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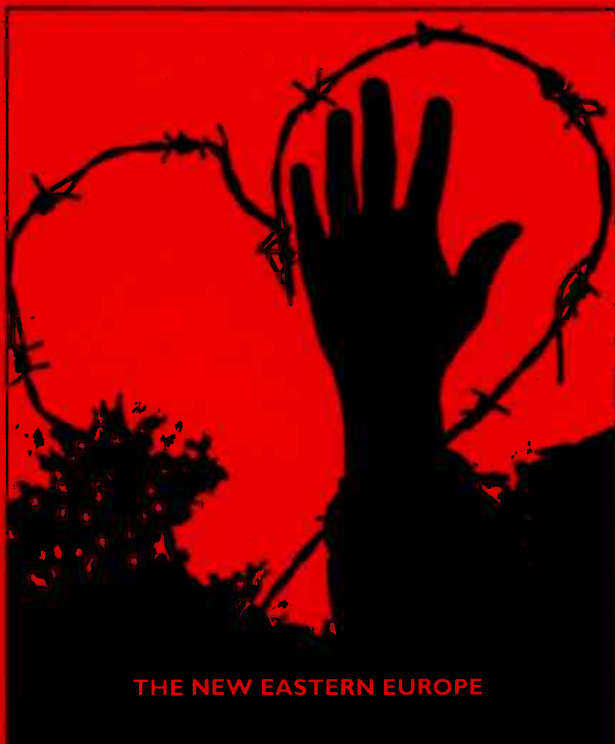
**Slavic and East European Section**

**NEWSLETTER**

**No. 7**

**1991**

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**THE NEW EASTERN EUROPE**

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The Editorial Board encourages relevant contributions be sent to the new Editor, Harold Leich, Russian/Soviet Area Specialist, European Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540, or to Molly Molloy, Slavic Reference Librarian, Hoover Institution, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305.

The content of contributions to the Newsletter is solely the responsibility of the author and does not reflect the opinions of SEES or the Editorial Committee.

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

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### I. SEES NOTES

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Farewell from the Editors . . . . . | 2 |
| Message from the Chair . . . . .    | 2 |

### II. CONFERENCES

|  |    |
|--|----|
| ALA Annual Meeting . . . . .             | 3  |
| ALA Midwinter Meeting . . . . .          | 16 |
| AAASS 22nd National Convention . . . . . | 20 |

### III. REPORTS

|                            |    |
|----------------------------|----|
| News from the U.S. . . . . | 28 |
| News from abroad . . . . . | 44 |

### IV. GRANTS . . . . . 56

### V. ACQUISITIONS . . . . . 58

### VI. PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS . . . . . 60

### VII. LIBRARIES IN PROFILE

|   |    |
|---|----|
| The Masaryk/Beneš Collection<br>at UC Berkeley . . . . .              | 62 |
| The Slovanská Knihovna in Prague<br>and its RZIA Collection . . . . . | 66 |

### VIII. BIBLIOGRAPHY OF RECENT PUBLICATIONS . . . . . 68

### IX. RESEARCH IN PROGRESS . . . . . 78

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## ***I. SEES NOTES***

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### **FAREWELL FROM THE EDITORS**

It is time again for the changing of the guard. The next issue of the SEES Newsletter will be produced by a new editorial staff headed by Harold Leich, the current SEES Secretary. We hope that as you hold this issue in your hands you will once again be pleased with the wealth of information it contains about our organization and our profession. These are exciting times and as we sat together and reviewed the contributions we had received, we were again amazed how great and rapid the changes of the last few years have been.

There are many people to thank for the support we received but to list them all here would force us to crowd out much of the contents of this issue. We hope they will pardon us for this collective expression of gratitude and will continue to support this publication in the future.

Allan Urbanic, University of California at Berkeley  
Molly Molloy, Hoover Institution, Stanford University

### **MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR**

Greetings! It is an unexpectedly gorgeous February day here in New Haven as I sit in Yale's Slavic Reading Room contemplating what to say to my fellow librarians. Perhaps Old Man Winter went the way of the Cold War.

We find ourselves in an exciting and often confusing time. As Eastern Europe redefines itself, so must those who deal with it. With the only certainty being change, it is comforting to know that there does exist an organization like ours to face the many challenges surely to come.

As our community is small, we must strive to keep one another informed of even what might seem commonplace. This extends also to communication with our Eastern colleagues. We cannot punish their

struggles to refashion their societies with the benign neglect of merely wishing them well. Now that we have escaped the Scylla of centralized control, let us not rush headlong into a self-manufactured Charybdis of isolated individualism.

I encourage you all to join the forum through the newsletter. But don't think that the newsletter is the only medium. Write a brief description of what you are up to or ask questions through e-mail. Send a particularly apt cartoon to brighten the day of a colleague. Let's make use of the technological advantages we enjoy to strengthen our community here and in the East.

SEES is preparing an interesting program for the annual ALA conference on "Perestroika, Glasnost and the Library World." I encourage you all to attend and look forward to seeing many of you there in Atlanta.

Tanja Lorković, Yale University

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## *II. Conferences*

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**ALA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, CHICAGO, JUNE 1990**  
**ACRL, SLAVIC AND EAST EUROPEAN SECTION**  
*Minutes submitted by Allan Urbanic, SEES Secretary*

**Continuing Education Committee, June 24, 9:30-11:30 AM**

Harold Leich chaired the meeting. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Members of SEES who attended the Slavic librarians conference at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign which immediately preceded ALA reported on the events. Edward Kasinec moderated

the conference and Mrs. Irena Szweide and Dmytro Shtohryn contributed reports. Various topics including preservation, international cooperation and user groups in Slavic librarianship were discussed. It was proposed that the conference be made an annual event which would focus on Collection Development and Acquisitions, Reference, and Cataloging. The Automated Bibliographic Control Committee was suggested as a group that could focus the technical services topics.

The Cambridge, Harrogate, and AAASS conferences were recommended to members of SEES. Many Soviet and East European librarians are planning to attend.

The section review is progressing. The chair will submit a report on this committee focusing on the committee's charge, its goals and activities, and its need for budget support from ACRL.

The chair reported on construction at the Library of Congress which may hamper research excursions. Most of the Old Building will be closed including the Great Hall. The Main Reading Room will reopen in January of 1991. The European Division is taking up temporary residence until 1992 when it will move back to its permanent quarters. At that time the Division may be divided into Slavic/Central and Western European sections.

Acquisition trips were made by LC staff: Nicholas Thorner (Poland and Czechoslovakia), Eric Johnson (Baltic States), Bohdan Yasinsky (Ukraine and Poland), David Kraus (Balkan countries), Ibrahim Pourhadi (Dushanbe), and Abby Smith (Moscow, Leningrad, met especially with religious groups).

**Conference Program: Preservation of Slavic Materials and Special Collections, June 24, 2-4 PM**

Keynote speaker: John Dean, Columbia University; commentators: Patricia Battin, Commission on Preservation and Access; Robert H. Davis, NYPL; Judith Fortson, Hoover Institution. The keynote address and comments by panelists will appear at the end of the minutes.

**Membership Meeting, June 24, 4:30-5:30 PM**

The meeting was chaired by Stephen Corrsin. The minutes of the

previous meeting were read and approved.

The chair offered a few impressions about his experiences of the past year. He noted that participation in SEES is very worthwhile and encouraged other members to be more active and take part in the section projects.

Election results:           Tanja Lorković, Chair Elect  
                                   Harold Leich, Secretary  
                                   Lydia Wasylenko, Member-at-Large

Cheryl Kern-Simirenko reported on the progress of the section review. She will be receiving reports from the chairs at the Executive Committee meeting and will forward them to ACRL Headquarters. The final date of submission is September 1st.

The chairs of the various SEES committees gave their annual reports to the membership. Membership assignments are as follows (unless noted otherwise, all members will serve a two year term; members of the Executive Committee will serve the term length of their elected office):

Executive Committee:   Nina Gorky Shapiro, Chair  
                                   Stephen Corrsin, Past Chair  
                                   Harry Leich, Secretary  
                                   Lydia Wasylenko, Member-at-large  
                                   Tanja Lorković, Vice-Chair

(It was learned after this session that Nina Gorky Shapiro will be unable to fulfill her term in office. According to ACRL regulations, Tanja Lorković, Vice-Chair, will assume the responsibilities of Chair. The post of Vice-Chair will be filled at the next election.)

Automated Bibliographic Janet Crayne, Chair  
   Control:               Molly Molloy  
                               Vickie Seymour  
                               Susan Burke  
                               Wojciech Siemaszkiewicz  
                               Lydia Wasylenko (exp. 1991)  
                               Susan Summer

Continuing Education:   Laszlo Kovacs, Chair

Wanda Wawro  
 Leena Siegelbaum  
 Alena Marek-Aissing  
 Anthony Anderson (exp. 1991)  
 Susan Burke

Newsletter: Allan Urbanic, Chair (exp.1991)  
 Molly Molloy, Managing editor  
 Mary Stuart (exp. 1991)  
 Sandra Levy

Nominations: Laszlo Kovacs, Chair (exp. 1991)  
 Barbara Galik (exp. 1991)

1991 Annual Program: Nina Gorky Shapiro, Chair  
 Tanja Lorković

Allan Urbanic reminded the membership that ACRL funding for joint ventures with sister organizations is available and that ALA's International Relations Committee is looking for suggestions of projects with the Soviet Union.

#### **Nominations Committee, June 25, 8-9 AM**

Laszlo Kovacs chaired the the meeting. Various members were nominated for the upcoming elections for Vice-Chair/Chair Elect and Executive Committee Member-at-large.

#### **Automated Bibliographic Control Committee, June 25, 9-11 AM**

Vickie Seymour chaired the meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The committee's project to survey the SEES membership about the availability of On-line Public Access Catalogs (OPACS) at their respective institutions was discussed. A draft questionnaire was discussed. The mailing list of current SEES members will be obtained from the chair of the Newsletter Committee. Funding for postage will be requested as part of the Section's annual budget.

The BIRD funding proposal resulting from the 1989 Conference on Access to Slavic Materials in North America was discussed. Various

members expressed their views on the proposal and some of the problems that it did not address. The committee decided to draft a letter stating its concerns and submit it to the BIRD Committee.

Janet Crayne, the incoming chair of the committee, suggested that a technical services user group should be established, perhaps on the PACS-L forum. Also she reminded the members that the Continuing Education Committee was working on presentations involving cataloging and reference issues.

#### **Newsletter Committee, June 25, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM**

Allan Urbanic chaired the meeting. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The budgetary situation was discussed. It was estimated that we need to have enough copies for the membership plus 15% which comes to 325. An increasing number of institutions are subscribing to the newsletter. The University of California at Berkeley began, with issue #6, to send copies to more exchange partners in Eastern Europe, covering some of the libraries no longer receiving copies from Stanford. Our budget may have no carryover funds for the next issue. Steve Corrsin will request \$1100 from ACRL to cover issue #7. It was mentioned that postage costs will be going up in January.

It was suggested that complimentary copies could be sent to various library indexing services. A statement concerning editorial responsibility should perhaps be included in the newsletter guidelines.

Tentative topics to be included in newsletter #7 were discussed, including coverage of the Harrogate conference, information about the Baltic Library Association, etc. Sandy Levy volunteered to be responsible for the Professional Appointments section.

#### **Executive Committee, June 25, 2-4 PM**

Steve Corrsin chaired the meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Chairs of the various SEES committees submitted their annual reports. The report of the Annual Program Planning Committee, 1991 was delayed because the chair was unable to attend.

Barbara Galik reported that the ACRL Activities Section Council met but discussed no business pertinent to SEES.

Cheryl Kern-Simirenko received the drafts of the section review reports from the various chairs. She will submit them to ACRL Headquarters.

Because of the success of this year's annual program on preservation (attendance by non-SEES members was significant), the chair proposed that SEES set up an ad-hoc committee on this topic. Stephen Corrsin will chair this group. Other members will be Viveca Seymour, Sandra Levy, and Susan Burke. The ad-hoc committee will gather information on Slavic master microfilm projects and other area specialities who may be doing parallel projects.

Cheryl Kern-Simirenko reported to the committee that the Academic Libraries Collection Development Group discussed Eastern European Acquisitions at their meeting. Bart Harlow is the current chair. It was suggested that this committee be approached to co-sponsor the panel on the effects of current events in Eastern Europe on American libraries that was proposed for the 1991 convention.

The IFLA convention scheduled for Moscow was accepting nominations for committees. SEES will send a letter nominating Vickie Seymour for a position on the Serials Committee.

## **PAPER FROM PROGRAM: PRESERVATION OF SLAVIC MATERIALS AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS, June 24**

### **Preservation and Conservation: Problems and Opportunities.**

*John F. Dean, Conservation Librarian, Cornell University*

An overview, by definition, is intended to provide a broad assessment, describe in general terms, the dimensions of a given area. In pondering the preservation overview, it seems that a short characterization of so complex a field is difficult and probably not productive, thus my discussion of problems and opportunities is highly

selective and designed to identify a few of the main themes and trends over the last few years. Perhaps the most impressive recent developments of a broad thematic nature have been the firm establishment of preservation management as a legitimate professional career path, and a rapidly broadening awareness, in and out of the profession, of the problems of damage and deterioration of library materials. The session here today is an excellent example of this awareness.

For a variety of reasons, the rate of paper deterioration seems to have been the cause of greatest concern in the United States, thus the main thrust has been towards the reformatting of brittle materials. Advances in inter-active bibliographic systems, beginning with OCLC and further developed by the Research Libraries Group's RLIN system, have provided the vehicles for consortia-based, nationwide cooperative microfilming strategies. Cooperation has been driven by funding agencies, such as the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Academic libraries in particular, with no tradition of preservation activity, have been obliged by peer pressure and the availability of external funding to develop preservation programs and contribute to the national pool of archival-quality microform. The concept of a national preservation program has been debated for many years, much of the discussion dealing with a central national repository of endangered materials. The most persuasive advocate of this idea was Gordon Williams in his final 1964 report to ARL, *The Preservation of Deteriorating Books: An Examination of the Problem with Recommendations for a Solution*. Williams was concerned that books be saved by whatever method seemed most appropriate, but felt that the most feasible solution to the broader question:

"is a federally supported central agency that will assure the physical preservation for as long as possible of at least one example of every deteriorating records, and that will make copies of these records readily available to any library when required. Such an agency would (1) undertake the centralized preservation of deteriorating records deposited by libraries; (2) coordinate its own preservation program with local programs of individual libraries to assure that all significant records are preserved while avoiding unwitting duplication; (3) assure the ready availability of microform or full-size photocopies of deteriorating materials to all libraries; and (4)

itself preserve, in the interest of textual preservation, economy, and the ready availability of copies, all microform masters made at its expense or deposited by others, and coordinate the preservation of microform masters made by other agencies."

