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THE STRUGGLE FOR SELF-DETERMINATION

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I. SEES Notes

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

As I watched the 16th Olympic Winter Games in Albertville, France, I was struck by the national groupings of former Soviet and East European teams. The "Unified Team" of five former Soviet republics carried no banner, wore national insignia and received their medals not to a national anthem, but to the Olympic theme song. The Croatian and Slovenian teams, for the first time in history, carried the banners of their independent countries, while the Yugoslav flag was borne by the athletes of the four remaining republics. Estonian, Latvian, and Lithuanian flags were flown again after a half century.

The opening program was a kaleidoscopic circus of stilt-walkers, musicians suspended in mid-air and (something new to me) bungee jumpers. At first I was horrified, I thought these kamikazes would surely kill themselves. At the last moment, however, the elastic cords wrapped around their ankles pulled them back to a bouncy yet certain safety. As these daredevils ricocheted back and forth in an exhilarating dance of nerves, I wondered if the new democracies had such "bungee" guarantees of survival.

I must commend my colleagues for their "Olympic" efforts this year in dealing with the mounting problems of acquisitions, processing, and diminishing funding for Slavic and East European collections. As a former cataloguer, my heartfelt sympathies are with the people in processing services, who must wrestle with the constantly changing names of corporate bodies, serials, and subject headings. The growth in the volume of authority work for our librarians boggles the mind, but job security is assured well into the 21st century!

The theme of this year's annual conference in San Francisco is "Your Right to Know." SEES will examine how this concept is developing in the former Soviet Union in its program: "Is there still censorship in the former Soviet Union?" Marianna Tax Choldin of the Univer-

sity of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign will lead what is certain to be a lively and thought provoking discussion. I encourage you all to attend and look forward to seeing you.

Tanja Lorković, Yale University

II. Conferences

ALA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, ATLANTA, JUNE-JULY 1991 ACRL, SLAVIC AND EAST EUROPEAN SECTION

Minutes submitted by Harold M. Leich, SEES Secretary

Continuing Education Committee, June 30, 9-11 a.m.

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

Discussions centered on the proposed one-day workshop scheduled for the San Francisco 1992 conference. The workshop (it will not be considered an official ALA or ACRL preconference) will be oriented for generalists, non-specialists, those not involved full-time with Slavic and East European materials, and also for beginning Slavic librarians. Committee members discussed the objectives, targeted audience, date, and program of the workshop, keeping in mind the necessity of being as up-to-date as possible given the rapidly-changing situation in the USSR and Eastern Europe. The workshop will be publicized in the SEES Newsletter, in other relevant publications (e.g., *C&RL News*), and by word of mouth. There was also discussion of using the SSRC directory (now being updated and produced at the Library of Congress) as a source for mailings.

The committee named tentative coordinators for each segment of the session for non-specialists: 1) evaluation of Slavic and East European collections: Alan Pollard; 2) access to Soviet/East European libraries: Harold Leich; 3) business-related travel to the area: Murlin Croucher;

4) acquisitions exchanges: Sandra Levy; 5) the non-Slavic republics: Ared Misirliyan. Two assignments were made for the preparation of handouts to participants in the workshop: language and literature: Nina Gorky Shapiro; political science and economics: Anthony Anderson. In addition, a publicity subcommittee was appointed with Susan Burke and Alena Aissing as members.

The committee discussed whether there should be one or two sessions for the workshop, and when the sessions should be scheduled. No final decision was made.

Conference Planning Committee (San Francisco 1992), June 30, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Various proposals were discussed for the 1992 San Francisco program, scheduled for June 28, 1992, 2-4 p.m. Tanja Lorković will finalize the program and line up speakers on the current situation in censorship and publishing in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. If possible Lorković will attempt to line up a guest speaker from Russia or East Europe. Sources of funding were briefly discussed, including the Soros Foundation and ACRL.

Tanja noted that it would be beneficial (and a plus in recruiting new members) to have a purely social meeting for section members, ideally after the annual program and membership meetings at each conference.

Conference Program: "Perestroika, Glasnost and the Library World", June 30, 2-4 p.m.

Speakers were: Norman Ross (Norman Ross Publishing, New York); Tanja Lorković (Yale University); Edward Kasinec (New York Public Library); Lucy Cox (Rutgers University, Camden); and Harold M. Leich (Library of Congress). [Selected papers will appear at the end of these minutes.]

Membership Meeting, June 30, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

The meeting was chaired by Tanja Lorković.

Marianna Tax Choldin, U. of Illinois, reported on various librarian exchanges being sponsored by IREX, USIA, Soros Foundation, Library of Congress, and the U. of Illinois. She also discussed some Slavic preservation projects, including a German conference last year that dis-

cussed the registration of microform masters. The European bibliography (equivalent to our ABSEES) is now online. Library of Congress and Knizhnaia palata are to exchange tapes.

Tanja reported that our section has increased to 306 members. There was a discussion of committee activities, including the upcoming workshops on continuing education to be offered at the ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco. (See minutes of that committee)

Executive Committee, July 1, 9-11 a.m.

The meeting was chaired by Tanja Lorković, SEES Chair.

Tanja mentioned that she had attended meetings of the new subcommittee of the ALA International Relations Committee, chaired by Helen Teplitskaia (University of Illinois, Chicago). The new subcommittee will deal with US/USSR Library relations. The subcommittee discussed a number of requests for assistance from Russian and Baltic libraries and library associations.

