

News of the Profession

THE ASSOCIATION

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 \$6.00 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. The membership dues for *emeritus* members are \$6.00.

All classes of membership receive the quarterly *Slavic Review*; the *American Bibliography of Russian and East European Studies* (regular price \$3.50), to be published now by Ohio State 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 for membership are available from the AAASS, 1207 West Oregon Street, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois 61801.

CONFERENCES

Reports on the following conferences are given in the AAASS *Newsletter*:

Symposium on "The People's Democracies After Prague: Soviet Hegemony, Nationalism, Regional Integration?," College of Europe, Bruges, Belgium, March 27-29, 1969.

Southwestern American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, Rice Hotel, Houston, Texas, April 3-5, 1969.

Midwest Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska, April 10-12, 1969.

Fourth annual conference on Slavic contributions to American life, Southern Illi-

nois University, Edwardsville, Illinois, April 19, 1969.

Symposium on "The Soviet Rural Community," University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois, April 25-26, 1969.

Northeastern Conference of the AAASS, Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts, April 25-26, 1969.

Rocky Mountain Social Science Association, Texas Technological College, Lubbock, Texas, May 1-2, 1969.

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

The American Council of Learned Societies and the Social Science Research Council have established the International Research and Exchanges Board. IREX is assuming responsibility for ACLS and IUCTG exchange programs with the USSR, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Rumania, and Yugoslavia. Members of the board are Frederick Burkhardt and Gordon B. Turner of the ACLS, Pendleton Herring and Henry W. Riecken of the SSRC, John C. Campbell of the Council on Foreign Relations, and Chauncy D. Harris of the University of Chicago. Ex officio member is the executive director Allen H. Kassof, 444 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10022.

The *American Bibliography of Russian and East European Studies* is now being edited at Ohio State University by Kenneth E. Naylor.

The Cooperative Summer Institute in Slavic Language and Area Studies will be held at the University of Illinois, Urbana, June 16-August 9, under the direction of Clayton L. Dawson. The program is in cooperation with the Committee on Institutional Cooperation, specifically with Indiana University, the University of Michigan, and Ohio State University, among which the program rotates.

APPOINTMENTS AND STAFF CHANGES

(For visiting appointments see the *Newsletter*.)

University of Alberta: T. Yedlin appointed sessional lecturer. *Bucknell University*: Jerome J. Rinkus appointed assistant professor of Russian literature. *University of California, Davis*: Daniel L. Brower of Oberlin College appointed as-

sistant professor of history; Gabor Vermes appointed assistant professor of history. *University of California, Santa Barbara*: Jerzy F. Karcz promoted to professor of economics. *California State College, Hayward*: John D. Walz promoted to associate professor of history. *Cornell University*: Walter M. Pintner promoted to associate professor of history. *Duke University*: Amal Bhattacharya appointed instructor in Russian; Eugene Talley appointed instructor in Russian; Emma Trembl appointed instructor in Russian.

Elmira College: Theodore G. Tatsios promoted to associate professor of history. *University of Florida*: Marvin L. Entner promoted to associate professor of history. *University of Hartford*: Garé LeCompte appointed adjunct professor of history. *Harvard University*: Daniel Field appointed instructor in history; Edward L. Keenan promoted to lecturer in history. *University of Illinois, Chicago Circle*: Nicholas Moravcevic named head of the newly formed Department of Slavic Languages; Edward C. Thaden appointed professor of history. *University of Illinois, Urbana*: Paul P. Bernard appointed professor of history; Michael A. Curran promoted to assistant professor of Russian literature; Temira Pachmuss promoted to professor of Russian literature. *International Research and Exchanges Board*: Allen H. Kassof of Princeton University appointed executive director. *University of Kentucky*: Robert Warth appointed professor of history.