The idea of a central agency and repository was echoed in 1976 by Fraser Poole, Library of Congress Assistant Director for Preservation. Poole was an advocate of a national preservation microfilming center, with "specially designed vaults for the archival storage of the master negatives of the national preservation microfilms." The National Preservation Program Planning Conference of December 1976, for which Poole's paper was prepared, seemed to reject this centralized facility concept, and opted for the current *nationwide* approach, by which research libraries, linked by common interest and bibliographic systems, would collectively preserve endangered collections. It is interesting that the Williams and Poole center concept seems to be emerging again as a serious proposal.

Of course, brittle paper is only one of the many preservation concerns facing libraries; the chief concerns may be summarized as follows:

1. *The need to maintain collections responsibly by the institution of satisfactory environmental controls, thereby reducing damage and deterioration.* This is clearly the most important local responsibility for libraries. The detrimental effects of high and unstable levels of temperature and relative humidity are now well known, and if these can be controlled within reasonable limits the need for expensive remedial preservation action in the future would be greatly reduced. The provision of a stable environment, good housekeeping, sound building design and maintenance, seems quite basic, yet few libraries seem able to provide them, including many with quite active preservation programs. Librarians do not seem to be able to successfully communicate their needs of influence institutional priorities when new or renovated facilities are being planned or funded, and seem almost eager to compromise environmental standards when additional shelf space is threatened.

2. *The need to replace materials too damaged or deteriorated for normal use.* The replacement or reformatting of materials too deteriorated for normal use is an activity that is both a national and a local responsibility, and at both levels is at the heart of the collection management/preservation interface. Over the past twenty years,

preservation administrators have clamored for funding for filming, and an atmosphere of crisis was created in the press and library literature: "Millions of valuable books, deteriorating in nation's libraries" (this from the *National Enquirer*, February 1978); "Damage in the stacks: Research libraries foresee 'terrific crisis' as rate of book deterioration speeds up." (this from the *Chronicle of Education* the same year). There are many more examples. There can be little doubt that for some groups of materials in particular, the situation is desperate. Large numbers of books and periodicals produced before the First World War have reached the point of unusability, and materials produced in some countries today are printed on paper that will quickly become brittle. This is certainly the case with many books and periodicals produced in Slavic countries, and particular attention must be paid to reformatting programs that are pro-active in their approach to the preservation of these materials. For example, a proposed cooperative project to microfilm periodicals produced on acidic groundwood paper on a current and ongoing basis is under discussion by a group of New York comprehensive research libraries. In this project, titles would be retrospectively filmed up to date, and continue to be filmed on a current basis thereafter, ensuring that a core of titles will be preserved and available for use. It is clear that the most sensible approach to microfilm replacement is through cooperation amongst libraries, and the most successful example of this, in my view, is the RLG Cooperative Preservation Microfilming project, particularly with its current focus on "great collections." Of course, reformatting is not necessarily synonymous with microform, and a number of other libraries are responding to other reformatting needs with the use of xerography to produce archivally-sound replacements for single volumes. Scanning and digitization technology holds great promise for the future, as it combines reformatting with ease of access, and the possibility of great flexibility. A joint Xerox and Cornell pilot project, supported in part by the Commission on Preservation and Access is currently investigating high resolution scanning and digitization up through a production phase, and we are all looking forward to the results with great anticipation. The ongoing developments in this are exciting, and with the ability to digitize microfilm in an acceptable manner, some of the repugnance felt toward microform by users and librarians may be dispelled.

3. *The need to safeguard new book and periodical purchases by the design of sound contractual binding specifications.* The commercial binding of books and periodicals is an activity almost all libraries

have in common, and quite large sums of money are devoted to it. While there seems to be much greater awareness by librarians of some of the general principles involved in sound binding structures, specification and selection still seem to be approached in an unsystematic and uncritical fashion. Many binding decisions, particularly for periodicals, are based entirely on tradition and the apparent craving for uniformity, thus large numbers of items which may never be used are bound in destructive styles designed for high use items. Selectors often confuse utility with importance, thus recommendations that documented low use indicates that no binding action should occur are often regarded as critical of the actual value of a particular item and, by extension, critical of the selector. As many forms of binding are destructive, particularly for items with paper that will rapidly lose flexibility, a decision to utilize a lighter and cheaper structure, or even not to bind at all, is often sound conservation practice. The commercial binding industry has become much more aware of preservation needs, and alternative structures and methods of leaf attachment are now available to be applied according to patterns of use.

4. *The need to preserve and restore materials where retention in original format is required and repair when required.* Conservation by physical treatment is vitally important, not merely as a means of treating a few favored treasures, but as an ongoing and pragmatic component of a broad preservation program. The term "collective conservation" is enjoying some currency right now, almost as if the concept of the conservation of collections is something new, although it is what I thought I had been doing for the past forty years.

A conservation program must encompass viable and responsive book repair systems, large-scale treatment systems, stabilization systems, and yes, the ability to restore scarce and unique items. The traditional view in the United States, of the conservator as the high priest of the object, clearly must give way to the more pragmatic European view of the conservator as manager, batch processing large groups of materials and working with teams of technicians. Unless this approach is adopted, individual conservation efforts will seem irrelevant.

Conservation treatment as an integrated preservation strategy has been very slow to develop in America, largely because in other countries, conservation has emerged from a traditional craft setting.

The general lack of a craft-based conservation treatment tradition in America has been both a blessing and a curse. On the credit side, the painful transition from cosmetic "fine" binding to pragmatic conservation has been avoided, along with attendant entrenchment problems. On the debit side, the overall quality of elementary binding and basic conservation treatment has been quite poor, and the current shortage of skilled and productive conservation technicians is a direct result of an almost total absence of a traditional training base. The response by American librarians to the challenge of preservation has been to emphasize the managerial aspects within their areas of competence (such as microform planning, disaster planning, environmental control, etc.) while neglecting conservation treatment programs because of lack of experience in this area. Very few preservation administrators in America have had operational exposure to highly skilled and productive craft-based conservation treatment. More training and technical development is needed in this area, particularly in the United States, and it seems ironic that most technical innovation in mass conservation has occurred in the Soviet Union, the producer of some of the poorest paper. Pioneers, such as Julia Petrovna (developer of the leaf caster in 1959, and paper strengthening impregnation in 1960), L.G. Belyakova (developer of mold resistant sizes and adhesives in 1964), and Margarita Blank (ongoing work in deacidification technology), have substantially expanded our knowledge in these areas.

As I have indicated, a great amount of progress has been made in the United States, an examination of some of the early reports will demonstrate. In particular, perhaps the most influential report was produced by Warren Haas in 1971 for ARL, "Preparation of Detailed Specifications for a National System for the Preservation of Library Materials." Haas identified for us four "suggestions for action": research, education and training, preservation and conservation efforts in individual libraries, and collective action.

In research, Haas indicated that there was a need to identify and develop inexpensive methods for mass deacidification, optimum storage conditions, and the manufacture of permanent-durable paper. There are reportedly a number of mass deacidification methods available to use now, from the Wei T'O process to diethyl zinc, although libraries and archives seem reluctant to take the plunge. While it seems we never will have enough information on optimum storage conditions, the body of knowledge is significant and the

parameters are becoming clearer and narrower. Remarkable progress has been made in the manufacture and use of permanent durable paper, and the issue has become commonly known and supported at a number of levels by a variety of groups.

In education and training, it was suggested that there be more workshops, seminars, and exhibits (I think you will agree that this has been the case), more formal methods for the dissemination of preservation information (a number of important journals and newsletters have entered the field here), that programs be developed for fundamental preservation (again while much remains to be done, some progress has been made especially in the area of book repair), and that an apprenticeship program for conservation staff be established. On this latter point, virtually no progress has been made, and it remains a giant gap in our development.

In reviewing the suggestions Mr. Haas makes on individual library efforts, many libraries *have* developed comprehensive programs and established preservation management structures, but many have not. In 1971 though, only a handful of libraries could boast basic preservation programs while today the numbers are much greater.

The collective action suggested and indeed vigorously promoted by Mr. Haas seems to be going on, largely as a consequence of the development of bibliographic systems and consortia, such as RLG. Mr. Haas, at least in 1971, did not believe that a central national preservation collection was practicable, and notes that the alternative was: "the creation of a coordinated system of collections in a national plan," which is essentially what we seem to be working towards.

In summary, preservation programs, individual and collective, require a comprehensive and fully integrated approach if they are to serve the present and future needs of our readers. The tools of preservation (microfilm, binding, photocopy, repair, digitization, restoration and conservation) must be used selectively but in combination, and as a consequence of decisions that involve patterns of use, relevance, local and national interest.

The vital concern of funding for preservation is the area in which most progress has been made. Largely through the efforts of the Commission on Preservation and Access, substantial increases in federal funding have been realized. The years of crisis in the literature

and the collective dirge of preservation administrators have also made an impact on our federal paymaster, and reformatting funds are flowing, an incredible accomplishment by the commission, considering huge federal deficits. It is still difficult, however, to continue to maintain collections to serve all the needs of our users with reformatting as our only tool. Those libraries that play an active national role in maintaining and providing access to collections of excellence are beginning to reel from the overall effects of national bibliographic access, retrospective conversion, and as a consequence, increased library loan traffic. As collections suffer from this increased use, the response from provider libraries could well be increasing restrictions on interlibrary loans.

A possible solution for the future would be funding for more comprehensive preservation programs involving a variety of strategies, but modeled on the great collections concept, targeting high conspectus areas in recognition of their role in the nationwide program. Such proposals must be scrutinized much more carefully than in the past, and the critical test must be a determination whether or not the projects and collections would be truly in the interest of the nationwide program. The Commission has done its part in raising federal funding for reformatting to unprecedented levels, perhaps the private foundations can now take up the challenge and bridge the gaps on a cost share basis.

After years in the funding wilderness, preservation is now firmly established as an integral, recognizable component of the library management enterprise, at least in many libraries. I am confident that we are moving in the right direction, or perhaps directions, and I am enthusiastic about the future of preservation.

#### **Comments by other panel members**

*Patricia Battin (Commission on Preservation and Access):* Reformatting, once thought to be greatly opposed by faculty who use collections, has become more accepted in the research environment. However, the technology for reading and copying reformatted material needs to be upgraded. Faculty who use reformatted material assume that storage in film means use on film but this is not necessarily true. One preservation technology, the digitizing of text, has greatly improved in recent years.

On the negative side, the outlook for funding higher education projects looks bleak. Thus preservation must compete with other needs in its quest for funding.

Preservation must be made part of the collection management process and curators of collections must become more involved in conservation planning.

Reformatting does not necessarily mean destruction of the original. The Commission on Preservation and Access has proposed that 10% of the preservation budget should be directed to repair materials damaged by filming. The Commission has also pushed for the development of a registry of mater negative microfilms in Western Europe so as to reduce the duplication of effort. Slavic librarians need to consider this same kind of registry for Eastern Europe.

*Robert Davis (NYPL):* The issue of Slavic preservation is a global one. For example, the major method of preservation in the Soviet Union is to repair materials since reformatting equipment is often the method of choice. Also, the lack of preventative efforts (climate control of collections, the use of acid-free paper, etc.) are compounding the problem.

*Judith Fortson (Hoover Institution):* Justifying preservation projects for Slavic preservation in grant applications is not difficult for many Slavic collections in the country have very strong reputations. Many Slavic projects have been funded, opening the door for others; however, no forum exists which coordinates future efforts. Those interested in the preservation of Slavic materials should create such a forum to strengthen their applications for funding.

**ALA MIDWINTER CONFERENCE, CHICAGO,  
JANUARY 1991  
ACRL, SLAVIC AND EAST EUROPEAN SECTION**  
*Minutes submitted by Harold Leich, SEES Secretary*

**Automated Bibliographic Control Committee, January 13, 9-11 AM**

Janet Crayne chaired the meeting. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Chair mentioned that she would send to committee members the paperwork on the Section Review. Committee members discussed membership candidates since several current members of the ABC committee are going off as of the end of the 1991 Atlanta Conference.

Janet Crayne discussed the survey of remote access capabilities to Slavic and East European collections in the U.S. The first round of questionnaires has been sent out and responses are coming in. The first mailing was only to SEES members (institutional and personal). Since some important collections are not represented among SEES members, the ABC committee may need additional funding to survey a larger group. Committee members agreed enthusiastically that the project was one that should be continued and may be expanded to the extent that finances will permit. Janet will keep the committee members informed of the progress on the survey.

Janet reported on the BIRD meeting of October, 1990, to which she was invited as an observer representing SEES. The Social Science Research Council (BIRD's parent body) had submitted its grant proposal to the Title VIII panel in September 1990, making further revisions of the BIRD proposal, as suggested in the committee's letter to BIRD, impractical. However, several areas of misunderstandings were resolved at the meeting. Janet suggested that BIRD include in its membership someone with a strong technical services background, and she will ask to sit in on future BIRD meetings.

Harold Leich reported on various developments at the Library of Congress that will affect bibliographic control. LC will begin using OCLC for copy cataloging current materials. A number of new positions have been funded to reduce the arrearages (recently counted as totalling about 40 million items; backlogs of books and serials are relatively small, in the 200,000 volume range). Divisions in the Cataloging Directorate are being reorganized, chiefly to integrate descriptive and subject cataloging; this process will begin in calendar year 1991.

#### **Continuing Education Committee, January 13, 2-4 PM**

Laszlo Kovacs chaired the meeting. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Committee members discussed the Section Review recently completed.

Laszlo led a discussion focusing on the following issues:

- \* what is the definition (based on qualifications needed) of a subject- and language area-specialist in our field?
- \* how is the changing international, domestic, and academic environment influencing our field?
- \* what kind of formal academic training and professional experience will be required in the coming years for Slavic and East European librarians?
- \* supply and demand: what is the state of availability of specialists for entry and middle management level positions? How will these correspond to vacancies in 1991 and beyond?

The group also discussed use of the existing "network of colleagues" in solving problems at the practical level, e.g. information about book dealers and other acquisitions sources, cataloging problems, etc.

The committee and others present also discussed various possibilities for formal and informal continuing education in Slavic/East European librarianship, including mentoring, short courses at the University of Illinois Summer Research Lab, internships, and additional meetings at ALA conferences. It was noted that the ALA Book Fellows program now includes several positions in Eastern Europe and one in Moscow (the 1991 announcements of available positions had just appeared).

Mark Sandler, Acting Head of Area Studies, University of Michigan, discussed the recently opened position of Head of the Slavic Division at the Library. He distributed the detailed job announcement.

Laszlo announced that the committee should send a representative to the ALA Professional Education Committee, and solicited nominations and volunteers for that position.

**Newsletter Committee, January 13, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM**

Allan Urbanic chaired the meeting. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Harold Leich, as the new SEES Secretary, will assume the duties of newsletter editor with the appearance of the 1992 issue of the Newsletter.

