too, therefore, are the preceding consonants *s* and *k*" (p. xi). Certainly *k* would not be softened in this position, and even *s* would probably not be softened by most contemporary speakers of Russian. One frequently encounters such ingenuous statements as the following: "In order to avoid an ugly combination of consonants it may be necessary to insert a vowel . . ." (p. 187).

The exercises in the book are often imaginative, but many are too difficult given the inadequacy of grammar explanation. There are some rather striking omissions of important concepts, for example, *nádo* is provided, but nowhere is *núzhén*, *nuzhná*, and so forth, to be found. Although *dólzhen* is given as a vocabulary item along with the feminine form *dolzhná*, it is never explained. Yet exercises (p. 113) call for its use in transformation drills from past to future.

Another drawback to use of this book in a beginning course is the extremely heavy vocabulary load, approximately 2,000 items, or 70 per lesson. If one were to attempt to complete the book in two semesters, a very rapid assimilation of vocabulary would be expected of the student.

In summary, then, it would be impossible to recommend this book for the level at which it was intended—beginning Russian. It might possibly prove useful in a more advanced course as a source for conversation and simple reading material.

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- A. LOFTIER FLIGHT: THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF CHARLES-LOUIS DIDELOT, BALLETMAS-TER. By *Mary Grace Swift*. Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan University Press. London: Pitman Publishing, 1974. x, 230 pp. \$15.00.

It is a cliché to write that ballet is an ephemeral art, yet this is only a partly true statement. The whole practice of ballet has been changed through such pioneers as Noverre and Didelot, Camargo, Sallé, Taglioni, Pavlova, and Vaganova, to name but a few, even though today's dancers and their public may not be aware of their influence.

All too often dance history has been an arid subject, revealing fact upon fact but never the truth. The present book is a magnificent exception. Its author portrays a flesh and blood character and situates him in his period with great skill.

In the Soviet Union today Charles-Louis Didelot is very much a living influence. He set the scene for everything that followed: the Romantic ballet that still holds the stage. He turned from classical themes to folklore—Byron, Scott, and Shakespeare. He mounted the lavish spectacles, still so loved by Russian audiences, with a flying corps de ballet, gushing fountains, and elaborate lighting; and he gave the Russian ballerina the opportunity to act in movement in which she has excelled ever since. Didelot was the first to mount Pushkin's *Prisoner of the Caucasus*, used so many times since. Pushkin, who frequently introduced the name of Didelot into his poems, wrote from his exile in Bessarabia to his brother, "Write me about Didelot, about that Circassian girl Istomina, whom I once courted like the *Prisoner of the Caucasus*."

If I have concentrated on Russia in this review, it is because Didelot is still active there, and the dancers and public are aware of it. The author, however, has given a complete biography of Didelot, from his birth in 1767, that includes travel in all the ballet-conscious countries of his period.

This is a book that should be read by all dancers. (The only other biography of Didelot that I know of is by the Russian critic, Iurii Slonimskii, but it has not been translated.) It is not only the dancer who will profit by it, however, but also the general public interested in social history.

The illustrations are well chosen but are not very well reproduced.

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SYMPOSIA

RECENZIIJA: A REVIEW OF SOVIET UKRAINIAN SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS. Published semiannually by the Seminar in Ukrainian Studies at Harvard University. Vol. 5, no. 1 (Fall-Winter 1974) and Supplement. Special issue: \$4.00.

CONTENTS: Editorial Note by Frank Sysyn. Edward L. Keenan, "On Some Historical Aspects of Early Book Printing in the Ukraine." Edward Kasinec, "Jaroslav Isajevyč As Historian of the Ukrainian Book." Marc Raeff, "S. O. Petrov (compiler), *Knyhy hračdanskoho druku vydani na Ukrajinі: XVIII-perša polovyna XIX stolittja: Kataloh* [Books in Civil Type Published in the Ukraine in the Eighteenth and First Half of the Nineteenth Centuries: A Catalogue]." Daniel Clark Waugh, "O. Ja. Macjuk, *Papir ta filihrani na ukrajins'kyy zemljax (XVI-počatok XX st.)* [Paper and Watermarks in the Ukrainian Territories from the Sixteenth to the Beginning of the Twentieth Century]." Frederick R. Goff, "Borys Ivanovyč Zdanevyč (compiler), *Kataloh inkunabul. Akademija nauk Ukrajin's'koi R.S.R. Central'na naukova biblioteka* [A Catalogue of Incunables]." James E. Walsh, "*Inkunabuly L'viv's'koi naukovoji biblioteki im. V. Stefanyka Akademiji nauk URSR: Kataloh* [The Incunabula of the L'viv Research Library of the Academy of Sciences of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic: A Catalogue]." Edward Kasinec, "Soviet Ukrainian Works on the Old Ukrainian Book, 1964-1974: A Preliminary Bibliography." Illustrations.

SUPPLEMENT: Ihor Ševčenko, "*Ljubomudrějšij Kyr' Agapit Diakon*: On a Kiev Edition of a Byzantine *Mirror of Princes*." With a facsimile reproduction.

REFORM OF THE ECONOMIC MECHANISM IN HUNGARY: DEVELOPMENT 1968-71. Edited by Ottó Gadó. Translated by T. Bácskai, G. Dienes, Gy. Hajdu and J. Rácz. Budapest: Akadémiai Kiadó, 1972. 314 pp. \$9.00.

CONTENTS: Editor's Preface. Foreword by M. Timár. Introduction by O. Gadó. P. Vallus and L. Rácz, "Price System and its Development." S. Ferge and L. Antal, "Enterprise Income Regulations." I. Buda, "Wage Regulation and Manpower Management." S. Czeizler, "Regulators in Foreign Trade." L. Rácz and I. Vincze, "World Market Prices and Domestic Prices." Mrs. J. Keserű, "Regulations Concerning Private Consumption." I. Berend, I. Dancs, and L. Szabó, "Regulation of Economic Growth." M. Pulai, "Management and Crediting of Working Assets." P. Vallus, "Regulation of Product Turnover." J. Sebestyén and E. Farkasfalvy, "Technical Development and Economic Regulators." K. Kazareczki, "Special Regulators in Food Economy." L. Faluvégi and L. Papp, "Economic Activity of Local Councils: Its Development and Regulation." Appendix: Technical Terms Explained.