Tanja announced that she would attend the August 1991 IFLA meetings to be held in Moscow.

Tanja reported that she had filed a brief statement with ACRL in response to a "Survey on ethnic makeup and diversity activities." Tanja noted in her reply that "we welcome anyone with an interest in Slavic and East European matters regardless of race, religion, sex, age, gender or sexual preference."

The Executive Committee decided to establish an ad hoc Preservation Committee that will have regularly scheduled meetings at annual and midwinter conferences. The committee suggested that Vickie Seymour be chair.

Tanja announced that there is a limited amount of money available for annual conference programs (travel expenses for speakers, for example) — \$6,000 for all of ACRL. Tanja will investigate whether we should apply for some of this for the 1992 San Francisco program.

The committee heard summary reports from chairs of SEES committees. (See reports of each committee elsewhere in these minutes.)

Newsletter Committee, July 1, 11:30-12:30 p.m.

The meeting was chaired by Harold Leich, Secretary.

Harry read the draft annual report prepared by outgoing editor Allan Urbanic. The committee members orally approved the report as written; Harry will submit it to ACRL.

A total of \$1,100 has been requested from the ACRL Publications Committee for the 1993 issue (no.9). As in the past, we will have to justify our unusual format, frequency, contents, and production mode.

Members talked about the proposed contents for issue no. 8, scheduled for publication in spring 1992. Discussion centered on the bibliography of book studies for the area, prepared by Mary Stuart, and on the need to redefine the focus of this very useful section of the newsletter. Other topics for inclusion in the 1992 issue included a number of special meetings and conferences (AAASS, the Oxford Conference on the Soviet independent press, the Baltic Librarians' Conference in Riga, a workshop on acquisitions at the University of Illinois in the summer of 1991, IFLA, etc.) and reports from the newly-formed subcommittee on US/USSR library relations of the ALA International Relations Committee.

Harry reported on the meeting of the task force of ACRL newsletter editors he attended on July 1. The meeting was chaired by Mary Ellen K. Davis of ACRL. The task force will meet at each conference through early 1993. Davis announced the task force was designed to standardize the ACRL newsletters, not to eliminate them or cause more headaches or bureaucracy for the sections. Much discussion centered on the issue of postage rates: third class mail is much less expensive but takes much longer. This is particularly critical in the case of newsletters mailed immediately before conferences. The group voted to try first class mailings beginning in the fall of 1991. Davis will verify costs and procedures for first class bulk mail.

Automated Bibliographic Control Committee, July 1, 2-4 p.m.

The meeting was chaired by Janet Crayne. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

Janet reported on the meeting she attended on May 10, 1991, of the Bibliography, Information Retrieval, and Documentation Subcommittee (BIRD). Janet was invited as SEES representative and as someone with expertise in bibliographic control and backlog reduction. The BIRD members will finalize an application form for funding from SSRC for the backlog reduction project (total funding will be \$338,000); deadline for applications will be December 1, 1991.

Janet reported on the ABC Committee's survey on remote access to libraries' on-line catalogs and databases. There was a problem with the mailing of the original questionnaire since a very out-of-date mailing list was sent by ACRL. In addition, postage costs were higher than

anticipated. Of the 250 first mailings, 55 usable questionnaires were returned. Denise Bedford, a private consultant from Silver Springs, Maryland, presented statistics on the survey to date. The committee will decide how the results should be displayed.

PAPERS FROM PROGRAM: "PERESTROIKA, GLASNOST, AND THE LIBRARY WORLD"

The New Soviet Independent Press
Harold M. Leich, Library of Congress

One of the most obvious and striking results of glasnost and perestroika in the Soviet Union has been the explosion of new, independent publishing (particularly of newspapers and journals) and the shake-up of the standard, long-established book and serial distribution system. Just in the past six months, American librarians have noted (and often been dismayed by) the following phenomena: 1) the bankruptcy of the Paris firm that was for many years the principal supplier of Soviet books and journals to American libraries; 2) major delays in the delivery of newspapers and journals, apparently caused by the Soviet government's ending subsidies for air-mail charges; 3) the continued explosion of the "new press," that is, new newspapers and journals, continuing a trend begun in the earlier years of the glasnost period.

The Library of Congress, as the national library of the United States and the largest collection of Russian and Soviet library materials in the country, has a major responsibility to collect at the comprehensive level all appropriate library materials from the Soviet Union. In this paper, however, I will concentrate on the category of the "independent" or "new" press—itself a major result of political and social events in the Soviet Union over the past five years—and on LC's efforts at collecting it through our Moscow Acquisitions Project.

The rise of the new press in the USSR dates from 1985 and, obviously, the introduction of the policies of glasnost and perestroika. It is new in the sense of being issued not by government and Communist Party issuing bodies, but by other parties, religious groups, political movements, clubs, special interest groups, and even individuals. The new press is represented primarily by newspapers (of varying frequencies), but there are also journals and monographs. As of mid-1991, it is likely that close to two thousand independent newspapers and journals were being published in the USSR. The exact figure is not known, since

bibliographic control over this new category of publication is just beginning.