Allan discussed budgetary issues and noted ACRL has contributed \$1,110 to the 1991 budget for the Newsletter, based on total SEES membership. Allan distributed a detailed financial report.

The committee members discussed in detail the contents of the forthcoming issue, scheduled for distribution in April 1991. This issue, #7, will be printed by Berkeley Slavic Specialties.

Those attending the meeting expressed their thanks and gratitude to Allan Urbanic and Molly Molloy for their years of service to the Newsletter as editor and managing editor, respectively.

#### **Program Planning Committee, January 13, 4:30-5:30 PM**

Tatjana Lorković chaired the meeting.

Tanja noted that plans for the Atlanta Conference SEES Program were well underway. The program will be focused on recent changes in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, and ways librarians can keep up with providing information on a rapidly changing part of the world.

A program planning committee (Tanja Lorković, Dena Schoen, Ruth Wallach, Molly Molloy, and Allan Urbanic) was appointed for the 1992 San Francisco Conference.

#### **Executive Committee, January 14, 9-11 AM**

Tatjana Lorković chaired the meeting. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The chair of each SEES committee gave a brief report on activities since the last meeting. Steve Corrsin noted that he cannot chair the new ad hoc Preservation Committee; Vickie Seymour was appointed the chair of this committee.

Cheryl Kern-Simirenko reported on the progress of the Section Review, which she submitted based on material supplied by committee

chairs. Copies of the review, as submitted in September 1990, were distributed. The new deadline is March 1, 1991, and the review will be submitted in a revised format.

Tatjana Lorković reported on various ACRL committee and council meetings that she had attended, including those of the ACRL Board and Section Council. She then led a discussion on ways of recruiting members to SEES. Committee Memberships were also discussed.

## **22ND NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SLAVIC STUDIES, WASHINGTON, D.C., OCTOBER 1990**

### **Library-related panels**

#### *Funding Opportunities for Slavic Librarians: Roundtable*

Chair: Angelika Powell, U. of Virginia

Participants: Murlin Croucher, Indiana U.; Robert Davis, New York Public Library; Steven Grant, USIA; Edward Kasinec, New York Public Library; Jane Rosenberg, NEH

#### *Federal Support to the Soviet-East European Field: Roundtable*

Chair: Dorothy Atkinson, AAASS

Participants: Richard Eckman, NEH; William Glade, USIA; Kenneth Roberts, US State Dept. (Title VIII and other programs); Ann Schnieder, US Dept. of Education

#### *Keeping up with Soviet Change: Perspectives on Information Access: Roundtable*

Chair: Robert Karlowich, Pratt Inst.

Participants: Alan Pollard, Princeton U.; Harold Leich, Library of Congress; Nadia Zilper, U. of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Lucy Cox, Rutgers U.; Georges Delorme, Les Livres Étrangers

#### *The Current State of Library Preservation: Roundtable*

Chair: Allan Urbanic, UC Berkeley

Participants: Marianna Tax Choldin, U. of Illinois, Urbana; Patricia Battin, Commission on Preservation and Access; Robert H. Davis, New York Public Library; Hugh M. Olmsted, Harvard

U.; Henri De Mink, Inter-Documentation Co.

*Being Published in the Soviet Union: Roundtable*

Chair: Marianna Tax Choldin, U. of Illinois, Urbana

Participants: Stephen Cohen, Princeton U.; Robert C. Tucker, Princeton U.; Alexander Rabinowitch, Indiana U.; Loren Graham, Massachusetts Inst. of Technology; Robert Conquest, Hoover Inst.

*Recent Developments in American and Canadian Slavic Librarianship and Bibliography: Roundtable*

Chair: Luba Pendzey, U. of Toronto

Participants: Edward Kasinec, New York Public Library; Bohdan Yasinsky, Library of Congress; Jack McIntosh, U. of British Columbia; Andrew Gregorovich, U. of Toronto; Dmytro Shtohryn, U. of Illinois

*Cataloging of Slavic Materials in an On-line Environment: Roundtable*

Chair: Tatiana Lorković, Yale U.

Participants: Enith E. Vardaman, Harvard University; Molly Molloy, Hoover Inst.; Irina Faynzilberg, U. Of Illinois, Urbana; Stephen Corrsin, Brooklyn College; Konstantin Gurevich, Ohio State U.; Jacqueline Byrd, Indiana U.

*Polish Collections in North America and Poland*

Chair: Mary Stevens, U. of Toronto

Participants: Wojciech Zalewski, Stanford U.; Wojciech Siemaszkiewicz, New York Public Library; Sophie Bogdanski, McGill U.

**Roundtable on Information Access, AAASS 1990**

A roundtable was held on Thursday, October 18, 7:30-9:30 p.m. on "Keeping Up with Soviet Change: Perspectives on Information Access." It was chaired by Robert A. Karlowich, Pratt Institute and included Lucy Cox, Rutgers University; Harold Leich, Library of Congress; Alan Pollard, Princeton University; and Nadia Zilper, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Lucy Cox talked about "Tracking Legal Reform." She began by stating that *Izvestiia* is generally the first official source for new laws

in the Soviet Union. They subsequently appear in the *Vedomosti Verkhovnogo soveta SSSR* (now called *Vedomosti S"ezda narodnykh deputatov SSSR i Verkhovnogo soveta SSSR*) and, for those who want an English language version, in the *Current Digest of the Soviet Press*. The general gist of her presentation centered on some recent laws and newly elected law makers, that is, those who ran successfully for the Congress in the first free elections ever held in the Soviet Union in spring 1989. From the body of the Congress a working parliament (*Verkhovnyi soviet*) was elected which sits continually. These are the people who make the laws. Important laws which have been passed since spring 1990 are concerned with land, property, the presidency, the law on freedom of religion, laws on the relationship between the central government and the republics (among them, the law on language), and the law on freedom of the press. She discussed not only the laws but the reactions to them by the various deputies.

Harold Leich discussed the problems of acquisitions and control surrounding "The Growth of New Journals in the Soviet Union." While he dealt with those not sanctioned by the government, he said there is a continually shifting definition of what is an official versus a non-official publication. Some useful bibliographical sources in this area, he said, are the annual subscription list of periodical titles (issued by Mezhhkniga), Radio Liberty's *Materialy Samizdata* (not only for titles but for the organizations that might publish them), and Aleksandr Suetnov's bibliography of unofficial publications. To underlie the difficulty in obtaining these titles, he said that personal contact or on-site purchase are the most reliable methods of procurement. Exchange partners are not a good source. LC has two Soviet citizens in Moscow who are buying this material for them. He also had some examples of these journals, mainly from the Baltic republics where acquisition is the least difficult.

Alan Pollard analyzed some of the "Current Awareness Sources", providing information on change in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. He divided his subject into categories of *News*, *Bibliography and Research*, and *References*, and then discussed sources from the Soviet Union (TASS; USSR Embassy, *News and Views*; INION, *Novaia sovetskaia [i inostrannaia] lit-ra po obshchestvennym naukam; Knizhnoe obozrenie; Vsia Moskva/All Moscow*, among others), the United States Government (including FBIS, *Daily Report, Soviet Union*; CIA, *Research papers and Conference Reports*; CIA, *Directory*

of *Soviet Officials*), Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty (such as *Monitoring Bulletins*; *Report on the USSR*; *Public Figures in the Soviet Union*), and "other" (such as *Current Digest of the Soviet Press*, *AAASS Newsletter*, *Rand Papers*, *Predicasts*, etc.). In addition to analyzing the contents of many of these titles, he distributed a graphic representation of his topic to the audience, making it easier to follow his analysis.

Nadia Zilper presented a paper called "Glasnost, Freedom of the Press and Publishing in the USSR and Eastern Europe." She limited herself to the Soviet Union and described events there since the advent of the new law abolishing censorship on August 1, 1990. Included in her coverage were the areas of price, distribution, bibliographic control, and availability of materials. She stressed the fact that the old, unified system has given way to a chaotic period of experimentation which has caused dislocations in the publishing world. This situation is also causing hardship for foreign libraries that collect in the area. Libraries in the West can look forward to increased costs of acquisitions, increased numbers of publications, and further difficulties not only in obtaining information about new publications but in acquiring them as well. She said further that administrators should be informed about these new developments since they will effect the allocation of funds. Cooperative collection development should also become more important under these new conditions.

Robert A. Karlowich, Pratt Institute

### **Bibliography and Documentation Committee**

*Minutes submitted by Allan Urbanic*

Executive Committee: Hugh Olmsted (Chair) 1990-1993  
 Angelika Powell 1987-1990  
 Alan Pollard 1988-1991  
 Steven Grant 1990-1993  
 Barbara Galik 1990-1993  
 Allan Urbanic 1988-1991  
 David Kraus, ex officio,

## 1. Library of Congress - Harold Leich and David Kraus

Harold Leich discussed some of the events of the past year at the Library of Congress: 1) exhibit of Old Russian books from Pushkinskii dom (catalog in preparation); 2) a symposium to discuss further LC/BAN cooperations after the fire at the Biblioteka Akademii Nauk; 3) the opening of the Moscow office which is being subcontracted by Faxon; 4) plans are made for an LC/Lenin Library Symposium on the role of the national library; 5) a Soviet library team was formed from upper level management to exchange librarians and bibliographic data; 6) a project has begun to exchange bibliographic tapes between LC and the Knizhnaia palata; 7) Soviet officials have made inquiries and are planning a program to parallel the Congressional Research Service at LC; 8) LC has agreed to become a depository library for Georgian publications and is working on reducing the backlog of Georgian language cataloging; 9) the Music Division is expanding exchanges with Soviet libraries; 10) the Motion Picture and Sound Recording Division sponsored a conference on Soviet cinema; 11) the Prokhudin-Gorskii exhibit is going to the Soviet Union; and 12) a conference on "Religion and its role in the Soviet Union" is being planned for 1992.

Additional information concerning LC (David Kraus): 1) budget cuts are continuing to affect LC operations; 2) four members of the European Division went on procurement trips to East Germany, Hungary, Ukraine, and Czechoslovakia; 3) Raisa Gorbachev, Vaclav Havel and Tadeusz Mazowiecki visited LC this past year; 4) Ms. Eva Krysiak, Deputy Head of Reference at Biblioteka Narodowa, was working in the LC intern program and upgrading the Polish reference collection; 5) the European Reading Room is slated to move to the Main Reading Room after renovations are completed; 6) 1200 additional items from the Yudin Collection are being scheduled for preservation and cataloging and an additional 3500-4000 pieces are in the Rare Books Division awaiting cataloging; 7) LC must reduce its newspaper acquisitions by 10%. A checklist of current subscriptions was distributed and members in attendance were asked to compare this list with their own holdings and report back to LC as soon as possible; 8) a checklist of "unofficial" Russian newspapers is being compiled and distributed by Harold Leich. This list will also include publications from the various Soviet republics. Steven Grant will contribute titles received by the USIA to this list. H el ene Kaplan of the Biblioth eque de Documentation Internationale Contemporaine

reported to LC that her institution receives 500 independent periodicals. LC will try to obtain this list and distribute it with their checklist.

## 2. ALA ACRL/Slavic and East European Section

Tanja Lorković (chair), Yale University, reported on recent activities and developments within the Slavic and East European Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries. [See the minutes of SEES published earlier in this issue.]

## 3. BIRD Committee Report - Marianna Tax Choldin, University of Illinois

The current members of the BIRD committee are Ned Keenan (chair), Edward Kasinec, Hugh Olmsted, Marianna Tax Choldin, Joseph Dwyer, David Kraus, Henry Cooper, and Blair Ruble; Jason Parker and Robert Huber are staff committee members.

The BIRD committee has been formulating projects in the eventuality that Title VIII funding will be increased. In the past year BIRD has: 1) issued the report from the May 1989 conference on "Access to Slavic Materials in North America"; 2) obtained temporary funding for the continuation of the *American Bibliography of Soviet and East European Studies*; 3) been involved with finding money for retrospective conversion and preservation; 4) assisted in the publication of a guide to Slavic resources in the metropolitan New York City area; 5) moved the production of the *International Slavic Librarians Directory* to the Library of Congress; and 6) started planning for a directory of book dealers in Slavic materials.

## 4. Subcommittee on Access to Research Materials

Chair: Harold Leich (Library of Congress)

Members: Marianna Tax Choldin (U of Illinois), Steven Grant (USIA), Patricia Grimsted (Harvard Ukrainian Research Inst.), Anna Lawton (Purdue U), Carol Leonard (California Inst. of Technology), and Donald Raleigh (U of North Carolina, Chapel Hill)

The chair reported on the publication by IREX of a new guide to doing research in the Soviet Union. The subcommittee is also gathering information on universities who have set up unilateral

exchange agreements with Soviet institutions. Independent Soviet firms are now claiming that they can provide photocopies of archival materials though no examples of these products have been documented.

#### 5. American Bibliography of Soviet and East European Studies (ABSEES)

Funding for the 1989 volume has been secured. Discussions are underway to "internationalize" the publication by joining it with the European Bibliography and new East European bibliographies.

Barbara Dash reported that the past format will be retained in the 1989 volume. Since this issue is being produced with ProCite, it will have improved interface capabilities with other database systems. A CD-ROM product or the loading of the bibliography into RLIN is also being discussed.

#### 9. News from the field

Mr. H. Lee Bimm, President of Ephesto associazione culturale, spoke about an exhibit of Soviet graphics that was now on display in Florence. The graphics were from private collections and covered the years 1919-1940. The exhibitors wish to bring their collection to the United States and are looking for institutions that are willing to fund the necessary shipping and set up costs. Those interested should act before March 1, 1991. Copies of the exhibit catalog are available by writing to Mr. Bimm.

Natalia Zitzelsberger, New York Public Library, handed out a flyer outlining a microfilming project which was proposed by the State Library of Latvia. The Library wishes to film newspapers in the following categories: 1) 1919-1940 period of independent Latvia; 2) the first year of Soviet rule (1940/1941) and the years of German occupation; 3) Latvian provincial publications of recent years; and 4) newspapers from Riga from the end of the 17th century to the end of the 19th century. Because the costs of this type of project are high, the Library would like to survey in advance the desire of Western libraries to purchase such materials.

Allan Urbanic, University of California, Berkeley, brought to the attention of the Committee the White House Conference on Libraries

scheduled for July 1991. The planning process for the Conference is now at the stage of accepting proposals for the agenda. Nadia Zilper volunteered to investigate AAASS participation.

Marianna Tax Choldin gave brief reports on the Harrogate and Cambridge conferences and the ABDOSD Conference in Germany. Proceedings from each of these conferences are being published. A group of East European librarians met in Bremen to discuss cooperative preservation efforts. She suggested that a project to promote the exchange of East European and American librarians be organized, perhaps through ALA or USIA.

Benjamin Goldsmith, New York Public Library, reported briefly on the Rodina Collection.