University of Massachusetts: Karl W. Ryavec promoted to assistant professor of government. *University of Michigan*: Zvi Gitelman of Columbia University appointed assistant professor of political science; Nellie M. Varner appointed assistant professor of political science. *University of Missouri, Kansas City*: Jesse V. Clardy promoted to professor of history. *New College*: Alan S. Lichtenstein of Fairleigh Dickinson University appointed assistant professor of history. *University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill*: Jaroslav T. Folda III of Johns Hopkins appointed assistant professor of art history; Stanley Kalkus appointed Slavic bibliographer and lecturer in Czech; Demetrius Koubourlis of Tulane University appointed assistant professor of Russian linguistics; Vasa D. Mihailovich promoted to associate professor of Slavic literatures.

Ohio State University: William J. Daniels of the University of Illinois appointed assistant professor of Slavic Languages.

Rice University: R. John Rath appointed Mary Gibbs Jones Professor of history. *St. Lawrence University*: Jack M. Culpepper promoted to associate professor of history. *San Diego State College*: Nelson F. Norman promoted to professor of history. *Stanford University*: Ivo J. Lederer promoted to professor of history; Robert T. Whittaker, Jr., of Indiana University appointed assistant professor of Russian. *State University of New York, Albany*: Alton S. Donnelly promoted to associate professor of history. *University College of Swansea*: Everett M. Jacobs appointed research fellow in the Centre of Russian and East European Studies. *University of Tennessee*: Edward V. Chmielewski appointed associate professor of history; Lawrence F. Silverman named vice chancellor for academic affairs. *University of Texas*: Vartan Gregorian appointed associate professor of history. *Texas A. & M. University*: Betty M. Unterberger appointed professor of history.

Tufts University: Daniel Mulholland of the University of California, Davis, appointed instructor in history. *United States Merchant Marine Academy*: Joseph Gitman promoted to associate professor of history. *Vassar College*: Justina B. Djaparidze promoted to associate professor of Russian; Richard Gregg of Columbia University appointed professor of Russian. *University of Washington*: Herbert S. Coats of the University of Illinois appointed associate in Slavic languages; Herbert Ellison of the University of Kansas appointed professor of history. *University of Wisconsin*: Thomas J. Butler of Tufts University appointed assistant professor of Russian; Lawrence L. Thomas appointed chairman of the Department of Slavic Languages. *Yale University*: Firuz Kazemzadeh appointed chairman, Council on Russian and East European Studies; Piotr S. Wandycz promoted to professor of history. *York University*: John M. P. McErlean promoted to assistant professor of history.

NOTES

Contributions both to this section and to the *Newsletter* are welcome at any time. Send all items to Frank Y. Gladney in care of the AAASS in Urbana.

United States post offices will not forward magazines or journals. They are returned to the publisher at a charge of at least ten cents each. If you move, please send immediate notice to 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: \$30.00 plus costs for printing the membership on envelopes or labels; \$30.00 plus costs for printing the subscription list on envelopes or labels. Costs

are about 1½ cents per name, currently about \$32.00 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.

THE SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF SLAVISTS

A total of 1,823 persons, including scholars, students, and accompanying members of their families, gathered from twenty-seven countries to attend the Sixth International Congress of Slavists, which took place in Prague on August 7–13, 1968, during the next to the last week before the tanks and troops of the Soviet Union and four of its dependent states invaded and occupied the territory of their Czechoslovak allies. Ironically, just eight days before the invasion the more than forty members of the International Committee of Slavists, which is responsible for these congresses, were entertained at a very pleasant reception given by the Soviet Embassy in Prague. (The ambassador himself—a very busy man at that time—was not present.)

In those days the atmosphere in Prague led one to feel that the country was standing on the threshold of a new and promising era in its history. Accepting their position within the Warsaw Pact group of nations, the Czechs and Slovaks were looking forward to carrying out a bold and difficult experiment in combining socialism in economics with democracy in politics and in resuming their traditional role as builders of bridges between East and West.

Now those hopes are dead. When the writer of these lines returned to Prague for a brief visit at the end of January, he found such a revulsion against everything associated with Russia that he cannot help wondering whether Russian studies will be able any longer to attract their share of the ablest minds among the Czechoslovak students.