Precisely because it is a category new to the Soviet publishing scene, definitions and terminology relating to the "new press" are still in a state of flux. In Russian, the phrases *nezavisimye izdaniia* and *neformal'nye izdaniia* are the most frequently used, but the older term *samizdat* can also refer to the new publications which, in contrast to the older, traditional *samizdat*, are published (rather than manuscript) items. In English, the phrase "independent" publications is commonly accepted, although the terms "unofficial," "informal," or "samizdat" are also found. The new Soviet press law of August 1990 has made the terms "independent" and "unofficial" technically inaccurate, since many titles of long standing, e.g. *Literaturnaia gazeta*, are now independent of their original founding organizations.

By mid-1988, it became apparent to LC staff involved in Soviet acquisitions, and to the Librarian of Congress, James Billington, that there were enough strange, new Soviet newspapers and journals being published to warrant further investigation. All we had at that point were scattered individual issues, either donated by visiting Soviets or picked up in the USSR by LC staff visiting there. Inquiries made of our standard acquisitions sources (exchange partners and book dealers) confirmed that these new items were not regularly available from the normal channels, and probably not at all to Western libraries.

In April 1989, Billington requested LC's Overseas Operations Division to investigate the possibility of establishing a base of operations, however small, in Moscow, to attempt to acquire for LC, the new unofficial and independent publications on a systematic basis and as comprehensively as warranted. In the summer of 1989 an official "matrix team" was formed, with representation from those LC divisions most directly involved with Soviet collection development and acquisitions: European, Overseas Operations, Order, Exchange and Gift, African/Middle Eastern, and the Librarian's Office. The "Moscow operation", as the project was then called, was designed to fill in the cracks in LC's acquisitions of Soviet materials, NOT to replace the traditional acquisitions methods of long standing—exchange, gift, and purchase.

Right off the bat, the team was faced with a number of very basic operational questions, chief among them: how do we get an operation in Moscow up and running? Should we seek the assistance of the US Embassy in Moscow? Would we need a Soviet partner or sponsoring organization to comply with Soviet law? Should an American head the

project, or should we recruit a Soviet citizen? How would we handle the practical issues of getting telephone lines installed, shipping packages back to Washington, hiring support staff, dealing with Soviet laws, regulations, and bureaucracy?

After conversations with the State Department, it became clear we should seek a Soviet partner who could, in addition to providing us with office space and other "infrastructure", help us negotiate the maze of rapidly changing Soviet laws and regulations governing publishing and publication distribution. LC staff visiting the Soviet Union approached several potential Soviet sponsors with written proposals; answers and reactions received were not totally satisfactory. We also made preliminary inquiries of various American organizations with bases of operations in Moscow about procedures and details of starting up an office in the Soviet Union. Quite by chance, LC discovered in mid-1989 that the Faxon Company, a well-known American periodicals jobber, was establishing its own office in Moscow and had already made contacts at various Soviet libraries. After much discussion, and after attempts at directly contracting with several Soviet institutions had largely failed, LC decided to sub-contract with the Faxon Company to provide the space and other infrastructure for LC's Moscow acquisitions operation. Faxon had also by this time recruited an outstanding Soviet librarian, fluent in English and with a solid background in library acquisitions and automation. LC ended up hiring this gentleman, Mikhail Levner (through Faxon), as the head of its Moscow Acquisitions Project. On paper, the final arrangement looked rather complicated: LC subcontracts with the Faxon Company, which contracts with the Academy of Science's Library of the Natural Sciences for the services of its employee Mikhail Levner and for office space, telecommunications, etc., in BEN's building in downtown Moscow. At the practical day-to-day operational level, it works quite well: LC communicates directly with Levner (by e-mail), receives shipments directly from the Moscow operation, and has full control over substantive issues such as what shall be acquired, and what has priority in the acquisitions process. Faxon takes care of the details of the contract with the Library of the Natural Sciences, such as space, computing and photocopying facilities, and the like.

LC's contract with Faxon began on January 1, 1990, and Levner arrived in Washington in March 1990 for two weeks' orientation to LC's acquisitions policies, goals, and procedures, and to meet the members of the "Moscow Team" responsible for overall management of the Moscow operation. The first shipments from our new Moscow

project were received in June 1990, just one year ago. In twelve months we have received almost 6,000 items from Levner, primarily issues of independent newspapers and journals, but also including monographs, preprints, videotapes, posters, sound recordings, and ephemeral materials such as broadsides, rally handouts, "self-published" items, and real samizdat (that is, samizdat in the old sense of manuscripts, usually carbon copies of typescripts). Levner's first priority was and remains to collect the new independent press issues at the most comprehensive level possible. He has done quite a bit of travelling around the Soviet Union in an effort to contact publishers and editors of independent serials, including trips to the Baltics, the Ukraine, Georgia, Sverdlovsk, Vladivostok, and Novosibirsk. Since virtually none of the new independent serial titles are available on a standard subscription basis, Levner and his staff (now up to 1.5 FTE) must write or telephone to be put on mailing lists, as well as hit the kiosks, streets, and subway stations of Moscow to keep up with what is being published.

There have been some unexpected and even humorous consequences of our presence in downtown Moscow. The office, and Levner, are seen by a number Soviets as a direct conduit to the U.S. Congress, and potentially at least to the funds it can appropriate. Levner has been bombarded with requests for assistance, proposals for joint ventures, appeals for emigration assistance, and the like. Other Soviets see the office as a reference and referral center and write, phone, or walk in with their reference queries. (Incidentally, this reflects both the deep hunger for information about the United States and the dearth of American publications in Soviet libraries, at least those available to the general public.) Because Levner is already working 70-80 hours a week, we have had to limit social calls on him by visiting Americans, and insist that anything other than basic acquisitions work be referred to the Moscow Team in Washington.