Marianna Tax Choldin brought up the question of the possible disposal of the library and archive attached to Radio Liberty/Radio Free Europe. Funding for this organization may be eliminated in the future and no provisions have been made for the preservation of this valuable resource. Mr. Henri de Mink, IDC, stated that he thought a research institute was going to be formed which would take possession of these materials.

New York Public Library - Robert Davis reported that a revised checklist of newspaper holdings has been prepared as well as a checklist of pre-1860 imprints. Benjamin Goldsmith reported on an exhibit of Russian illustrated books and photographs from the Pantuhoff Collection. Wojciech Siemaszkiewicz reported on the ongoing NEH funded "Early Soviet Periodicals Project" at NYPL.

Bakhmeteff Archives - Ellen Scaruffi, curator, reported that the archives have received a new collection of Soviet unofficial publications and the papers of Vasilii Ianovskii, a prominent emigré writer. The remaining undescribed materials are being identified and entered into ProCite. The Witte memoirs are being published in the Soviet Union in a cooperative effort. An exchange of the Tolstoy/Maude correspondence is being arranged with the Gorky Institute.

The final moments of the meeting were devoted to a discussion of some of the pressing issues of the field and ways to incorporate them into future panels at AAASS. Some of the suggestions were: 1) how

to handle financial and administrative constraints within an institution so that Slavic collections can be maintained; 2) how to gather and disseminate information about the state of libraries in Eastern Europe; 3) how to increase bibliographic control of unofficial publications and to exchange information about procurement trips, etc.; and 4) information sources on changes in Eastern Europe. Hugh Olmsted requested that those who are forming panels should send him a copy of the panel description.

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### *III. Reports*

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#### **NEWS FROM THE U.S.**

##### **AAASS Newsletter Library Clearinghouse**

June Pachuta Farris, Slavic Bibliographer at the University of Chicago, will be publishing a regular column in the *AAASS Newsletter* about developments in U.S. collections. Information can be sent to her at the Joseph Regenstein Library, Room 263, 1100 E. 57th St., Chicago, IL 60637; (312) 702-8456. (from *AAASS Newsletter*, Jan. 1991)

##### ***ABSEES* update**

The Library of Congress is compiling the 1989 volume of *ABSEES*, which is due to be published this fall. A grant proposal submitted by the Social Science Research Council, requesting funding for future volumes, is currently under consideration by the Title VIII advisory committee. If funding is secured, new host institutions will be considered, since future volumes will not be produced at the Library of Congress. (information from David Kraus, LC)

##### **News from the Bakhmeteff Archive**

1990 was a very busy year for the Bakhmeteff Archive with a large number of readers, including many scholars from the Soviet Union

and Western Europe, using the collections. A number of important publications, based entirely, or in part on Bakhmeteff holdings, were released this year. Prominent new publications included Marc Raeff's *Russia Abroad: A Cultural History of the Russian Emigration, 1919-1939*, Brian Boyd's *Vladimir Nabokov: The Russian Years*, Kendall E. Bailes's *Science and Russian Culture in an age of Revolutions: V.I. Vernadsky and His Scientific School, 1863-1945*, and Sidney Harcave's *The Memoirs of Count Witte*.

And more publication projects are underway. The Soviets are preparing a new Academy Edition of the complete works of L.N. Tolstoy and would like to include approximately 100 letters which Tolstoy wrote to his English translator Aylmer Maude and which are now held by Columbia University. On Oct. 24 an historic exchange took place at the Rare Book and Manuscript Library when Lidiia Gromova and Nataliia Velikanova representing the Tolstoy Museum in Moscow presented Columbia with photocopies of Maude's letters to Tolstoy, and in return Kenneth Lohf and Ellen Scaruffi gave them a microfilm of Tolstoy's letters to Maude. If glasnost in Soviet publishing continues, there will be more exchanges of this type which will result in archival materials from Columbia being published in scholarly Soviet editions, and in exchange the Bakhmeteff Archive will acquire photocopies, or microfilms of Soviet archival materials for the use of American scholars. (submitted by Ellen Scaruffi, Bakhmeteff Archives)

### **Columbia University Libraries exhibit**

Columbia has mounted an exhibition entitled "Revolution in Words and Images: Posters from Eastern Europe, 1989-1990." The exhibition has been co-sponsored by the W. Averell Harriman Institute for Advanced Study of the Soviet Union, the Institute on East Central Europe, and the Columbia University Libraries. Among the items displayed are contemporary posters, flyers, flags, and pamphlets depicting the major political trends and events in Eastern Europe during the past two years. The exhibition is in Butler Library and will remain on view until May 3, 1991. (Susan Summer, Columbia U.)

### **Hoover Institution Exhibits**

In connection with President Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Stanford University, the Hoover Institution opened an exhibit titled "A Century

of Revolutions: Lenin to Gorbachev" on June 4, 1990. The exhibit highlighted rare documents, photographs and posters from the Russian and Soviet collections of the Hoover Institution's library and archives, including the original draft of Tsar Nicholas II's abdication document, original letters written by Lenin, and many dramatic posters from the Russian Civil War period. Other materials documented the activities of the American Relief Administration in Soviet Russia, headed by Herbert Hoover, who negotiated an agreement with the Soviet government to send American food and medicine to millions of Russian children. The exhibit also chronicled the collectivization of the peasants and the slave labor camp system under Stalin. The Gorbachev revolution was documented with posters and political literature from the current period. The exhibit was open until late September. (Hoover press release)

"The New Eastern Europe", an exhibit of recently acquired posters and documents from the Hoover Institution's collections on democratic movements in Eastern Europe opened January 22 at the Institution and will run through April 10. The exhibit includes photographs and posters, dissident literature, political platforms and campaign ephemera documenting the extensive political changes sweeping Eastern Europe. Since many of the countries of Eastern Europe are without a historical tradition of elections, campaigning or freedom of the press, the creativity and emotion depicted in these recently acquired materials are very exciting. (Stanford's *Campus Report*, February 6, and *Hoover Institution Newsletter*, Winter 1991)

### **Hoover Institution Archives News**

Hoover Institution curators have travelled to the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe in recent months to document the democratization process in those countries, especially in the Institution's traditional collecting area, ephemeral materials such as posters, pamphlets, newsletters, and leaflets. To cite a few examples, we have received the obligatory souvenir chunks of the Berlin Wall, but in addition we have acquired a collection of records from the small East German town of Wolfen, including voter registration lists for 1989, lists of persons who failed to vote in the communal elections of 1984, 1986, and 1989 together with age, address, and reason for non-participation. We have received materials collected by Clint Smith, an American observer of the 1990 Romanian parliamentary and presidential elections. We have election materials for a number of other countries

as well as for the republics of the Soviet Union. The Archives now has a small collection of drawings by Czech school children, recording their impressions of democratization in their country. In addition to our collection efforts on these exciting and fast-moving recent events, we have continued to acquire materials on such topics as the Russian revolution and civil war, the effects of World War II on the countries of Eastern Europe, and emigré activities. (Carol Leadham, Hoover Institution Archives)

### **University of Illinois summer seminar**

Last summer Edward Kasinec, chief of the Slavic and Baltic Division, New York Public Library, coordinated a workshop on "Russian/Soviet and East European bookstudies and librarianship: towards a better definition of the literature and issues of an emerging disciplines", at the University of Illinois Summer Research Laboratory.

Seventeen participants from all over North America were in Urbana, Illinois from June 18-22 to hear about and discuss various issues facing Slavic librarians today. Speakers besides Kasinec included Robert H. Davis, New York Public Library; Irene Szweide, Szweide Slavic Books; Robert Burger, Marianna Tax Choldin, Larry Miller, Dmytro Shtohryn and Mary Stuart from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

The week was divided into two parts, with sessions being held twice daily. The first half was spent examining Soviet (primarily Russian with a session on Ukraine and Belorussia) libraries and book culture with a final talk on Eastern Europe. These discussions included historical perspectives as well as reviews of the contemporary situation. The second half dealt with specific problems of American libraries in dealing with these materials. These included issues of cataloging, preservation and conservation, evaluation and development of collections, reference services, questions of fund raising, interlibrary cooperation and resource sharing on local, national and international levels. (submitted by Sandra Levy, University of Chicago Library)

### **NYPL welcomes Czech writers**

Edward Kasinec, Chief of the Slavic & Baltic Division, in cooperation with the International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) invited fifty-one writers, scholars, and cultural representatives from Czechos-

lovakia to a reception March 21, 1990 in the Trustees Room at the New York Public Library. The United States was represented by academics from various American universities and by leaders of the main Czechoslovak societies in New York. The reception concluded the IREX/NYU Conference "Czech Literature and Culture from Fin de Siecle," held at New York University, March 17-21. Among the guests were Frantisek Starek, editor of the periodical *Vokno*; Karel Pecka, Milan Jungman, Eva Kantůrková, Ivo Klíma, Zdeněk Pešat and Jan Trefulka. Mr. Stárek and Mr. Pecka will be donating various materials to the library. (from Milada Klátíl's article in NYPL's *Public Service News*, vol.2/no.2, spring 1990)

### **NYPL hosts Bulgarian writer**

Bulgarian poetess Blaga Dimitrova gave a reading of her poetry April 4, 1990 in the Slavic & Baltic Division for some fifty guests. Translations were read by the poet Mr. Samuel Menashe. Miss Dimitrova is a very popular author in Bulgarian, as well as elsewhere in Europe. Her works, in addition to poetry, include novels, plays, and translations; many have been published in foreign languages. An English translation of her selection poems, *Because the Sea is Black*, was published by Wesleyan University Press in 1989. She is respected in Bulgaria for her struggle for human rights and freedom of speech, which have been suppressed for decades by the communist regime there. For the occasion, the Slavic & Baltic Division mounted an exhibit of rare Bulgarian books. Among the material on display was the most prized possession within this collection, *Kyriakodromion* by Sofronii Vrachanski, the first printed modern Bulgarian book, published in 1806 and acquired by the division in 1989. The division's collection numbers some 12,100 books and serial titles, as well as forty-five current periodicals and newspapers. It is one of the largest collections of Bulgaria in the United States. (from Rumiana Ivanov's article in NYPL's *Public Service News*, vol.2/no.2, spring 1990)

### **NYPL Newspaper project**

The New York Public Library's U.S. Newspaper Project, funding in part by the NEH, is collecting newspapers published in the U.S. from the 18th century to the present. Newspapers representing over 3,000 titles have been processed to date, including 110 Baltic and Slavic ethnic American newspapers. (*AAASS Newsletter*, Jan. 1991)

## In Memoriam

**Tim Hotimsky**, professor emeritus and a founding faculty member of the University of Western Ontario's School of Library and Information Science (SLIS), died of cancer April 28, 1990 in Paddington, Australia. Hotimsky was born in 1915 in Tomsk, Asiatic Russia, the son of an officer in the Russian Army. During the Russian Civil War, his father was taken prisoner by the Red Army and executed. His family then fled to China, where Hotimsky grew up and attended the St. Louis College in Tientsin, China. In 1939, he emigrated to Australia, and in 1961 he joined the Fisher Library of the University of Sydney as an assistant librarian in charge of acquisitions. Later he became research librarian at the Department of Russian Language and Literature at the Baillieu Library of the University of Melbourne, where he also taught courses in bibliography and reference work, as well as in Russian history. Hotimsky was later recruited as a lecturer, selection specialist and business officer when Andrew Osborn, first dean of SLIS, was authorized to set up the school at the University of Western Ontario. Hotimsky made extensive selection trips on four continents, and assembled both an excellent working collection, including manuscripts, incunabula and many other rare books that were landmarks in library, information science and bibliography. (from an announcement in a publication of the University of Western Ontario)

**Paula Scott**, Slavic Cataloger at the Hoover Institution Library, died of cancer May 29, 1990 in Palo Alto, California. Prior to her four years with the Hoover Institution, Ms. Scott was a librarian at California Polytechnic State University. She was born in Hays, Kansas and came to California with her family in 1950. She earned B.S. and M.S. degrees at UCLA, where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, and received a M.S. with honors in Russian language at Middlebury College in Vermont. She was an avid cyclist and environmentalist. (from the *Peninsula Times Tribune*, May 30, 1990)

## The Polish Studies Association

The Polish Studies Association, an affiliate of the AAASS, announces publication of a newsletter devoted to the sharing of information about current happenings in North American and European Polish studies. The PSA is soliciting information for inclusion in the newsletter; the

submission deadline for the October issue is September 1. Topics of interest to the editors include publication news, conferences, news of the profession, and news of graduate students working in the field. Send newsletter items to Wojciech Siemaszkiewicz at the Slavic & Baltic Division, New York Public Library, 5th Ave. and 42nd St., New York, NY 10018, or through BITNET/INTERNET to Stephen Corrsin at SDCBC@CUNYVM. Those interested in joining the Polish Studies Association should send \$10 dues for 1991 to the Polish Studies Association, Memorial Hall West 002, Bloomington, IN 47405. (from the Center for Slavic and East European Studies, University of California, Berkeley, *Update*, January/February 1991)

### **Tolstoy Conference**

The fourth joint U.S.-U.S.S.R. conference on "Tolstoy and the U.S.A." was held October 17-22 in New York and Washington D.C. It was chaired by Lydiia D. Gromova-Opulskaia, Senior Researcher of the Institute of World Literatures (IMLI) and Professor R.T. Whittaker, Lehman College, City University of New York. In his comments, Edward Kasinec, Chief of the Slavic & Baltic Division of the New York Public Library, noted that much of the archeographical work of the Tolstoy project was drawing to a close. He expressed his hope that the solid contacts established in the course of the this project with the scholars of the Gorkii Institute could be built upon to include other areas of research and scholarship, such as the Soviet-American cultural contacts from 1917-1941, and the complete histories of Imperial collections held at Harvard, the NYPL, and the Library of Congress. (E. Kasinec, R. Davis, NYPL)

### **United States Information Agency**

Stephen Grant from USIA reports that information about his organization can be found in the following two articles by Donald Hausrath, Chief, Library Programs Division:

- a) "United States Information Agency Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs: The Eastern European Challenge," in *The Bowker Annual: Library and Book Trade Almanac*, 35th edition, 1990-1991. New York: R.R. Bowker, 1990. Pp.118-128.
- b) "United States Information Agency International Library Activities," *Special Libraries*, Winter 1990, pp. 10-19.

## Wojciech Zalewski's Open letter to the Librarian of Congress

(The following letter has been submitted to the Editors with permission to publish it. The opinions expressed are those of the author.)

November 1, 1990

Dear Dr. Billington,

From the 1990 AAASS National Conference I brought back a few thoughts. Since most of them were prompted by the reports from the Library of Congress I would like to share them with you.

### 1. Ethnic materials.

We have been informed that the Library of Congress collects only two ethnic papers published in the United States in vernacular per ethnic group.

I would like to suggest that this press receives higher priority in LC collecting. Almost no institution collects it and yet generations of Americans are culturally and intellectually linked to this vehicle which forms their views and attitudes. It is part of our own history and culture. We are witnessing poverty among Slavic ethnic organizations and libraries; thus this responsibility cannot be left in their hands and longer. This is also in contrast with much more extensive collecting of foreign press including the "non official" publications.

