

News of the Profession

THE ASSOCIATION

The Neil House, Columbus, Ohio, has been designated the site of the third national convention of the AAASS in 1970. Leon I. Twarog of Ohio State University has agreed to serve as chairman of the local arrangements committee. John M. Montias of Yale University is chairman of the program committee.

The American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies is an international organization of persons interested in the Slavic and East European field. *Regular* memberships are \$12.00 per year; *sustaining* memberships are \$25.00 per year. A *student* membership (without vote) at \$5.00 per year is available to full-time students with U.S. mailing addresses. Students outside the United States, as well as students with teaching assistantships or part-time jobs, may join as regular members. There are also nonvoting *associate* memberships at \$12.00 per year. *Joint* memberships are available for a married couple both of whom wish to join the Association but who need only one copy of the publications; both names will be listed, but the fee and voting rights are those of a single membership.

All classes of membership receive the quarterly *Slavic Review*; the *American Bibliography of Russian and East European Studies* (regular price \$3.50), published yearly by Indiana University; the Association's *Newsletter* (regular price \$1.50 per year in the United States, \$1.80 abroad), published twice yearly at the University of Illinois; and the *Directory* of the Association (sold to nonmembers at \$5.00) in the years when it is published. Application blanks are available from the AAASS, 1207 West Oregon Street, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois 61801.

CONFERENCES

Reports on the following conferences will be given in the AAASS *Newsletter*:

Second National Conference on Canadian Slavs, University of Ottawa, June 9-11, 1967.

Centennial celebration of the Hungarian Historical Association, Budapest, August 23-26, 1967.

"Fifty Years of Communism in Russia," a conference sponsored by the Hoover Institute on War, Revolution and Peace, Stanford University, October 9-13, 1967.

Institute on "The Soviet Union since 1917: Domestic and International Aspects,"

State College at Worcester, Worcester, Massachusetts, November 15, 1967.

Conference on "Eastern Europe, the Next Fifty Years," State University of New York, Albany, December 1-2, 1967.

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

The American Council of Learned Societies announces a program of grants for the study of the languages of Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Poland, and Rumania. The grants, primarily for summer language study abroad, are intended to assist the specialist or future specialist in East European studies to gain proficiency in the language required by his area of research. Requests for application forms should be addressed to Miss Marie J. Medina, Administrative Assistant for Fellowships and Grants, American Council of Learned Societies, 345 East 46 Street, New York, New York 10017. Deadline for receipt of applications is February 1, 1968.

The Russian and East European Studies Center at the University of California, Los Angeles, aided by a grant from the Doris Duke Foundation, has initiated a five-year research project on the topic "European Integration: Problems and Prospects in Eastern Europe." The project is being administered by Joseph F. Zacek and Andrzej Korbonski.

The recent Columbia University citation for Geroid Tanquary Robinson for the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*, reads in part: "Your volume, *Rural Russian Under the Old Regime*, has stood unmatched for thirty-five years. Founder and first director of Columbia's renowned Russian Institute; Seth Low Professor of History for a decade, and now Professor Emeritus; counselor to Government; holder of the Medal of Freedom; friend and colleague."

APPOINTMENTS AND STAFF CHANGES

(For visiting and summer appointments and leaves of absence see the *Newsletter*.)

Dartmouth College: Henry L. Roberts of Columbia University appointed professor of history. *George Washington University*: Richard Thornton of the University of Washington appointed assistant professor of history. *University of Georgia*: Victor S. Mamatey of Florida State University ap-

pointed research professor of history. *Holins College*: T. Oushakova appointed instructor in language; J. Allen Reddick appointed associate professor of history. *Indiana University*: Maurice Friedberg named director of the Russian and East European Institute. *Indiana State University*: Ewa Majewska Thompson of Vanderbilt University appointed assistant professor of modern languages. *Mankato State College*: Bradford D. Garniss Jr. of Washington and Jefferson College appointed assistant professor of history. *Middlebury College*: Robert L. Baker of Indiana University appointed associate professor of Russian, acting chairman of the department, and dean of the summer Russian School. *University of Pennsylvania*: Frank F. Seeley appointed professor of Russian literature; Biljana Slijivic-Simsic of the University of Kentucky appointed assistant professor of Serbo-Croatian. *Pennsylvania State University*: Richard P. Martin appointed instructor in Russian. *University of Vermont*: L. A. D. Dellin promoted to professor of economics and political science. *University of Washington*: Imre Boba promoted to associate professor of history. *Wayne State University*: George W. Simmonds of Elmira College appointed associate professor of history. *York University*: John McErlean of the University of Washington appointed assistant professor of history.

NOTES

Contributions both to this section and to the *Newsletter* are welcome at any time. The deadlines for inclusion in this section are November 15 for the March issue, February 15 for the June issue, May 15 for the September issue, and August 15 for the December issue. The deadlines for the *Newsletter* are March 15 for the spring issue and October 15 for the fall issue. Send all items to Frank Y. Gladney in care of the AAASS in Urbana.

United States post offices will not forward magazines or journals. Publications will be returned to the publisher at a charge of at least ten cents each. If you move, please send immediate notice to the AAASS headquarters in Urbana, giving both new and old addresses. Allow four weeks to effect a change of address.

AAASS mailing lists are available at the following rates: \$25.00 plus costs for printing the membership on envelopes or labels; \$25.00 plus costs for printing the subscription list on envelopes or labels. Costs are about 1½ cents per name, currently about \$31.50 for the membership list and about \$17.00 for the subscription list. Persons or institutions wishing to use this service should write to: Mrs. Agnes W. Wilson, Manager of the AAASS, 1207 West Oregon Street, Urbana, Illinois 61801.

ISAAC DEUTSCHER, 1907–1967

Isaac Deutscher, who died on August 19, 1967, never received, and quite probably never sought, a regular academic appointment. Yet in the past decade he lectured to university audiences with increasing frequency, for he was recognized as a serious scholar with a high reputation based on several important works. His biography of Stalin was a significant and widely read early attempt to write a comprehensive political history of the Soviet Union. His trilogy on Trotsky, in which the latter emerges as a tragic hero come to grief through his own handiwork, will remain the most nearly definitive study of this major figure for decades. Even with his interpretive and prognosticative essays, which might stand the test of time less well, Mr. Deutscher played an important role as prodder and stimulator of his colleagues, ever proposing novel ideas and questioning tired stereotypes.

In his work and his entire life, Mr. Deutscher was guided by a deep concern for his fellow men; it was this concern which made him join the Communist Party and kept him on the Left even after his expulsion. His works reveal, in addition, the subtle mind of a dialectician who could perceive and portray reality in its complexity, contradictoriness, and ambivalence. In his books, progress and retrogression are closely related or even turn into each other, as do tyranny and freedom, accident and grand design. Reactionaries at times do the work of the revolution, and villains turn into heroes even while they continue to be recognized as villains.

Deutscher was often far subtler than his critics and may win many arguments in the final reckoning. His balanced judgment of Stalin may well be accepted by historians in coming generations, who are likely to be as interested in Stalin's achievements as in the price paid for them by the Soviet people. He maintained a balanced judgment even in areas where his ideological commitments were strong. Thus his sympathies with Trotsky did not prevent him from reporting most scrupulously many facts running against his positive attitude toward him. Above all, therefore, Isaac Deutscher was devoted to the search for truth. In this pursuit, though personally a gentle man, he was bold, sometimes reckless, and a scrappy fighter.

The University of Michigan

ALFRED G. MEYER