Despite the attractive atmosphere of Prague and the generally excellent organization of the congress by the Czechoslovak Committee of Slavists, the program was disappointing. Paradoxically enough, the disappointment was itself a product of an imaginative effort on the part of the Czechoslovak Committee to solve problems arising out of the preceding congress in Sofia, in 1963, when the proliferation of papers together with the tendency of many commentators from the floor to read papers about papers had made it all but impossible to have any free and fruitful discussion of the ideas presented in the papers themselves. This problem had led the International Committee of Slavists to accept the proposal of the Czechoslovak Committee that the bulk of the program at the Prague congress be devoted to discussion, rather than reading, of the papers (which are always supposed to be printed and circulated well in advance of the meeting), and that each author be allowed only ten minutes (for major papers) or five minutes (for the rest of the papers) to summarize his main points. This well-intentioned effort was an utter failure, largely because scholars from a number of countries arrived with "summaries" that would normally have required twenty to twenty-five minutes for reading and simply proceeded to read them from two to five times as fast as normal human speech. When this "speed-up" in vocal production (which any labor union would have condemned as oppressive), was combined with the custom at the Slavic congresses of allowing papers to be presented in English,

French, German, or any Slavic language, the result was that most readers lost contact with their audience; a polite and passive minority suffered through the ordeal in silence, a polite and independent minority slipped out into the corridors and talked among themselves—and the rest of the audience remained in the auditorium and also talked among themselves.

A number of young graduate students from the West who had made an effort to visit the congress in the hope of witnessing a genuine exchange of scholarly ideas went home greatly disappointed by an attitude toward the reading of scholarly papers that impressed them as purely ritualistic, as if the reading of a paper were an end in itself, like the recitation of incomprehensible prayers by the priest of some primitive religion. The result of this ritualism was that most of the really fruitful scholarly exchange took place informally, outside the regular program. And thanks to the ingenuity of our Czechoslovak hosts, who had set up an efficient internal postal system, communications among the 1,515 scholars at the congress were far easier than they had been at the previous postwar congresses.

In the course of the past three International Congresses of Slavists, the advance publication and distribution of all papers has grown progressively worse. No national delegation's full set of papers reached the American Committee in time for distribution before the American participants departed from Prague, and not all of the papers were distributed even during the congress. To this day I have seen only one Polish paper, and that was given to me personally by its author at the congress. In an effort to minimize this problem the Czechoslovak Committee published and distributed in advance of the congress a book containing 580 one-page summaries of most of the papers, but one suspects that this commendable effort by our Czechoslovak hosts may have only encouraged the national committees to be more dilatory than ever in publishing and distributing their own papers.

Although their formulation differs from congress to congress, the themes approved for the various sections tend to be so broad that a place under one theme or another can be found for practically any paper on a Slavic subject. Two literary themes at the Prague congress, however, focused upon specific problems that proved to be of great interest: one was *avant-garde* movements in Slavic literatures and the other was the baroque. The session on the baroque in particular drew a large and interested audience, no doubt in large measure because the first speaker was scheduled to be the well-known Dmitrij Tschizewskij, now of Heidelberg. After Professor Tschizewskij was introduced to his audience, he got up in the midst of enthusiastic applause—and then announced that he was not going to speak at all, giving as his reason various charges of discrimination that were certainly open to serious question and in some cases were almost certainly mistaken. Fortunately, the congress was subjected to no other display of this kind. Indeed, except for some resurgence of ancient quarrels among Balkan Slavs, there was little acrimony during the sessions of the congress.

Despite the obstacles to a genuine discussion of the hundreds of papers presented at the congress, the very fact that the congress was held served as a powerful stimulus to scholarly research and publishing throughout the world community of Slavists. The long bookshelf of scholarly works coming out of the congress offers a store of materials rich enough and varied enough to provide interest and stimulation for every Slavist, regardless of his specialty.