### 2. "Non-official" publications from Eastern Europe

The non-official publications as well as a variety of regional newspapers and ephemera have attracted the attention of a few American libraries, including the Library of Congress. It seems that at this time the collecting efforts by those institutions are as comprehensive as possible. Quite soon we will have the need for bibliographic control and preservation which will draw our resources away from other projects. This will affect even libraries which do not collect these materials since they are competing for cataloging and preservation support.

Consequently, it seems that cooperation between libraries collecting these materials, including Soviet and East European libraries, should be established as soon as possible. (In Poland, e.g., plans are being made to develop programs for filming the Solidarity materials.) As an aside, I would like to indicate that during the conference, the intellectual quality of non-official publications, their permanent, historic value, and the bibliographic access to that information was not discussed. Such discussion could lead to a reasonable selectivity rather than "comprehensiveness" of approach to these materials.

### 3. Cataloging

All Slavic university collections have significant cataloging backlogs. The backlogs are partially due to the Library of Congress classification and cataloging principles. These principles were set a hundred years ago (minimally modified) when the number of publications issued was much smaller and foreign materials were almost not collected. Today this practice is very costly. Is this expense worthy? In an era of electronic bibliography, browsing in academic collections, which classification facilitates, is less important. Other factors such as the nature of the classification itself, the growth of interdisciplinary studies, publishing in a variety of formats, reformatting (microfilming, but not only), and progressively more frequent use of remote storage renders browsing impossible. I think the time has come to take some innovative approach to the organization of our collections, which, e.g., would enhance electronic access at the expense of browsability. Perhaps the Library of Congress could lead the way.

### 4. Preservation

Major preservation projects conducted by libraries are usually grant driven. In the Russian/Slavic field, however, the largest amount of materials has been filmed, thus preserved, commercially by IDC, UMI, Readex, and others. It seems, therefore, that commercial firms have a role to play in preservation. They can play such a role only if libraries can acquire their products. Unfortunately, library resources are frequently insufficient to acquire major collections in microforms. Therefore, it should be possible to obtain acquisition grants for microforms planned commercially as part of the "preservation concept". Such funds would prompt production of microforms, thus preservation. Especially projects undertaken abroad enrich our holdings as well as serve as preservation of those items, including scattered

issues of serials, which are already held in our libraries. The benefit of such a sponsorship seems to overrule the main objection to it, namely that projects sponsored by grants must leave the microfilm master in public domain. Other arguments in favor of support for acquisitions are obvious. Such grants were prolific in the 1960s and 1970s and perhaps it would be worthwhile to revive them in the context of preservation and achieve both objectives at once.

Sincerely yours,

Wojciech Zalewski, Curator for Slavic and East European Collections  
Stanford University Libraries

cc: Dr. D. Atkinson, AAASS  
H. Olmsted, B&D Committee AAASS  
SEES Newsletter  
E. Keenan, BIRD

**"The Higher Education Act's Title II-C Entitlement Program"**  
(from the Roundtable on Federal Support, AAASS 1990)

*Robert H. Davis, NYPL*

Of the various governmental entitlement programs assisting American libraries, those falling under the rubric of the Higher Education Act of 1965 have exerted the single greatest impact. This is a complex, multifaceted program. My remarks this afternoon are based on several sources: first, my own involvement in two separate Title II-C projects at the New York Public Library; second, a review of the most pertinent literature and documentation; and finally, an interview conducted with program officers on the Department of Education's Library Development Staff. Let us now turn to the most *apropos* of the HEA programs for this audience, namely, Title II-C.

The origins of the Title II-C program as we know it today, date back to the Congressional Education Amendments of 1976, when the goals and administration of the existing Title II-C program were significantly redefined. (Under the original Higher Education Act of 1965, the Title II-C program was intended for the support of centralized cataloging and acquisitions, and was administered by the Library of Congress). This 1976 restructuring yielded a new Title II-C program, autonomous from the Library of Congress. This change was

motivated by expediency. The mid-1970s were a time of high inflation and general fiscal hardship. Simultaneously, new access technologies were emerging, a global publishing boom had begun, and the acid paper problem worsened with each passing year. The 1976 Amendment states that these factors were "straining the capabilities of cooperative action and are beyond the financial competence of individual or collective library budgets." It was felt that direct Federal assistance to collections of *national* prominence was badly needed to advance the use of computerized bibliographic networking, and the development of resource-sharing initiatives.

Since the 1976 expansion of the program, Title II-C has awarded more than \$70 million to libraries. In Fiscal Year 1989, the Department of Education received 84 applications requesting a total of \$14.5 million. From an appropriation of \$5,675,000, 32 awards were made--about average for the program. The Fiscal Year 1990 budget for the Strengthening Libraries program is \$5,732,000, and this year's grantees, although already selected, have not yet been announced.

What kinds of projects are supported? The subject matter is quite heterogeneous. In FY 1989, you have support for everything from the indexing of Jesuit manuscripts to the cataloging of pharmaco-history. The granting agency has *no* set priorities for the II-C program, and has resisted past suggestions that the Department establish such a priority ranking on a yearly basis. They trust in the library field to set its *own* priorities--whether bibliographic control, collection development, or preservation and physical conservation. Certainly the most popular activity has been cataloging. Yet in recent years, the majority of projects have been preservation-oriented, with some kind of an online cataloging component. Activities such as the renovation of facilities and major equipment purchases, are *not* supported. They do allow inclusion of equipment if a compelling case can be made, and the grantee is willing to cost-share a portion of such a purchase. In my own experience, specially designed folio storage cabinets were purchased as part of a II-C grant. I should also note that unless a particularly compelling case can be made, there is a bit of a bias against collection development as well.

Regarding our own field, the list of grants distributed to you indicates past and present trends in project orientations. Initially, Russian/Soviet and East European materials were merely "tacked on" to larger

omnibus projects involving a mix of materials, media, and languages. My favorite is Rutgers' project to simultaneously acquire jazz recordings, enhance and catalog the Ginzburg Soviet Legal collection (now at Rutgers' Camden campus), computerize an Archive of Alcohol Literature, and preserve and reorganize a WPA imprints inventory. For Slavic collections during these early years, the emphasis was on bibliographic control, and, judging from the abstracts, primarily of more contemporary materials. The trend towards the preservation and cataloging of retrospective Slavic and East European materials began in 1980, when Harvard College included Slavica in an omnibus project. The first stand-alone grants for Slavic library collections began only in 1982, with Berkeley's project to microfilm, enhance, and catalog Bay Area collections of Russian Americana, Czech and Slovak serials, and the Masaryk and Beneš collections.

Since 1982, there have been a number of projects dealing with important segments of the collections of various major institutions: the poster collection at Hoover, the old Church Slavonic manuscripts on microfilm at Ohio State, and the Russian periodical collections of the NYPL, among others. Appendix V [not included - ed.] is a partial, in-process checklist of works relating to Title II-C funded projects in the Slavic and East European area.

I want to turn now to the practical side of the application process, and the formulation of the grant itself. As with any Federal Government form, the paperwork required by the Title II-C program must be read with the utmost care--once you get to the proper sections of the form, the instructions are fairly straightforward--but getting there is a bit confusing. First of all, the basic form that you need is entitled "Application for Grants Under Strengthening Research Library Resources Program". There are two particularly critical sections. The first of these is the Application Instructions and Forms, which describes in brief what the physical proposal should include, and how this information should be arranged in three parts. Part I is a one-page Federal Assistance Face Sheet; Part II is a summary budget, which is also a pre-printed form; and Part III is the heart of the proposal, the narrative.

The narrative itself is divided into two parts, and I would call your attention to the information on the cover of the application regarding closing dates. This year, for the first time, there are *two* dates. The

first--October 29, 1990--calls for the submission of Parts I and II; the second date--December 3, 1990--only Part II. What does this mean?

The Part I referred to on the cover of the form corresponds to the section numbered 778.21, beginning at the bottom of page E4 of the application booklet. This section of the *Federal Register* lists the criteria upon which the Department bases its judgement of the qualities of your home institution that would identify it as a major research library. Part I of the narrative does not refer to your particular project or the collections it involves, except as they fit into the overall context of the entire library, and the resources in your geographical area or region as a whole. In the past, every Title II-C grant submitted by an institution had to include responses to each of the points listed in 778.21. This year, however, "institutions which have already been designated by the Department of Education as a major research library within the previous four fiscal years, need not submit Part I of the narrative again" until the expiration of that time period. A list of institutions granted this status is contained in the application packet.

For those of you from institutions which have NOT yet been established as constituting a major research library--and large institutions such as Princeton and the University of Pennsylvania are among them--let me just touch on some the points that must be responded to. In a nutshell, Part I of the narrative asks for proof that yours is indeed a major research library of national or international standing, and the section provides specific guidelines for what information should be included. Two crucial areas in this section are ILL statistics, and evidence of active participation in cooperative agreements--both of which crop up in two separate groups of questions--as these both indicate the degree of "uniqueness" of the library's overall collection. In my interview with a program officer at the Department of Education, the importance of leaving no stone unturned to present the most impressive picture of your library possible was emphasized. For example, if your institution has multiple campuses with satellite libraries, their statistics should be incorporated as well.

Smaller institutions are at an immediate disadvantage. You may have one of the most noteworthy collections of Slavic materials in the nation, but when the overall picture of your library is contrasted with that of an American mega-university, or a broadly based historical

society with much rare and unique material in demand by a wide-range of clienteles, your chances of achieving the 65 points required for consideration of Part II of the narrative are *very* slim.

However, since there are many Congressmen from states which possess neither great research collections, nor even a significant regional resource base, by 1986 the pressure to find some way of opening up the competition resulted in some amendments to the authorization. Smaller institutions and their supporters in Congress instigated PL 99-498 which opened the door--albeit just a crack--to smaller institutions. This Amendment provides for an "appeals process" of sorts, in which an institution turned down because of a weak showing on Part I of the narrative, can submit any additional information or documentation as to why the particular project seeking support in Part II of the narrative should be given special consideration on the basis of its demonstrated national or international significance for scholarly research. In addition, as part of the 1980 reauthorization of Title II-C, the principle of a "broad and equitable geographic distribution of grants throughout the nation" was affirmed, which is certainly a plus for institutions applying from states other than those such as New York, Massachusetts, and California which inundate the Department of Education with applications. To their credit, the Department has done an excellent job of supporting worthwhile projects across the country. As of this year, only eight states have yet to receive library funding under the Title II-C program.

Nevertheless, the bulk of funding still goes to major research libraries. In practice, few appealed applications prove compelling enough for approval. If you realize that your institution is not likely to make the grade on Part I, then the most useful option is the pursuit of a cooperative grant with another institution or consortium which does have the infrastructure and usership to satisfy the criteria of Part I. In this regard, I call your attention to the back of each of the annual blue-bound abstracts of supported projects, which break down into a separate list those which were cooperative projects. The fact that they break this information out is, I think, significant--a tacit encouragement of such activity--and mirrors the current trend towards large multi-year omnibus grants via the NEH program. To my mind, this is the *best* solution to the "great collection but minor institution" dilemma, but one that requires intensive networking, legwork, diplomacy, and a suppression of curatorial egos to succeed.

Part II of the narrative--that is, part II of part III of the application--appears as section 788.22 on page E4 of the *Federal Register*, under the general heading "What criteria does the secretary use to evaluate the quality of a project?" This is obviously where you spell out *what* you want to do, *why* it should be done, and *how* you intend to do it. As you can see, there are eight lettered groups of questions, each weighted differently, adding up to a total of 100 points. There are three outside readers per proposal, and they try to reach a consensus on your proposal during face-to-face meetings in Washington. The most critical thing to remember when writing the narrative is the need to formulate a clear description of what it is the project intends to accomplish at the outset, and then use the rest of the narrative to flesh out this framework wherever appropriate.

The sections which are most heavily weighted concern the *significance* of the project--why it should be funded, and how the specific component of the collection affected by the project compares with other national collections. Thus, in preparation for drafting the Slavic & Baltic Division's "Russian Illustrated Books and Photographs" project proposal, we secured *pro bono* the services of an expert on the history of photography. He examined and evaluated fully 75% of the photographic collection, and provided perspectives on its uniqueness and importance in a national and an international context.

Another series of questions concerns the quality and qualifications of key personnel, such as the project director. According to the staff member I interviewed at the Department of Education, this section is *very* important--far more so than its point value would indicate. Look carefully to see that there is sufficient staffing to accomplish project goals, and for continued maintenance of the collection after its conclusion. A full description of personnel qualifications should be included.

The budget should be formulated with an eye towards the maximization of dollars spent--that is, try to draw up a proposal that gets the most for the least, and yet is reasonable given your objectives. Keep in mind too that it does not hurt to ask for funding in areas that you consider pertinent and important--there is no "top" figure. Once your project has been given provisional approval, there is a telephone negotiation between the designated project director, the library administration, and the Department of Education, in which

reviewer and Department of Education questions concerning specific sections of the proposal are asked. At this time, any items in the budget needing clarification or more justification are discussed.

Finally, Part II of the narrative includes a series of questions concerning institutional commitment; that is, evidence that your home institution has the means and the desire to build upon the work of the project in the future. In formulating this part of the narrative, think about ways the library has contributed to the support of the collections in the past, in any form: enhanced collection development, addition of staff positions, relevant equipment purchases, etc.; and secure a formal expression of intent regarding current and future support, especially one which pledges institutional assistance *regardless* of whether or not Title II-C comes through with funding.

Linda Loeb of the Department of Education's Library Programs division has authored a very helpful short paper entitled "Preparing a Competitive Application for Federal Discretionary Library Grant Funds", which has been submitted to *Library Journal* for publication. Her paper provides a number of important general suggestions for Title II grant preparation, among which are: the importance of answering *each* question as posed in the *Federal Register*, even if this means repeating a certain amount of information, backing up your assertions with statistics, tables, studies, letters of support--in short, anything which demonstrates uniqueness. Clear and terse prose is important, but do not neglect to inject a bit of passion into the narrative. The narrative has to be interesting to read, be well-written, and evenly paced. Ms. Loeb uses the word "character," and the phrase "depth of feeling" to describe qualities looked for by reviewers in the narrative. Since the Department of Education has to regularly justify the need for each of its programs, published expressions of project achievements are looked upon favorably. Ms. Loeb suggests that the narrative include a concrete statement as to your intentions to publicize the work of the project.