To return to the subject of the new independent Soviet press which is Levner's first acquisition priority, it is amazing to see the variety of materials that have come in. Most titles fall into one of the "big three" categories—politics, religion, or sex—but there is also healthy representation of publications in the areas of business and economics, entertainment, the environment, parapsychology and the paranormal in general (e.g., UFOs), animal rights, monarchism, anti-Semitism, sexual minorities, even bibliography and librarianship!

Bibliographic control of the independent serial titles received at LC has just begun. We are just about to distribute the first edition of our serials holdings list, with almost 1,400 titles represented and coverage

from 189 cities in 12 of the 15 USSR republics. It is interesting to note that the 1,346 serial titles represent publications of 1,262 distinct corporate issuing bodies. In the interests of speed and simplicity in producing our title holdings list, we used ProCite software; the resulting bibliographic entries, we are quick to emphasize, do not represent official, "real" LC cataloging. We standardized the bibliographic description along the lines of standard, ISBD serials format, and for holdings we simply listed, year by year, the specific issues we had in hand as of April 1991. We did the minimum amount of name authority work for the corporate body headings, enough we hope to gather under one heading all the works of one body. I should point out, however, that it is really too early to do thorough name authority work for the thousands of new Soviet political parties, movements, and social organizations. Full authority work, in the traditional understanding of the phrase, will have to await both receipt of future issues of a number of these titles, and stabilization in the names used in their own publications by the new Soviet independent organizations.

The issue of bibliographic control of the new Soviet press has become an international issue, for several reasons: very few libraries (at least in the West) are attempting to collect it at a comprehensive level, the current demand for access to it is very great, and the independent press is being ignored in the Soviet national bibliographies produced by the Book Chamber. A private bibliographer in Moscow, Aleksandr Suetnov, has become in effect the principal bibliographer of the Soviet independent press, and has produced a marvelous bibliography of titles that had appeared (in the Slavic languages only) through mid-1990. I understand that a revised edition is soon to appear. Radio Liberty's Arkhiv Samizdata (perhaps the largest collection of the Soviet independent press outside the USSR) in Munich has also produced a very useful list of their holdings. An international invitational conference sponsored by the British Library, to be held this September in Oxford (September 30-October 4, 1991) should bring further discussion on bibliographic control and we hope agreements to exchange information about libraries' holdings on a very current basis.

Preservation is also a very problematic issue emerging from our acquisition of large numbers of Soviet independent serials. Many of LC's issues have gotten so much use already that they are in very poor shape; many of the issues are in bad shape when we receive them. Several Soviet libraries (e.g., INION and the Istoricheskaia biblioteka in Moscow) have proposed microfilming projects based on their own holdings. This would be a boon, obviously, not only from the preservation

point of view but would also enable many smaller collections to acquire collections of Soviet independent publications for the first time. I believe that Western micropublishers, e.g., IDC, are also interested in microfilming projects for the Soviet independent press.

To conclude this short survey, I would like to make just a few overall comments about LC's Moscow operation and our attempts to collect Soviet independent publications. While it is obviously too early to fully evaluate the Moscow operation, it has already (with just one year's worth of receipts) been successful beyond our best dreams. In addition, events in the Soviet Union are happening so fast and unpredictably that we do not really know what will happen in the second year of operation. We are already planning, at a very preliminary and tentative level, for acquisitions operations from a Soviet Union that may contain only six, or nine, or eleven republics. Some areas of the Soviet Union (the Baltic States and the Ukraine) have already been taken out of the purview of the Moscow Acquisitions Project because better methods of acquisitions of materials from those areas are already in place. LC is looking into the feasibility of expanding its small Moscow operation and turning it into a standard Overseas Operations unit that would acquire materials for a number of American libraries. Whatever the future of the existing arrangement, it has enabled LC to acquire unique and scarce materials from a critical period in Soviet history.

Western Libraries React to Perestroika

Tanja Lorković, Yale University

The past two years have seen unprecedented changes in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. The world continues to watch as this part of the world redefines its basic social, economic, and political posture. Meanwhile, a virtual explosion in publishing is taking place in these countries. Newly organized political parties publish their own newspapers and journals; rebellious republics and provinces distribute their platforms to the press; valuable statistical data is made available by national and provincial governments; and the writings of long-suppressed and banned authors are being published for the first time. The strong, centrally-controlled publishing and strict censorship that have shaped the "book trade" in the Eastern bloc into something quite different from publishing in the West has collapsed. New entrepreneurs, inexperienced in the techniques of the Western book trade, have created chaos, and it is now up to us Slavic librarians to continue our work to

the best of our ability. This paper will try to show some examples of how a large university library such as Yale has approached dealings with Soviet libraries since the advent of perestroika.

Yale/IDC/TsGIA Microfilming Project: The Gubernatorial Reports

Yale's first reaction to the new openness was to use it to its advantage while it was in full swing. It was decided to plan a microfilming project that would provide archival materials for researchers. The most useful series, which Yale was very interested in filming for research in Russian history, was the series of yearly reports of provincial governors (*gubernatorskie otchety*). To do that, the Yale Library joined forces with the International Documentation Center in the Netherlands (IDC) and with the St. Petersburg Central State Historical Archives (TsGIA) in sponsoring a project of great significance for scholars of nineteenth and early twentieth century Russia.

