

The Ukrainian Museum and Library of Stamford

MYKOLA BYTYNSKYI *by Curator Lubow Wolynetz*



1917-1921 (186 plates); The Coat-of Arms of Ukrainian Hetmans (20 plates); Album of National Insignias (national coat-of-arms, flags, standards, national seal). Some of them were not. Therefore, we are very fortunate to be in possession of the original plates of his work.

The artist Mykola Bytynskyi, a former colonel in the army of the Ukrainian National Republic (1917-1921), was born in Eastern Podillia. He received his primary education in Kamianets-Podilskyi and later continued and completed his studies in Prague.



freed in 1923 and immigrated to Prague. After World War II he lived in Displaced Persons Camps in Germany and in 1951 immigrated to Canada.

Inasmuch as the month of November is dedicated to the observance of several events dealing with Ukrainian military history, it seems fitting to illustrate these events with some of Bytynskyi's color plates in our possession.

Of special importance is the November 1st Lviv uprising when members of the Ukrainian Sich Riflemen (Ukrainski Sichovi Striltsi) freed the city of Lviv from Polish domination.

The Ukrainian Sich Riflemen were a military unit in the Austrian army 1914-



In the archival section of our Library we have over 100 original color plates painted by the artist Mykola Bytynskyi (1893-1972). These plates were done

by the artist in Prague in the years 1937 and 1939 and were to be published as separate albums: Album of the Coat-of-Arms of Ukrainian Lands (32 plates); Album of the Uniforms of the Ukrainian Army and Fleet during the War for Independence,



Privately, he studied graphic arts and heraldics. During the War for Independence of Ukraine he served in the Ukrainian Army and took part in many anti-Russian battles. He was interned in Polish POW camps from which he was



1918. Later, they became the core of the Ukrainian Galician Army (Ukrainska Halytska Armiia, UHA), 1919-1921 which was the regular army of the Western Ukrainian National Republic (ZUNR) 1918-1921. Some members of this army later created the Sich Riflemen in Kyiv.



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