In closing, I should note that all of the library programs authorized by the Higher Education Act of 1965 are up for reauthorization in 1991. The Secretary of Education has enjoined us to reflect upon the following questions: "Is there a need for Federal support of college and university libraries? If a need exists, how should a Federal program or programs be structured to disburse Federal funds to address those needs?" (this appeared in the *Federal Register*, 54(187)

Thursday, Sept. 28, 1989). Over the past decade, in which the financial needs of higher educational institutions have expanded dramatically, the annual appropriations for the various titles of HEA have remained essentially static. In the case of Title II-C, since 1978, appropriations have never exceeded \$6 million per fiscal year. If the current budget fiasco leads to sequestration, some \$46 million of the Department's \$142 million budget would be lopped off. I think that every person in this room believes very strongly that these programs should be continued and even expanded, as the library budgets of major public and private institutions across the country face significant cutbacks. It is therefore *vitaly* important that librarians in our field, in every field, write to the Secretary of Education, and to our representatives in Congress, with expressions of support for these programs. Considering the substantial assistance afforded Slavic and East European collections by the Title II-C program, we are obligated to do all we can to assure its continuation and expansion.

## NEWS FROM ABROAD

### Books for Poland

Materials can still be sent to:

Scholars in Solidarity with Poland:

St. Lawrence University  
 Department of History  
 Canton, NY 14617  
 FAX: (315) 379-5803  
 Contact: William Hunt

Badly needed: volumes of journals, university press books, and office supplies. The organizers of the drive would prefer receiving lists of potential donations in advance, and ask the donors to pay costs of shipment to New York. Transportation overseas will be arranged by the group. (from *American Libraries*, July/Aug 1990, p.690)

### "Crises of Research Libraries in Poland and the Impact on North American Collections"

The main problems confronting research libraries in Poland today are as follows: general capital under-investment, budget shortages, different levels of quality among professional and para-professional

staff, which are related to the specific organization of librarianship in Poland; the lack of modern technology to conserve and preserve library materials; the lack of computer technology; and finally, the lack of foreign currencies to buy library materials. The problems facing the administrations of Polish research libraries will not improve in the course of the next few years, but rather will deteriorate along with a declining economy. The state, which is the primary source for financing library budgets, will be forced to cut its spending in this area due to the general budget deficit, and enormous international debt. Paradoxically, this comes together with the independence and self-reliance that have been granted to institutions of higher education in Poland in recent months.

There are various problems that have a direct impact on the North American Slavic Collections that maintain large Polish collections; however, I would like to emphasize the most important ones. The problems could be formulated as follows:

1. An immediate need to preserve and physically conserve rare Polish materials published before 1800;
2. A comprehensive approach to preserve, mainly on microfilm, Polish pre-1939 imprints in all Slavic collections as is done with comparable Russian and Soviet holdings in North American libraries.
3. A coordinated effort to preserve, and provide bibliographic control for post-1939 materials that are vital to Polish culture and history.

An overall emphasis on the preservation efforts in respect to Polish collections, is based upon the poor technical abilities of Polish research libraries. Microfilming equipment in Polish libraries is usually antiquated, or beyond repair. The lack of spare parts and important components of the microfilming process is evident everywhere in Poland. However, it has to be noted that the preservation activity - mainly microfilming - undertaken by the National Library, has yielded a complete microfilm set of Polish periodicals published up to 1939. This could not be verified. It is interesting to note that microfilms might exist for periodicals that are in a deteriorated condition in our collections. The Warsaw University Library has microfilmed many of its periodicals as well.

In conclusion, I would emphasize that there is an enormous task before all of us working with Polish collections in North America. We are faced with the preservation or conservation problems of our own collections. In this process, we should reach out to already existing resources in Poland and elsewhere in Eastern Europe as well as in the Soviet Union, and combine and coordinate our efforts with those of Polish libraries. The difficulty of our task becomes even greater as the Polish economy deteriorates and the situation of the Polish research libraries will become even more tragic. It is certainly not the first time in American history that the American nation has had to preserve a national heritage of other nation, since the latter is incapable of doing so by its own means. It is not the first time either, that the limited funds needed to finance future projects in Poland will become almost impossible to come by. (Wojciech Siemaszkiewicz, NYPL, abstract from panel on Polish Collections, AAASS 1990)

### **Gorky Institute and Norman Ross Sign Accord**

Professor Felix F. Kuznetsov, Director of the A.M. Gorky Institute of World Literature of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, and Norman A. Ross, President of Norman Ross Publishing, 330 W. 58th St., New York, NY 10019, have announced a joint venture to produce microfilm and microfiche collections in the Soviet Union. The Gorky Institute is one of the preeminent research institutions in the USSR. Norman Ross is a publisher of research and reference materials on microfilm and microfiche as well as in book form.

Under the accord, Norman Ross Publishing and the Gorky Institute will jointly establish a microfilming facility at the Institute in Moscow. The Institute will create microfilm and microfiche masters from its own collections and from the collections of other major libraries, archives and manuscript repositories in the USSR. Norman Ross will publish these microforms in New York and will be responsible for worldwide distribution.

The microfilm facility will also operate as a commercial service bureau and will undertake filming projects on a fee basis, primarily for nonprofit institutions in North America and Western Europe. Training of technicians is being provided, in part, by Micor, a Philadelphia-based service bureau, and by a Polish microfilming company that is also providing technical support.

The parties will also publish a series of bibliographies and reference books in hardcover as well as in machine-readable formats, either as floppy diskettes or CD-ROMs. Advisors include Mr. Edward Kasinec, Head of the Slavic & Baltic Division of the New York Public Library; Dr. Wesley A. Fisher, Assistant Director of the International Research & Exchanges Board (IREX); and Professor Robert T. Whitaker of Lehman College of the City University of New York.

The project has the cooperation and support of the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) and the BIRD Committee (the Subcommittee on Bibliography, Information Retrieval and Documentation of the Joint Committees on Eastern Europe and Soviet Studies of the ACLS and the Social Science Research Council). (From an announcement distributed at AAASS, October 1990)

#### **IV World Congress for Soviet and East European Studies, Harrogate, England - July 1990**

##### **Panels Concerning Librarianship**

###### *The Promotion of Slavic Culture in the West*

Chair: Wojciech Zalewski, Stanford University

Participants: Eugene Beshenkovsky, Columbia U., "Vasilii Petrovich Sidoratskii, an emigré publisher in Paris, 1882-1983"; Serge Aslanoff, IMSECO, Paris, "Publishing Slavica in France"; Anna Rachwald, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C., "Efforts of the American Art Commission to recover Polish printed materials and art objects taken by Nazi Germany during World War II from Poland"

Discussant: Horst von Chmielewski, U. of Marburg, FRG

Attached Paper: "Bibliotekarische Aspekte im Gelehrtenbrief H.F. Schmid und F. Ramovš" by Horst Röhling, Ruhr U. Bochum, FRG

###### *Publishing Slavica in the West and Siberia*

Chair: Richard Davies, Leeds Russian Archive

Participants: Susan Cook Summer, Columbia U., "The Petropolis Publishing House and A.S. Kagan"; Ivan Martynov, "Problemy formirovaniia knizhnogo repertuara ruskoiazыchnykh izdatel'stv v tsentrakh sosredotocheniia emigrantov "tret'ia volny" iz SSSR. Na primere Izrailia"; Ben Hellman, U. of Helsinki, "The History of Publishing Slavica in Finland, 1813-

1972"

Discussant: M. McLaren Turner, British Library

Attached Paper: "Russian Publishing in Siberia and the Far East in the late Imperial Period" by Patrica Polansky, U. of Hawaii

*The Provenance of East Slavic Early Printed Books in Soviet and Western Library Collections*

Chair: Christine Thomas, British Library

Participants: Iraida Tarnawecky, U. of Manitoba, "Researching Canadian Collections of East Slavic Early Printed Cyrillica: Problems and Challenges"; Iaroslav Isaevych, Inst. of Social Sciences, Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, "Ukrainian Early Printed Books at Home and Abroad: Collections and Collectioneering"; Irena Pozdeeva, Moscow State U., "Istoricheskoe bytovania izdaniia Moskovskogo pechatnogo dvora pervoi poloviny XVII v."

Discussant: Edward Kasinec, New York Public Library

Attached Paper: "Libraries of the Winter Palace, 18th-20th centuries" by Valentina Fedorova, Hermitage, Leningrad, USSR

*Russkaia Pechat' v Kitae*

Chair: Rosemary Qusted, UK

Participants: Olga Bakich, U. of Toronto, "The City of Harbin"; Patricia Polansky, U. of Hawaii, "The City of Shanghai"; R. Edward Glatfelter, Utah State U., "The City of Tianjin"

Discussants: V.S. Miasnikov, IDV, Moscow; Andre Savine, Le Bibliophile Russe, Paris

*The Printed Media under Gorbachev*

Chair: Maurice Friedberg, U. of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Participants: Gregory Walker, Bodleian Library, Oxford, "Recent Developments in the Organization and Planning of Soviet Publishing"; Marianna Tax Choldin, U. of Illinois, Urbana, "Recent Developments in the Treatment of Foreign Publications"; Nikolai Dejevsky, American Book Center, Moscow, "The Experience of the American Book Center in Moscow"

Discussant: Aleksandr Suetnov, *Nezavisimyi bibliograf*, MoscowAttached Paper: Viktor Gulchinskii, *Sovetskaia bibliografiia*, Moscow*East European Current Publishing: Official and Unofficial*

Chair: John Horton, U. of Bradford, UK

*Association of College and Research Libraries*

Participants: Hanna Swiderska and Janet Zmroczek, British Library, "The Situation in Poland"; Zuzana Nagy, Harvard U., "Official and Unofficial Publishing in Czechoslovakia"; Sava Peic, British Library, "The Situation in Yugoslavia"

Discussant: Wojciech Zalewski, Stanford U.

### **Report on the Third International Slavic Librarians Conference, July 18-26, 1990**

July 1990 marked the occasion of the third International Slavic Librarians Conference. The five yearly meeting was hosted this summer by the English librarians at Churchill College, Cambridge, July 18-21 and at Harrogate, July 22-26 in conjunction with the fourth World Congress for Soviet and East European Studies. The following report will outline some of the highlights of the conference.

Sessions at Cambridge were generally taken up with practical concerns and the exchange of information on selection problems and tools, book exchange activities, automation, interlibrary loan, collection development, and conservation. Some sessions at Harrogate amplified these concerns while others reflected scholarly and historical treatment of book studies. The over one hundred participants included librarians and information specialists from the U.K., North America, France, Germany, Denmark, Finland, the Netherlands, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Russia, Ukraine, Yugoslavia, Australia and Japan. Book and microform dealers from Les Livres Étrangers, Kubon & Sagner, IDC and others were also present.

#### **The Soviet Publishing Scene**

The acquisition of materials from the Eastern European lands has always been a challenge. However, the situation which has been developing over the past several years has created new uncertainties for the Slavic bibliographer. New types of publications, differing from the previously predictable, heavily censored and planned output of publishers have emerged. Cooperative publishing houses are producing monographs and a plethora of new serial titles which are generally not advertised in the usual selection tools. Some authors are finding that self-publishing in conjunction with an established publishing house an attractive option. Independent publishing, also referred to as Samizdat or parallel publishing continues to flourish outside a weakened Glavlit - the state censorship organ.

Greater chaos on the Soviet publishing scene is expected with the implementation of the new Law on the Press and Media which was adopted in June 1990. Clauses of the law forbid censorship, provide for freedom of information and give any organization or individual the right to engage in publishing activities provided that they register annually with the appropriate authorities. At a panel in Harrogate on "The Printed Media Under Gorbachev", Aleksandr Suetnov (an "independent" bibliographer from Moscow) reported that many independent publishers who refuse to register will continue to publish outside official channels, considering that the registration practice could be used to exercise some sort of control and by extension, censorship over publishers.

To cope with this situation, the Library of Congress has found it necessary to open a Moscow office to collect these elusive materials. The British Library (B.L.) has signed a contract with the *Nezavisimaia obshchestvennaia biblioteka* (the Independent Public Library) in Moscow to provide the B.L. with a "wide and representative range of Soviet informal publications." This "fugitive" library was founded in 1988 through the cooperation of the publishers of *Ekspress-Khronika*, *Glasnost*, *Vybor* and other independent journals. Its goal is to collect and preserve uncensored manuscripts and books excluded from the state libraries and to make these materials available to the general reader. Mr. Suetnov, one of the library's activists, has recently published an invaluable bibliography of independent periodical literature covering the period 1986-1989. He is also the editor of the library's own journal *Nezavisimyi bibliograf*.

Meanwhile the question in the minds of librarians outside of the Soviet Union remains as to how they will be able to keep up with the new publications as the official apparatus continues to break down.

#### Information Session on Book Exchanges

This session at Cambridge consisted of reports by librarians from East and West on their book exchange programs. It is interesting to note that while U.S. libraries maintain dozens of exchanges with Russian partners, Canadian libraries have none, except with Ukraine. The reasons are unclear. Canadian academic libraries do maintain a limited number of exchanges with other East European libraries.

In general, although western libraries are finding exchanges increasingly difficult to manage in view of the increased cost of Soviet books and disagreements over the exchange rate to be used, they continue to find them a valuable source of official publications not advertised in the usual selection tools or otherwise unavailable (microforms, low tirazh, and o.p. materials). Independent publications remain outside the scope of what is possible to obtain on exchange. Barter arrangements or one time exchanges have become more common as have book buying trips.

The second half of the session was devoted to questions and discussion. It began with a spirited challenge from Nadia Zilper of the University of North Carolina to the Soviets on the subject of fixing values for certain materials. In some cases the value may be set at two to four times the price indicated on the cover. This struck a chord with Western librarians, who are facing shrinking or stable budgets in the face of steeply rising costs. In return some Soviet librarians responded that they are not in control of the values that are set. Others however said that it depended on the institution involved and the history of the exchange. East European libraries in countries such as Poland are facing impossibly high book prices making it very difficult to supply their partners with titles at a reasonable rate.

Ulla Hojsgaard (Danish Institute for International Exchange of Publications) reported on a trip she had taken to Romania in March 1990 with Dan Shafran of the Royal Library in Stockholm. The purpose of this visit was to determine how best Romanian libraries could be served by the international community since the cataclysmic events of December 1989 which witnessed the burning of the University library in Bucharest. This library, while originally rather small, was the repository for all manuscripts of Romanian authors. Among those lost were the manuscripts of Eminescu. Such treasures are irreplaceable.

The Scandinavian delegation visited a wide range of libraries and came to the conclusion that they had been rather poorly off before 1989. Aid to Romanian libraries should not consist of haphazard or indiscriminate gifts of books but should comprise a coordinated and rationalised programme under the auspices of an international body such as I.F.L.A. More details can be found in "Assistance to Romanian Libraries; results from a Danish-Swedish visit to Bucharest, March 11-18 1990."

Other sessions at Cambridge included reports on automation (electronic mail, trend to use bibliographic utilities as verification tools, selective uploading of cataloguing records into the national databases, such as OCLC, CD-ROM as a preservation format). Harold Leich (Library of Congress) reported that LC will start deriving other libraries cataloguing records. This seems to be a sign that LC is letting go of its position of supreme arbiter in cataloguing matters.