The reports of the provincial governors of nineteenth century Russia, dispatched annually to the tsar in St. Petersburg, are a fundamental source for research in this area. From their inception in 1804 until their demise with the 1917 revolution, these reports document economic changes, political events, and popular disturbances as they happened. In this respect, they preserve an unparalleled first-hand account of life and politics in nineteenth and early twentieth-century Tsarist Russia.

The reports are voluminous (sometimes reaching 1,000 folios for one year), due to their vast scope which was decreed by St. Petersburg officials and to the fastidious detailing which they demanded from the governors. They are handwritten, typed, and later printed in a single copy. To streamline the process, Nicholas I in 1834 established a standard format for the reports (*chetkii formular*), which was simplified by Tsar Alexander in the 1860s. In spite of streamlining and other attempts at standardization, the reports always reflect the personality of the governors. Thus, as a rule, the gubernatorial reports have a tendency to minimize any problems, while reports of the Ministry of Internal Affairs would exaggerate them. Similarly, prices quoted in the military reports are generally inflated, while the same prices in the civilian reports are devalued. Many of the reports bear handwritten comments from the tsars, who depended on them for accounts of what was happening in the Empire. Thus, we see in these reports not only a glimpse of daily life in the provinces, but also a specific tsar's views on the events. The task of implementing official decisions was easier said than done, as these reports vividly portray the governors' attempts to enforce in the restless

and difficult localities the slick mandates handed to them by a distant and urbane bureaucracy ignorant of provincial realities. A very interesting and penetrating study could be done, for example, on the Polish uprising of 1863 as recounted in the military governor's report.

Yale is happy to report that favorable circumstances created by perestroika have allowed the project to progress. In December 1990, the director of TsGIA, Mr. Gerasimov, together with a Yale delegation and Henri DeMink of IDC, completed the preliminary contract, and in mid-1991 we began the actual work with our colleagues in the archives.

The Yale/IDC/TsGIA project does not plan to film all of the reports at once—a mammoth task—but rather proposes an initial filming of 200,000 pages comprising the complete series for the province of Nizhnii Novgorod, and the reports for 1855-1864 for all 52 provinces. This should give a representative sample of the series which will prove its value to historians. We all hope that perestroika and glasnost will last long enough to see this project through to its end.

Society of Friends of St. Petersburg Public Library

Our visit to St. Petersburg resulted in another "first." In our meeting with the director of the St. Petersburg Public Library, Mr. Vladimir Zaitsev recounted the many difficulties facing his institution. His story touched our hearts, and Professor Paul Bushkovitch and I decided to do our best to take action. The Society of Friends of St. Petersburg Public Library has been established in order to help the M.E. Saltykov-Shchedrin State Public Library in St. Petersburg, Russia's oldest public library, to fulfill its function as a center of learning and culture in the new conditions of the post-perestroika era. The library was founded in 1795 and opened to the public as a public library on January 14, 1814. The library holds the world's largest collection of Russian books, spanning the period from the beginning of Russian printing up to the present. The Russian books are complemented by a collection called the "Free Russian Press," illegal publications published abroad before 1917, and by the collection of "Rossica" (books about Russia in foreign languages published in the West). The library is seriously attempting to fill lacunae of books about Russia published abroad and of Russian emigré publications since 1917 that are rarely found in its stacks. Though originally in essence the national library of the Russian Empire, its new Soviet status degraded it by two levels, first as only the Russian Republic's library, and then by its secondary location in St. Petersburg as opposed to the prime Moscow location. This meant low priority for

funds, especially hard currency. The USSR's other two major libraries (the Lenin Library in Moscow and the Library of the Academy of Sciences in St. Petersburg) are much better supplied, even though neither has the richness of the pre-1917 collections of the St. Petersburg Public Library. Furthermore, the Library of the Academy of Sciences is a closed institutional library, while the Public Library is much more open. The result is that the city of St. Petersburg's main library is in the worst position of the three major libraries of Russia.

The Friends of St. Petersburg Public Library wish to help to correct this situation by collecting books in the West for donation to the library. The lack of a hard currency budget means that the Public Library is dependent only on the process of exchange. The exchanges cannot always meet their priority in acquisitions, which is Russian emigré literature and "Rossica" books published in the West. Only the Friends in the West can help one of St. Petersburg's major cultural institutions to weather the current economic storms.

The Society of Friends has been formed by faculty and staff of Yale University and others in the New Haven community. It has the cooperation of Yale's Sterling Memorial Library for the purposes of mailing and consultation (approved by the director of the library) but is not an organization of Yale University. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in the preservation and revival of the city of St. Petersburg and of its role in Russian and world culture. Our purpose is to obtain by gift or purchase books and sets of journals in the library's priority areas. The transfer of funds or other equipment is not a goal at this moment, as the current economic situation makes that sort of activity extremely complex.

The Society of Friends of St. Petersburg Public Library is in the process of incorporation as a non-profit corporation in the state of Connecticut. It hopes to serve as a center for aid to the Public Library not only in the United States but in as much of the rest of the world as is feasible.

The organizers constituted an executive board, with Professor Paul Bushkovitch of Yale University as President of the Board and of the Society. The organizers were lucky to get the support of Mr. Igor Sikorsky, Jr., a lawyer who became a member of the executive board and who is at present working on legalities for incorporation in Hartford, Connecticut. Two shipments of "Rossica" books, compliments of the Yale Co-op, have already been sent to St. Petersburg. In addition, an ad will soon appear in the *AAASS Newsletter*.