One of the most memorable events in the program of the congress was the award of honorary doctorates by Charles University in an impressive and colorful

ceremony to Roman Jakobson, of Harvard University and M.I.T., a vice president of the International Committee of Slavists and the honorary chairman of the American Committee of Slavists; Witold Doroszewski, of Poland; Vladimir Georgiev, of Bulgaria; and Viktor Zhirmunsky, of the Soviet Union.

At its final business meeting during the congress the International Committee of Slavists accepted the invitation of the Finnish Slavists to hold its next meeting in Helsinki in September 1970 and of the Polish Committee of Slavists to hold the Seventh International Congress of Slavists in Poland in 1973.

Indiana University

WILLIAM B. EDGERTON

Prague in the second week of August 1968 was a glorious, happy, hopeful place; it was again the city I remembered from 1946–47, and not the grey monotonous cage of my thoroughly unpleasant stay in June 1961. It was the ideal place to greet many acquaintances from various lands who had come to the Sixth International Congress of Slavists and to meet some new people. Yet the congress itself was far too big and too rushed. Even if a linguist made no attempt to listen to an occasional paper on literature or folklore, there was too much going on. In 22 linguistic sessions there were about 45 ten-minute oral presentations of *doklady* and 104 five-minute *vystupleniia* or *soobshcheniia*, with discussion from the floor. A number of authors did not appear, among them some of the most interesting Soviet linguists (e.g., Dybo, Viach V. Ivanov). Concurrent meetings were of course necessary. For example, one afternoon a linguist had to choose between a session on "Morphological Means in the Slavic Languages" (4 *doklady* and 5 *vystupleniia*) or "OCS in the Development of the Other Slavic Literary Languages" (3 *doklady*, 8 *vystupleniia*). The time limitations—not to mention bad acoustics and the constant bustling in and out—made real communication between speaker and audience impossible. Under these circumstances the chief exchange of ideas took place in the corridors and during the social and meal hours. To be sure, the organized Bulgarian attack on all papers read by Macedonians offered evidence of strong emotion—but equal proof of a lamentable ignorance of facts and extraordinary naïveté about linguistics. Above all it prefigured the definition of "brotherhood" among Slavs that was to be established so clearly on August 21.

In theory, the five- or ten-minute talks were resumés of papers that the audience had read. In fact, one received the papers at best a day or two in advance: six months later, even with the help of a superb library, I have yet to see many of them. Moreover, the printed versions were themselves subject to severe restrictions of space. It is simply impossible to handle a complex technical topic (e.g., "The Accent Patterns of the Slavic Verb," E. Stankiewicz, Chicago; or "On 'Surface Structure' and 'Deep Structure' in Slavic Morphology," D. Worth, Los Angeles) in an essay less than twenty pages long; often that much space ought to be devoted to defining the terms and notation used. The oral presentations were inevitably almost devoid of informative value. The compulsive discussants—familiar types to anyone who has sat through a couple of MLA sessions—decided what they thought the speakers ought to have said and rose to ride their hobby-horses in all directions.

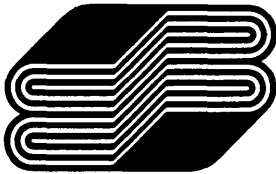
It did become apparent that the ferment in linguistic methodology has reached most of Eastern Europe, but the barrier of terminology effectively obscured most presentations, a problem which remains, unfortunately, in many of the laconic printed papers. Syntax received considerable attention, but morphology and phonology slightly more. A clear distinction between problems of literary languages

and dialects was generally maintained, both in the organization and within the individual papers. This surely is a sign of progress.

In sum, this congress seemed to me to boil down to a pleasant tour of recent bibliography, with a few oral annotations by some prominent authors and their colleagues, plus a few appearances by young scholars. What can be done? Perhaps we should recognize that the social function is valuable and organize large-scale meetings which might be centered around a few lectures—perhaps three or four hours each on a very few, rather special, topics—in short, a series of symposia. There should be the strong condition that the major materials to be discussed should be available well in advance, along with at least outlines of the major lines of discussion. This is all very difficult because of the distances we Americans must travel and the problem of who is to finance it, and with what justification. But we must think about it.

Harvard University

HORACE G. LUNT



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