promotion of tourism. The scout team was established in the first year of the school's operation. Adam Przyboś, the gymnastics teacher from the school, became the team's counsellor. The scouts looked after a shop and a hairdresser's and the revenue was spent on trips and camps for the students. Each year the scouts organized more than a dozen hiking and cycling trips to places in close areas. In summer the scouts went on camping holidays to Żyznów-Pawłopol, places nearby Strzyżów, Bonarówka, Zabratówka, Nowa Wieś near Nowy Sącz and Zagórz near Sanok. In 1931 the members of the scout team visited Prague and saw the "Slavic Scout Slets" by the way. Furthermore, there was four-week camp on the premises of the Border Protection Corps in Ostki, on the railway route Kowel-Sarny-Rokitno. The biggest number of trips, which was 34, the scout team in the Second Secondary School arranged in the academic year 1938/39. Tourism was more available for students thanks to the Sightseeing Club in the school too. Due to the club's members' great commitment students had an opportunity to do sightseeing in many interesting places in the whole Poland²⁸.

During the interwar period, tourism started to develop also in independent schools. One of the biggest schools like that was the Private Female Secondary School which was located in so called "Januszówka" on Ks. Józefa Street. The school had to face different problems from the very beginning, such as the lack of proper facilities and qualified teaching staff. Instead of physical activities, there were class hiking excursions around the surrounding areas. In addition, the students went on geography, science and economics trips linked to the issues of contemporary life. They visited Krosno and the mining area around, Cracow, the Carpathian Foothills, Malawa and many other smaller places. The Third Female Scout Team, established in June 1919 and named after Maria Rodziewiczówna, did a very good job in this field. The team was supervised by Maria Wiśniewska. They used the income from the operations of the school's small shop and a book-binder's office. The scouts went on hiking excursions around Rzeszów and on trips to other places in order to learn about the homeland. So the female scouts visited "Lisia Góra" forest and Głogów. They had a chance to see some historical monuments and natural attractions when they went to the Tatry Mountains, Ojców area, Cracow and Spała. Arranging summer holidays for students was a very important task for the scouts. The students organized some dancing evening and used the money they earned to go to Szaflary, Nidzica and Rymanów in summer²⁹.

In the secondary school in Gorlice Jan Dziopek, a physical education teacher, organized for the students numerous hiking and skiing trips to some charming places in the Low Beskid

²⁷ Sprawozdanie Dyrekcji Państwowego I Gimnazjum im. S. Konarskiego w Rzeszowie za rok szkolny 1920-1925, 1927, 1931-1932, 1936-1938. Rzeszów 1920-1925, 1927, 1931-1932, 1936-1938. Biblioteka Muzeum Okręgowego w Rzeszowie sygn. 1344.

²⁸ Sprawozdanie Dyrekcji Państwowego II Gimnazjum w Rzeszowie za rok szkolny 19018-1919, 1923-1928, 1930-1932, 1936-1937. Rzeszów 19018-1919, 1923-1928, 1930-1932, 1936-1937. Biblioteka Muzeum Okręgowego w Rzeszowie sygn. 1373.

²⁹ Sprawozdanie Dyrekcji Prywatnego Gimnazjum Żeńskiego w Rzeszowie za rok szkolny 1922-1924, 1932-1935, 1937-1939. Rzeszów 1922-1924, 1932-1935, 1937-1939. Biblioteka Muzeum Okręgowego w Rzeszowie sygn. 1285.

Mountains and Cieżkowickie Foothills. Later, teacher of other subjects joined the trips³⁰. In the school in Przemyśl, form teachers, geography, nature and gymnastics teachers prepared a trip to the airport and Dobromil and they visited the castle in Herbertów at the same time. The school's Sightseeing Club started to operate in 1933. Its members often took photographs of historical monuments in Przemyśl and organized a three-day trip to Turnica and the Tatry Mountains³¹. In 1934 the students went on three short trips to see the Jurassic Rocks in the forest near Grochowice, to Kruchel Wielki area and Zalesie village. During longer trips they went to Lviv, Podhorzec and Olesko.

Travelling in the Rzeszów Region has a two-century long tradition. It can be stated that tourism in the schools became the foundation for tourism and different kinds of trips of Polish young people. School trips provided students with an opportunity to learn about the natural environment and about the heritage of the past generations. They definitely contributed to the advancement of tourism in the region.

³⁰ Radoń M., Szmyd Ł., Powstanie i działalność Polskiego Towarzystwa Turystyczno-Krajoznawczego w Gorlicach (1950-1975), w: *Studia i szkice z dziejów turystyki na Podkarpaciu*, pod red. Zaborniak S., „Prace naukowo-dydaktyczne PWSZ w Krośnie”, Krosno 2006, s. 60

³¹ Sprawozdanie Dyrekcji Państwowego I Gimnazjum w Przemyślu za rok szkolny 1932/33, Przemyśl 1933. Podkarpacka Biblioteka Cyfrowa, sygn., 8257