I urge librarians at this session, and the broader ALA membership, to spread the word and to seek donations. The books can be sent to me at my Yale University Library address for shipping.

As an historical footnote, I want to add that on April 27, 1932, the name of M.E. Saltykov-Shchedrin was added to the basic name of the State Public Library. Nobody seems to know the reason for this, since the author was not even known as an avid user of the Library and its collections. There is a movement among the librarians there to drop the addition to the original name and hence our society is called the "Society of Friends of St. Petersburg Public Library."

Investing in the Future through Possibilities opened by Perestroika

In October 1990, Yale's Slavic Reading Room received a letter from Mr. Vladimir Belousov of the Academy of Sciences Library in St. Petersburg, requesting several titles of the memoirs and transactions of the Connecticut Academy of Arts and Sciences. He inquired if we, through our exchange agreement, could supply these items which they lost in the fire of 1988. When we perused their requests more attentively, we realized that they were asking for the inaugural publications of the Connecticut Academy of Arts and Sciences, one of the first such institutions in the United States, containing works by Noah Webster and his contemporaries. Our inquiries with the Connecticut Academy confirmed our suspicions that these items were now part of the antiquarian book market, and that the only way we could provide them was through the out-of-print specialists—in our case, Elliot's Books. Elliot's found all issues requested by the Academy Library and presented us with an impressive bill that I was not sure would be accepted by the Yale University Library administration. The charges have been approved, however, not only as an exchange proposition but as an outright gift to an institution which has suffered a great loss of primary sources through fire. It seems that the new approach to the Soviet Union brought about by the spread of perestroika beyond its borders even touched the library administrators. When I finally delivered the gift in person to Mr. Leonov, director of the Academy Library, there was great appreciation, joy, and even tears in his eyes.

Resurgence of Grant Opportunities

Another fine example of the change in attitude toward Eastern Europe in the United States because of perestroika is the availability of grants for acquisition of East European and Soviet materials, and renewed interest in investment toward better understanding between the former enemies. Yale has received two grants for just this purpose: one from the U.S. Peace Institute and another from the Department of Education. Yale's approach in requesting the funding was to stress the responsibility of Yale University, and of other institutions with primary Slavic collections, to procure those publications necessary to support the study and analysis of the dramatic political and social changes now underway. Also, through visits, interactions, agreements for the exchanges, contacts of the staff, these institutions can make available to East European scholars information about Western librarianship and culture. Such efforts in turn will facilitate the shift away from the Cold War mentality and toward global peace.

Commercial distribution channels and exchange agreements are undergoing changes which make the acquisition of new titles via these methods more difficult and uncertain. Libraries must for the indefinite future use other mechanisms to keep abreast of the new surge in publications. Reliable direct contacts with new commercial, academic, and governmental sources within each country should be developed now. Perestroika not only makes it possible for Yale and other Western libraries to obtain previously unavailable materials more quickly and inexpensively; it should also be able to help develop the commercial skills of these nascent vendors and government agencies for dealing with buyers in the U.S. and other Western countries. Such actions can boost the economy of these countries in at least a small way. The leading libraries of the West cannot wait until the political situation in Eastern Europe stabilizes. The time to help our Eastern colleagues in the book trade is now.

New ALA Committee on US/CIS-Baltic Library Cooperation

The ALA International Relations Committee has established a new subcommittee to monitor developments in library cooperation between the U.S. and the countries of the former Soviet Union. The subcommittee held its first meeting at the Atlanta conference in June, 1991, and is chaired by Helen Teplitskaia, University of Illinois at Chicago. The

Subcommittee on US/CIS-Baltic States Library Cooperation also seeks funding to implement actual assistance to libraries in these countries.

The mission of the subcommittee, approved by the International Relations Committee on January 27, 1992, is "to develop, enhance, and facilitate joint projects and programs that promote greater cooperation among libraries, librarians, their societies and associations in the United States, the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Baltic States, and Georgia," and "to serve as a liaison with the organizations and individuals who have been, or would like to be involved, in this activity." Slavic and East European Section members on the committee include Tanja Lorković and Harold Leich.

Objectives of the subcommittee are:

- * the establishment of direct contacts between the library societies and associations of the U.S., the CIS, the Baltic States, and Georgia;
- * dissemination of information on the structure and professional activities of ALA and its affiliates to interested librarians in the CIS, the Baltic states, and Georgia;
- * support for democratization of library services, with the goal of promoting intellectual freedom and open discussion of controversial ideas;
- * encouragement of progressive library management to improve the administration of libraries and to maximize service to library users; identification of experts who might assist in the development of new libraries and library programs in the countries covered;
- * identification of potential sources of support for projects to make available or increase the use of modern technology and machine-readable databases in libraries, particularly to promote the automation of library services in the CIS, the Baltic States, and Georgia;
- * promotion of the ALA Library Book Fellows Program in the CIS, the Baltic States, and Georgia, for the mutual benefit of American and foreign librarians;
- * support for and promotion of the use of international library standards;

- * cooperation to increase the number of joint publications on librarianship in the U.S., the CIS, the Baltic States, and Georgia;
- * collaboration to support joint ventures between American and foreign information agencies, publishers, or other institutions for the CIS, the Baltic States, and Georgia that can mutually benefit from cooperation;
- * enhancement of existing international library programs for Universal Bibliographic Control and International MARC (UBCIM) and Universal Availability of Publications (UAP) through US/CIS-Baltic cooperation;
- * encouragement of cooperation in library education;
- * assistance in the development of librarian exchange programs and study visits between the U.S. and the CIS, the Baltic States, and Georgia.