### Preservation Problems

Dr. F.W. Ratcliffe, Librarian of Cambridge University, spoke at length about the work of the UK National Preservation Office and on the history of preservation/conservation policy in Britain.

### Collection Development

This panel was devoted to discussion of collection evaluation methodology. Specifically, Tania Konn (Glasgow University Library) reported on the negative experience of British libraries with the RLG conspectus as adapted for the U.K. Besides citing problems with the way in which the survey has been carried out, she said she thought that the technique was inappropriate for social science materials and criticised the validity of the verification lists. While participating U.K. libraries did gain a certain amount of self knowledge, there were doubts as to the value of the overall conspectus results.

Barbara Galik (Miami University, Oxford, Ohio) on the other hand, made a positive report on the U.S. experience with the conspectus. The U.S. conspectus data is mounted on RLIN. Some American members of the audience disagreed with her optimistic report and wondered if the greatest benefit of the conspectus methodology wasn't its role in reassuring the administration that librarians have things under control.

Dr. Horst von Chmielewski (Marburg) discussed the Fabian methodology developed in Germany. It is particularly suitable for closed stack libraries where the collection is arranged chronologically in order of accession. An upcoming handbook on German libraries will reflect the results of evaluations done by this method.

Among the panels given at Harrogate, special mention should be made

of "Glasnost on the Soviet Archival Scene" at which Patricia Grimsted reported on the new Law on Archives and the ongoing challenges to the state organ controlling archives (Glavarkhiv) from a group at Moscow University. In view of the fact that access to CPSU files among other things is excluded from the new law, an alternative version of the law has been published by its critics. While the new law gives scholars greater access to local finding aids, photocopying machines, etc., in practice Soviet archives are not prepared to deal with the increased demand. The manuscript division at the Lenin Library in particular shows no signs of benefiting from glasnost or perestroika. In fact a Canadian professor, who recently returned from an exchange trip to the Soviet Union, reported that her trip was mainly wasted because she could not get access to most of the fonds she requested in the Lenin Library, despite the fact that her requests had all been approved months in advance. Labour unrest and administrative disorganisation are problems. The Lenin Library remains without a director.

Professor Pavlo Sokhan (Archaeographical Commission of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences) reported that Ukrainian archivists and archaeographers are benefiting enormously from the knowledge and traditions of emigrés in Canada and the United States and cited in particular work done by Bohdan Krawchenko at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies and others at the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute.

A member of the audience from the Obshchestvo svobodnykh istorikov i arkhivistov (The Society of Free Historians and Archivists) in Leningrad raised the issue of the relationship between glasnost and freedom of speech and information. He went on to mention the work of the Narodnyi arkhiv (The Peoples' Archive) in collecting and preserving the records of splinter parties and social groups, etc. There is a vast amount of material to be preserved. This organization is too small and there are problems concerning the choice of materials to be kept.

The panel entitled "Databases as Non-Print Resources for Slavic Studies", although somewhat short of its planned speakers, nevertheless provided an interesting opportunity to hear from English, German, and American speakers. Sarah Helmstadter gave an overview of SOVSET. Frank-Michael Bahr, a German consultant, spoke about his experience accessing Soviet databases online on a commercial

basis and discussed the quickly changing situation in computer networking and telecommunications. The panel's discussant, Hugh Jenkins, provided the audience with the British outlook.

There were also sessions on publishing history and the current situation in various countries of Eastern and Central Europe, censorship, the provenance of East Slavic early printed books in Soviet and Western libraries, old Russian maps and other topics.

In these times of change, it is important for Slavic bibliographers to keep in contact with each other and share information on the evolving conditions which affect our work. (Helen Anderson, Slavic Bibliographer, McGill University)

### **1991 IFLA to be held in Moscow**

The 57th Council and General Conference of IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations) will be held August 18-24 in Moscow. The conference theme is "Libraries and culture: their relationship". Many social and cultural activities are planned. For a copy of the program of IFLA-91, write to: IFLA-91, Norman Ross Publishing Inc., 330 W. 58th St., New York, N.Y. 10019 (See next newsletter for more information.)

### **Library of Congress Moscow Office**

The Library of Congress reports that its office in Moscow, set up last February, is running well, and allowing them to acquire many materials not easily available through standard vendors. The office is run by Michael Levner, who visits the Library of Congress once a year. (information from David Kraus, LC)

### **Success of Books for Romania Program**

The "Books for Romania" program, under the leadership of volunteers Opritsa Popa, Doina Frakas, and Sandra Lamprecht, has concluded with a donation total of 240,000 books and journals sent to Bucharest, for an estimated value in excess of \$4 million. O. Popa attributes much of the success to extensive media coverage and a grant from the U.S. Information Agency, which covered transportation expenses from New York to Constanta, Romania. The drive began last February, launched by the ALA Disaster Relief Committee, chaired

by Lucille Thomas, after the Central University Library in Bucharest was destroyed during the "Christmas Revolution". (from *American Libraries*, Jan. 1991, p. 106)

### **Standing Conference of National and University Libraries- Advisory Committee on Slavonic and East European Materials News**

The 1991 ACOSEEM Annual Conference will be held at Glasgow University on September 26-27. The organizer for the conference will be Ms. Tania Konn.

The British Library Document Supply Center initiated a survey of duplicate periodical stock and determined that about 100 crates of material that was likely to be pulped was of sufficiently high quality to be of use to the the Central University Library of Romania. A decision to offer these duplicates was made by Dr. David Wood, Deputy Director of the DSC, following the appeal by Dr. Ion Stoica for assistance.

Recent publications: a) *Czechoslovak samizdat: a catalogue of British Library holdings*, compiled by Peter Hellyer and Devana Pavlik, London: BL SEEC, 1990, is now available at £2.50 from the Slavonic and East European Collections, British Library, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3DG; b) *USSR business information*, by Tania Konn, has just been published by Headland Press as its Business research guide no. 7.

John Freeman is resigning from the editorship of the SCNONL Newsletter after five years of service. His successor will be Ms. Ursula Phillips who may be contacted at the Library, School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University of London, Senate House, London WC1E 7HU. (excerpted from the SCNONL-ACOSEEM Newsletter, Summer 1990)

### **University of Toronto exhibit**

An exhibit honoring Polish-Jewish history and culture was held at the Robarts Library, University of Toronto, from May 3-31, 1990. The exhibit featured books, mainly from the extensive collection of Polish Judaica at the library, and also included etchings, photographs, posters, stamps, coins, and religious and secular artifacts made in Poland. This

was sponsored by the University of Toronto Library, the Polish-Jewish Heritage Foundation of Canada, and the Public and Community Relations of the University of Toronto. A bibliography of the exhibition is available from Mary Stevens, Slavic and East European Book Selector at the University of Toronto Library.

### **Les Livres Étrangers**

Librarians and scholars around the world have been distressed to hear of the closing of Les Livres Étrangers in Paris on February 25. Delivery problems were the source of their difficulties. We appreciate the outstanding service the company has provided over the last 70 years, and hope that they will be able to resume business in the near future.

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## ***IV. Grants***

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### **NYPL II-C Grant**

Benjamin Goldsmith spoke briefly about the "Russian Illustrated Books and Photographs" project currently underway at the New York Public Library at a recent AAASS B&D Committee meeting. Work on this project, funded by a Title II-C grant from the Department of Education, is nearing completion. Illustrated and photographic materials in Russian, mainly from the 19th century and revolutionary/early Soviet periods, are being listed in a descriptive index, microfilmed, made more easily accessible, and given physical conservation treatment. Many of the items involved are rare or even unique, have artifactual as well as artistic value for researchers, and have already drawn the attention of scholars, publishers, artists, and various other specialists.

### **NYPL's "Early Soviet Periodicals Project"**

The NEH funded "Early Soviet Periodicals Project" is still ongoing in

the Slavic & Baltic Division of the New York Public Library. The major aspects of this project are preservation, conservation, acquisition, and cataloging.

**Preservation:** Virtually every title that was ascertained to be unavailable in microformat, either commercially or institutionally, has now been preserved. An archival master negative, as well as a positive service copy, were created for each title. The Slavic & Baltic Division is currently preserving official governmental titles classed in the extensive \*QB (Union Republics) and \*QB (Russian Republic) sections. This component of the collection includes many badly deteriorated publications which, in a number of cases, are irreplaceable, both because of their physical bulk (and hence, great cost), and because of their politically sensitive nature. Few other institutions have as extensive a collection as the Division.

**Conservation:** Conservation work is painstaking, labor-intensive work, and thus the Division is still awaiting the return of rare materials requiring more extensive conservation treatment sent to the Conservation Center of Art and Historic Artifacts (CCAHA), in Philadelphia. In-house work is still being completed on the disbinding, deacidification, encapsulation, and postbinding of several artifactually important periodical titles. Some loose leaves of important illustrative and photographic periodicals were added to other material awaiting processing. For example, the famous illustrated satirical journal *Novyi satirikon* was deacidified, and encapsulated, as well as microfilmed. This permits viewing the illustrations in their original colors. In addition, so-called "phased boxes" (non-acidic protective cases with secure string closures) have been created for several titles of artifactual interest, but not warranting more expensive conservation treatment. Recently, special acid-free storage cases were ordered from the Hollinger Corporation for unbound periodical materials which have been microfilmed, and will be retained in their original format for artifactual reasons.

**Acquisition:** There are still some 200 outstanding orders for periodical indexes placed with the Lenin State Library in Moscow, amounting to approximately 9,500 pages. The important literary periodical *Krasnaia nov*, which was in badly deteriorated condition at the Library, has been replaced by microfiche from the Inter-Documentation Corporation of the Netherlands, which now has cameras filming materials in the Historical Library, Moscow. Additional orders for

early Soviet periodicals on microfiche will be processed in the months ahead, as previously unavailable titles are converted to microformat by IDC in Moscow.

**Cataloging:** Cataloging continues with records for virtually all of the titles microfilmed by the Project thus far now available in RLIN and OCLC (some records). In addition, the Division's longstanding backlog of periodical titles circa 1917-1940 has been eliminated.

As a result of the NEH project two programs were introduced. The first is the "Russian Index Reprint Program" - a major project of reprinting Russian and Soviet indexes to serial and periodical publications of the Imperial and early Soviet periods. The indexes will be published by the Norman Ross Publishing Inc. The smaller collections which do not have large holdings of original Russian and Soviet materials are especially encouraged to subscribe to this initiative. The second is the creation of a checklist of holdings of early Soviet periodicals (years 1917-1940) currently held in the Division. The Division is able to add to this checklist titles of periodicals from the pre-1917 holdings. Therefore, a union list of Russian and early Soviet periodicals will be created for the Slavic and Baltic Division of the NYPL, and available for other collections. (Wojciech Siemaszkiewicz, NYPL, report at AAASS, October 1990)

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## *V. Acquisitions*

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Among recent acquisitions of the **Hoover Institution Archives** are: the Archiwum Wschodnie collection, 1945-1989, photocopies of transcripts of interviews with Polish survivors of Soviet concentration camps; Boris Bozhnev's papers, 1945-1984, Russian emigré author, poet and artist; the Cleveland Public Library collection, 1937-1945, serials, broadsides, and handbills, mainly issued by resistance groups in various European countries; letters of Liubov' V. Golitsyna (1917-1933), Russian aristocrat and emigré in China and the U.S.; the Sidney Hook papers, 1917-1989; the Inès Keller-Frick collection, 1941-1990, relating to the World War II Serbian resistance leader

Draž Mihailović; the Rantz family papers, 1934-1977, American friends of the British-Soviet author Ivy Litvinov; and the papers of Nadia L. Shapiro, (covering 1910-1984), a Russian-American writer, relating to the Russian Civil War in Siberia and to Russian emigré life in China and the United States. (information from Carol Leadenham)

**The Library of Congress** has acquired a major collection of pre-revolutionary Russian phonograph records, including approximately 5,000 78 rpm records manufactured in Russia, chiefly from 1899 to 1917, some 150 original and photocopied Russian music catalogs and more than 100 photographs and postcards of early Russian vocalists and musicians. This collection was acquired from Joel Berger, who assembled it beginning in the 1960s. For more information see *The Library of Congress Information Bulletin*, 49, no. 22 (Nov. 5, 1990), article by Craig D'Ooge.

### **What's new at NYPL**

1. "The Batkin Archives on the Russian Civil War," donated by Nicholas and Gedda Saunders of New York City, include the diaries, notebooks, and correspondence of Fedor Batkin (1892?-1923); pamphlets, periodical clippings, and a large artifactual file of 26 newspaper titles published in Southern Russia or abroad by the White Russian movement. None of these titles appear in either RLIN or in the Union List of Serials. (*AASSS Newsletter*, Nov. 1990)

2. The Hayuk Collection. The Slavic & Baltic Division recently received ten rare books and manuscripts from the collections of the Ukrainian Orthodox priest and scholar, Protopresbyter Simon Hayuk. Father Hayuk, a well-known figure in the Ukrainian emigration, has written many articles on religious and theological issues, as well as church history. The chronological range of the collection covers from the 17th to the 20th centuries. Included in the collection is a Church Slavic Evangelion (Lviv, 1670), a rare collection of Ukrainian folk tales (1835), and manuscript excerpts from an 18th century prayerbook. (information from E. Kasinec, NYPL)

3. The Kayaloff Collection, not yet cataloged, numbers approximately 40 volumes, primarily of 19th century vernacular and Western language travel literature on the Caucasus and Russia. (Robert Davis, NYPL)

4. The Pantuhoff Collection, assembled by Col. John Bates, includes titles dealing with Petersburg and the world of Imperial Russia, its ruling dynasty, aristocracy, and the Orthodox church; books and graphics on the 19th and 20th century Russian military; 18th and 19th century maps; a collection of Russian and Soviet stamps; and secular and religious art. (*AAASS Newsletter*, Nov. 1990)

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## *VI. Professional Appointments*

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*Submitted by Sandra Levy, University of Chicago*

KONSTANTIN GUREVICH is now the Cataloger for Slavic Materials at Ohio State University Libraries in Columbus, Ohio. He previously worked as a Research Associate for the Slavic Collections at the University of Texas at Austin (1986-1990), where he received his M.L.I.S. in 1989. He also has a M.S. (1978) in Geology from Moscow State University.

MARINA KANEVSKAYA is now acting as the Faculty Liaison between the Center for Soviet and East European Studies and the Library at the University of Texas in Austin. As such she does some selection and cataloging, as well as handling teaching responsibilities. Previously she worked as a bibliographer for the Research Institute for Inner Asia Studies at Indiana University in Bloomington (1988-1990). She earned her library degree at Hebrew University in Jerusalem (1983) and a master's in Journalism from Moscow State University (1979).