To date the subcommittee has accomplished a number of goals, among them establishing direct contacts with the All-Russian Federation of Library Associations and other new library associations; initiating creation of a database on US/CIS library cooperation; and evaluating proposals for assistance received from libraries and library associations in several CIS countries. (Harold Leich, Library of Congress)

**ALA MIDWINTER CONFERENCE, SAN ANTONIO,
JANUARY 1992**

ACRL, SLAVIC AND EAST EUROPEAN SECTION
Minutes submitted by Harold M. Leich, SEES Secretary

**Automated Bibliographic Control Committee, January 26, 9:30-11
a.m.**

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

Janet announced that terms of several members were about to end, and that incoming SEES Chair Molly Molloy would be making new appointments to the committee.

Janet discussed the committee's major project, the survey on remote access, designed to provide current information about remote access (especially via Internet) to online catalogs and databases of libraries with Slavic and East European holdings. There had been problems with incomplete responses (or no responses) to some of the questions, as well as vague or inconsistent statistical counts used in describing individual collections. It was decided to mail the survey results, accompanied by an explanatory cover letter, to all those who had participated in the survey. Despite these problems, the results will be useful for libraries interested in remote access to online catalogs and the state, as of early 1991, of Slavic/E. European holdings and retrospective conversion efforts.

Molly summarized a talk given at the November 1991 AAASS conference by Gerald Wager from the Library of Congress about various developments in the cataloging divisions at LC.

There was discussion of some LC proposals to change descriptive and subject cataloging practices as part of its cataloging simplification process. A list of proposed changes has recently been distributed for comment, but few committee members had seen it. There is a deadline of March 15, 1992, for reactions to the proposals, to be made to the Office for Descriptive Cataloging Policy at LC. Susan Summer will coordinate responses from SEES members.

Janet reported on the formation of a committee to review proposals received by the Social Science Research Council as part of its backlog-reduction grant project. She will serve on the review committee and has been reading the proposals received to date. There will be a meeting in New York of the review committee on February 14.

Preservation Committee, January 26, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

The meeting was chaired by Vickie Seymour. Other members of the committee are: Susan Burke (Univ. of Washington); Sandra Levy (Univ. of Chicago); Anthony Anderson (Univ. of Southern California), and Irene Gashurov (Univ. of Southern California).

This was the first meeting of this new committee, whose origin dates to the 1990 SEES program on preservation issues at the Chicago Annual Conference. Vickie read the charge to the committee and suggested this first meeting be a brainstorming session in which the committee members discuss projects the committee should undertake and, in general, the focus and goals of its work.

A number of ideas were presented by members and by the large number of guests, including preservation specialists, such as: 1) what kinds of preservation programs are already in existence at our libraries? 2) what kinds of materials should receive top priority for preservation, and why? Who makes these decisions? 3) the committee should deal not just with microfilming projects (here and abroad), but with the entire array of preservation activities; 4) the committee could compile a list of current projects at American libraries; 5) the committee could investigate what the bibliographic utilities are doing in the preservation area. (John Eilts (RLG) mentioned RLG's commitment to and interest in preservation projects and noted that a new program officer for preservation has just been hired.); 6) the issue was raised of the cataloging problems and backlogs resulting from large preservation programs, noting the extra burden on catalogers who are already overworked.

After discussion of the issues raised, it was decided that the committee's first efforts should concentrate in three areas: 1) collecting written preservation policy statements from libraries with major Slavic and East European collections; 2) gathering information on the various cooperative ventures in preservation currently operating; 3) learning what the bibliographic networks and utilities are doing at present in the preservation area.

Several present recommended establishing liaison with other ALA groups involved in preservation and conservation. Several preservation specialists present at the meeting noted that the SEES Preservation Committee should monitor preservation-related activities in the former USSR and Eastern Europe, since it is the Slavic specialists, rather than the preservation experts, who have the language expertise to follow the current literature from "over there."

Susan Burke will assume the position of Chair of this committee.

Continuing Education Committee, January 26, 2-4 p.m.

The meeting was chaired by Laszlo Kovacs. Minutes from the summer ALA conference meeting were read and approved.

Discussion centered on the upcoming workshops scheduled for the summer San Francisco ALA conference. Laszlo emphasized that arrangements for these workshops must be finalized now so that we can get information about them into the preliminary program distributed by ALA this spring.

The workshop will have two sessions, the morning and afternoon of

Saturday, June 27, 1992. The group discussed various possible speakers for the morning session. The morning session will be called "Slavic and East European library collections and the dilemmas of the non-specialist." Several volunteers have offered to assist the speakers for this session.

The afternoon session will concentrate on the topic "New Challenges in Slavic and East European librarianship," and will be designed for more experienced librarians. Topics and speakers are: collection development, funding patterns, and publishing (Alan Pollard); acquisitions exchange programs (Sandra Levy); non-Russian republic acquisitions (Ared Misirliyan); acquisitions trips (Joseph Dwyer); and access to and use of library materials in Russian, etc., repositories (Harold Leich).

A subcommittee with Susan Burke and Alena Aissing as members will handle publicity for the workshops, including short titles of the sessions included in the final ALA conference program. Notices of the workshops will also be placed in other relevant publications, e.g. the *AAASS Newsletter*.