KIMBERLY KIELY is the new Slavic Research Associate for the Slavic Reference Service at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's Library. She most recently was the Slavic Serials Librarian (1990) at Illinois, after serving as a Foreign Language Cataloger/Acquisitions Librarian at Queensborough Public

Library, New York (1986-1989). She earned her M.S. in Library and Information Science (1984) in Urbana.

LASZLO KOVACS is the new Library Director of St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota. He comes to St. Olaf's after serving as Head of the Humanities, Social Science and Education Library at Purdue University since 1974. He continues his strong interest in Central European Affairs, especially questions of librarianship. Laszlo currently chairs the Continuing Education Committee of our Section.

DAVID KRAUS is now the Chief of the European Division at the Library of Congress. He had served as Assistant Chief of the European Division since 1972, becoming Acting Chief in 1985. He also advises on the annual compilation of the *American Bibliography of Slavic and East European Studies*. Before coming to LC he was Assistant Professor of Information and Computer Science at Georgia Institute of Technology. He earned a Master's degree in Slavic Languages and Literature at Harvard University.

RACHEL MACFARLANE is now the Monographic Cataloger of Slavic and East European Materials at the University of Chicago Library. She previously was Visiting Assistant Slavic Librarian for the Slavic Reference Service at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (1989-1990), where she earned her M.S. in Library and Information Science (1989). She has also done graduate work at the University of Washington, Seattle in Southeast European/Balkan folklore.

MICHAEL MARKIW is the new Slavic Studies Librarian at Arizona State University in Tempe. Previously he was the Slavic-Germanic Cataloger and Bibliographer at the University of Kentucky (1983-1990). He has also worked at Ohio State University as Slavic Cataloger (1980-1983) and also cataloged at the University of Waterloo (1977-1978). He earned his M.L.S. from the University of Western Ontario (1976).

JEFFREY P. MARTIN is the new Slavic Catalog Librarian at the University of Arizona at Tucson. He earned his M.L.S. at Syracuse University (1990), where he also worked in the Rare Books Library and as a Slavic Cataloger (1984-1989). Additionally he has an M.A. in Anthropology from Syracuse (1974).

DENA J. SCHOEN is now the Slavic Catalog Librarian for the Library of the Hoover Institution on War, Revolution and Peace. She came to Hoover to work on its Government Documents Project. She earned her M.A. in Slavic Languages and Literature (1989) and her M.L.I.S. (1986) at the University of California at Berkeley, where she did serial cataloging in the library.

MACIEJ SIEKIERSKI is the new Deputy Curator of the East European Collection of the Library of the Hoover Institution on War, Revolution and Peace after serving as Assistant Curator of its Soviet and East European Collection (1986-1990). He earned his M.L.S. from San Jose State University (1986) after earning his Ph.D. in History from the University of California at Berkeley (1984).

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## *VII. Libraries in Profile*

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### **The Masaryk/Beneš Collection, University of California at Berkeley**

*George Svoboda, Slavic Department Library*

At the end of 1938, Arne Laurin (1889-1945), editor of the newspaper *Prager Presse*, contacted the American embassy in Prague. He offered to sell some materials by the Czechoslovak Presidents Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk (1850-1937) and Edvard Beneš (1884-1948) for several thousand dollars. The forthright offer to sell documents relating to the "notorious" anti-fascist politicians during the period when the war with Hitler was in the offing might have been construed as the beginning of an espionage affair. However, the documents in question were "only" manuscripts, scholarly papers and books. The offer was clearly intended for the library of an American University.

At that time, the Department of History at UC Berkeley, was one of the outstanding centers on Czechoslovak studies in the USA. Consequently, it was the University of California that received the

*Association of College and Research Libraries*

offer from Prague. Professor Robert Joseph Kerner (1887-1956),\*\* the author of numerous works on Czechoslovak history and a former student of Masaryk, recognized in the Laurin collection "a rare source ... of great and enduring value," "a virtually complete collection of published materials in all languages by and about Masaryk and Beneš."

In a period of several weeks private funding was obtained. The Regents of the University immediately began to arrange for the purchase of the collection. However, even the quick action on part of the University was not fast enough. On March 15, 1939, the German army occupied Czechoslovakia. In Prague, works by Masaryk and Beneš were banned and many of them gradually destroyed. The Nazis frenetically tried to remove all the remnants and symbols of Czech independence. Laurin and his wife escaped to the USA but their treasure remained in Bohemia. Miraculously, the collection survived the war. "Fifty barrels" of books stored at first in a shipping yard, then in the US consulate, and finally in a private building, eluded German attention.

After eight years in Central European hideouts, the books arrived at Berkeley in December 1946, just barely escaping another disaster. In the 1950's, the new Czech government declared all works by and about Masaryk and Beneš *libri prohibiti*. The books that survived the German occupation were either destroyed or removed from public libraries. The authorities published "unknown" Masaryk's papers that were to prove his participation in organizing terrorist activities in the Soviet Russia. Masaryk's name even appeared in the infamous political trials of 1952. In the style of the contemporary novels by Robert Ludlum, Masaryk's liaison of WWI, Emanuel Voska, was accused of organizing a US spy network among the leaders of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia sometime during WWII.

In view of the fate of Masaryk's and Beneš' works at home, the primary significance of the collection at Berkeley is the preservation of the enormous literary output of both statesmen. It has been scattered in hundreds of books, pamphlets, articles, reports, speeches, and reviews. The scope of Masaryk's literary activity is apparent in the fact that his *Collected Works* were to be published in 30 volumes of 15,000 pages combined length. The collection contains all books published by Edvard Beneš before 1937. Of the total number of 71 books and pamphlets written by Masaryk, the collection has the first

editions of 55 titles. In addition to the scores of articles by Masaryk bound as separates, the collection has two journals edited by Masaryk, the *Atheneum* (1884-1886) and the complete series of *Naše Doba* (Our Times). In *Naše Doba* Masaryk published almost 300 essays and reviews. In addition to all the standard editions of Masaryk's speeches, the collection contains rare original editions of several Masaryk's discourses held in the *Reichsrat* in 1907-1908, in Russia in 1917, and in Czechoslovakia in 1918-1920. Masaryk published dozens of his articles either anonymously or under pseudonyms. In the most controversial of Masaryk's unsigned essays which appeared in 1920-1924, the author, already President of Czechoslovakia, launched a series of attacks against his political rivals. The collection has several monographs which either authenticate Masaryk's anonymous works (e.g. František-Marie Leichter's list of Masaryk's monograms, analyses by Josef Werstadt) or discuss the question of Masaryk's authorship (the essays by Jiří Stříbrný and Ivan Herben). The work on authentication of Masaryk's unsigned literary output was short-lived. It began shortly after Masaryk's death in 1937. In 1938, the president's son, Jan Masaryk (1886-1948), succeeded in convincing interested journalists and scholars to "postpone" the publication of their new findings. The Berkeley collection offers scholars the necessary tools to resume the tasks.

The collection contains 1600 books which enable one to research the biographies of Masaryk and Beneš, and the broad background of their political and literary activity. Almost all of the books are rare items. Their main topics pertain to the movement for Czechoslovak independence in Bohemia, Russia, France and particularly in the United States during WWI; the Czech military actions in Russia in 1918-1920; and the political opposition to Masaryk and Beneš in Czechoslovakia during 1920-1937. The material includes memoirs of representatives of the Czechoslovak political and cultural life and their recollections of, and polemics with both presidents. Housed in the Main Library and partly in the Bancroft Library, the collection also contains an assemblage of some 13,000-15,000 newspaper clippings. These offer a large number of articles dealing with every possible aspect of Masaryk's and Beneš' lives.

The Masaryk-Beneš Collection also contains a few unique pieces. Edvard Beneš' unpublished typescripts analyse Czechoslovak foreign policy in 1921, 1926, 1927, and 1934. Some of them are corrected in Beneš' own hand. The stenographic transcript of the proceedings of

Prague judicial court of 13-14 May 1914 against the Czech politician Karel Šviha, a friend of the Austrian Archduke Francis Ferdinand of Este, allows one to trace in detail Masaryk's participation in the trial. The typed manuscript of the minutes of Masaryk's trial of 23 May 1906, reveals an attempt on part of the Austrian authorities to discredit Masaryk in eyes of the Czech public, and to have him dismissed from his professorship at Prague University. The authorities accused Masaryk of attacks on religion in general, and on the Catholic Church in particular. Masaryk's own speeches during the trial, as well as the entire lengthy proceedings, have never been published. The manuscripts, given to Arne Laurin by Masaryk's defense attorney Václav Bouček in 1937, are probably the only existing records of the event.

A rare collection of Masaryk by his first love Alžběta Jelínková-Wágnerová is an example of unexplored material hidden in the assemblage of newspaper clippings. Her story of Masaryk's early amorous adventures offers no dramatically new revelations. However, the subsequent fate of Masaryk's girlfriend may illustrate some aspects of Masaryk's social policy in Czechoslovakia which eventually contributed to the collapse of the democratic regime. In a 1938 interview, Alžběta Jelínková-Wágnerová ended her narrative with a succinct account of her current situation: "I am old, very old. When Masaryk lived, he would never forget to send me flowers and some money on my personal anniversaries. I have three children. The oldest one is retired janitor; he himself has a hard time taking care of his wife and three children. He gives me 20 Kč a month. My second son is an invalid without any income. The third emigrated to Argentina six years ago. I wonder if he is still alive. Now, from time to time, I am in need. I do not have any subsistence."

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\*The Masaryk-Beneš Collection is a part of the Slavic and East European collections located on the campus of the University of California, Berkeley. Many of the items in this collection have been preserved on microfilm through a Title II-C grant from the Department of Education. A computer printout of records for titles in this collection can be consulted in the Reference Room of the Doe Library. Photocopies of this printout can be obtained by writing: Allan Urbanic, Librarian for Slavic Collections, The Library, rm. 346, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720. A modest charge for

copying and handling will be required.

**\*\*His papers are now available for research at the Bancroft Library**

(The above paper first appeared in *University of California Reference and Selection News*, 18:4-7, June 3 1982. The Editors believed it to be worth reprinting given the recent events in Czechoslovakia.)

### **The Slovanská Knihovna in Prague and its RZIA Collection**

*Richard J. Kneeley and Edward Kasinec*

One of the most important institutions to Russian emigration as a whole was the *Russkii zagranichnyi istoricheskii arkhiv* (RZIA), most frequently referred to in the United States as the "Prague Archives." The mission of the Archives was to collect material of historical significance dealing with: 1) the "old" Russian emigration of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries; 2) the social and political movements in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries; 3) the Russian revolutions of the twentieth century; 4) the Russian Civil War; and 5) the new emigration. In addition, it created a library which collected books, periodicals, and newspapers from the emigré communities around the world.

By the 1930s the Prague Archives had an extensive collection of material. Its holdings included the personal papers and memoirs of participants--of all political backgrounds--in the Revolution and Civil War and an extensive collection of newspapers and journals dating from the old emigration through the Revolution and Civil War and from the new emigration. According to various sources, the library also had an extensive collection of memoirs, documents, and personal papers dealing with the new emigration. In 1945 the Soviets took the manuscript collection and part of the library to Moscow, but until recently the fate of the library was unknown. The library has belonged to the Slovanská Knihovna in Prague since 1945, but has been closed until this year when it was first viewed by Richard J. Kneeley of Columbia University and Edward Kasinec of the New York Public Library.

The most significant parts of the former RZIA Library are the newspaper, journal, and pamphlet collections. The newspaper collection includes more than 1,000 titles from the Russian Revolution

*Association of College and Research Libraries*

and Civil War, including 425 titles from non-Bolshevik groups. It also has more than 1,000 emigré titles and over 225 titles, published in German occupied Soviet territories (1940-1944). The journal section is also quite extensive and includes titles from the emigration, the Soviet Union, and the revolutionary period. The pamphlet section contains more than 7,500 titles and includes materials from the pre-revolutionary period, the Revolution and Civil War period, the emigration, and the Soviet Union. Based on a sampling of standard reference aids, it appears that many of these materials, particularly the periodicals and pamphlets, are unique to this collection. An article dealing with the RZIA will be published in the near future.

The catalogs of the RZIA and the Slovanská Knihovna are being filmed by Norman Ross Publishing and will be available within the year on microfiche. The agreement between Norman Ross Publishing, is among the first of its kind between a Western publisher and a Czech library, also calls for the micro-republication of various newspapers, journals, and books to be selected jointly by the Slovanská Knihovna and the publisher's advisory board, which includes Edward Kasinec, Richard J. Kneeeley, and Professors Milan Fryszak, Marc Raeff and Robert T. Whittaker.

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***VIII. Selected Bibliography of Recent Publications on Slavic Book Studies, Librarianship, and Collections in the West.***

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*Mary Stuart, University of Illinois Library*

Note: Items preceded by an asterisk were not examined.

- \*Aissing, Alena. *Russian Dictionaries: Selected Bibliography, 1960-1990*. Monroe, N.Y.: Library Research Associates, Inc., 1991. 61 pp.
- Arans, David. *Bibliografiia russkikh knig, izdannykh za predelami SSSR, 1980-1989*. Washington, D.C.: [s.n.], 1990. 244 pp.
- Arans, David. "Russkaia bibliografiia za rubezhom (Opyt obzora)." *Sovetskaia bibliografiia* 1990, no. 1: 141-148.
- \*Averina, N. F. *Istoriia permskoi knigi*. Perm': Permskoe knizhnoe izd-vo, 1989. 222 pp.
- Baskakov, V. N. *Rukopisnye sobraniia i kolleksii Pushkinskogo doma*. Leningrad: "Nauka," Leningradskoe otdelenie, 1989. 77 pp.
- Burger, Robert, et al. "Reference Books of 1987-1988: A Selection." *Slavic Review* 48 (1989), no. 4: 714-720.
- Butler, W. E. "Charter of the All-Union Society of the Book," *Solanus* n.s. 4 (1990): 67-75.
- Chegodaeva, M. *Puti i itogi; russkaia knizhnaia illiustratsiia, 1945-1980*. Moscow: "Kniga," 1989. 239 pp.

*Association of College and Research Libraries*

- Dalrymple, Helen. "Library of Congress Opens New Acquisitions Office in Moscow." *The Library of Congress Information Bulletin* 49, no. 14 (July 2, 1990): 248.
- \*Dinershtein, E. A. *A.P. Chekhov i ego izdateli*. Moscow: Kniga, 1990. 221 pp.
- 200 let knigopechataniia v Sibiri; ocherki istorii knizhnogo dela*. Edited by A.L. Posadskov and S.A. Krasil'nikov. Novosibirsk: "Nauka," Sibirskoe otdelenie, 1989. 240 pp.
- Eshtein, L. S. "Obrashchenie V.I. Lenina v Rossiiskuiu tsentral'nuu knizhnuu palatu." *Sovetskaia bibliografiia* 1990, no. 2: 119-121.
- Glagolev, A. I. "Pravednyi put'." *Sovetskaia bibliografiia* 1990, no. 4: 118-129. [E.I. Shamurin]
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