There will be no regular meeting of the committee at the San Francisco conference in June/July 1992. At the next regular meeting of the committee in Denver in January 1993, members will evaluate the 1992 workshops and decide whether to plan similar events for the future.

Laszlo announced that he will lead a Citizens' Ambassador Program study tour to Russia, Ukraine, and Poland in 1992. The group will consist of fifteen librarians and will visit libraries in Moscow, Kiev, St. Petersburg, and Warsaw.

Conference Planning Committee (San Francisco 1992), January 26, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

The meeting was chaired by Tanja Lorković, SEES Chair.

The program for the 1992 San Francisco conference has been finalized, and will feature Marianna Tax Choldin (University of Illinois/Urbana) and Ekaterina Genieva (Rudomino Library of Foreign Literature, Moscow) as speakers. They will speak on issues of censorship in the former Soviet Union — a topic that happily fits in with the overall theme for the 1992 ALA conference, "Your right to know."

Tanja announced that the Resources Section of ALCTS will hold a program on the acquisitions in East and West Europe on Sunday, June

28, 1992. SEES will co-sponsor this program, which will be held at the same time as our own.

Tanja announced that she had attended a meeting on January 25 of the Subcommittee on Exchanges of the ALA International Relations Committee. She will attend those meetings at future conferences.

Conference Planning Committee (New Orleans 1993), January 27, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Molly Molloy chaired the meeting and presented some ideas for the 1993 program, centering around the idea of assistance to Russian and other East European libraries. She had been approached by a WESS (West European Studies Section) member for reaction on doing a joint program for 1993. Michael Markiw reported on the WESS program planning meeting he had attended on January 26.

After much discussion, it was the consensus of those present that although we will co-sponsor the WESS program, SEES should continue to present its own program. It was also agreed that the SEES program should emphasize various angles — technical services, acquisitions, preservation — of the breakup of the former USSR. The committee discussed possible speakers for the program, and Molly will contact them to see if they can make presentations.

Newsletter Committee, January 27, 9:30-11 a.m.

Harold Leich chaired the meeting and read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were approved as read.

Leich reported on various budget and administrative issues relating to the upcoming issue of the newsletter, no.8. Leich will contact Mary Ellen Davis at ACRL for clarification of budget amount and categories.

Molly presented a detailed draft table of contents for the upcoming issue and members discussed additions and changes. Molly requested those present to submit news, articles, and reports to her by February 15.

Executive Committee, January 27, 2-4 p.m.

The meeting was chaired by Tanja Lorković. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Tanja introduced Charles Feineman from WESS, who spoke about American plans to participate in the 1994 conference celebrating the opening of the British Library's new building at St. Pancras. The conference will deal with general European library and bibliographic issues. WESS will participate in planning the conference and Feineman will be the North American representative to the planning committee (T. Getties of the British Library will be the UK representative). WESS is seeking SEES support and cooperation in planning the theme, organizational strategy, and scheduling for the conference (tentatively in the April-May, 1994, time window). WESS' own 1993 ALA conference program will lead in to the themes of the 1994 St. Pancras meeting. SEES Executive Committee members enthusiastically endorsed the idea of coordinating with WESS on the conference. Tanja and Janet Crayne volunteered to represent SEES on the North American planning committee.

Tanja reported on the new Subcommittee on US/CIS-Baltic States Library Cooperation of the ALA International Relations Committee. Harold Leich noted that he had attended the January 25 meeting of that subcommittee, which serves as a clearing-house for information about American assistance to libraries in the former USSR.

Molly Molloy will make the final appointments for new committee members.

Chairs of each SEES committee gave a report on meetings at the Midwinter Conference and on future plans (see individual reports for each committee).

23RD NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SLAVIC STUDIES, WASHINGTON, D.C., NOVEMBER 22-25, 1990

Library-related panels

The Current State of Soviet Libraries

Chair: Robert H. Burger, U. of Illinois, Urbana

Participants: Patricia Polansky, U. of Hawaii; June Pachuta Farris, U. of Chicago; Tatjana Lorković, Yale U.; Marianna Tax Choldin, U. of Illinois, Urbana; Elena Zapolskaia, Irkutsk State U.

The Historical Development of Slavic Libraries/Reading Rooms

Chair: Alan P. Pollard, U. of Michigan

Participants: Gregory C. Ference, Salisbury State U.; Bradley L. Schaffner, U. of Kansas; Mary Stuart, U. of Illinois, Urbana; Murlin Croucher, Indiana U.

Current Issues in Slavic Cataloging: Roundtable

Chair: Konstantin Gurevich, Ohio State U.

Participants: Susan Cook Summer, Columbia U.; Janet I. Crayne, U. of Virginia; Gerald Wager, Library of Congress; Wojciech Siemaszkiewicz, New York Public Library; Carl Horne, Indiana U.

The Independent Press in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe: Historical Background and Collecting by American Libraries: Roundtable

Chair: Ellen Scaruffi, Columbia U.

Participants: Joseph Dwyer, Hoover Inst.; Serge Gleboff, New York Public Library; George Klim, U. of Washington; Harold M. Leich, Library of Congress; Laurence Miller, U. of Illinois, Urbana

Democracy, Transformation, and Information in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe: The Perspective from the Library of Congress: Roundtable

Chair: Irene M. Steckler, Library of Congress

Participants: John P. Hardt, Harold M. Leich, Francis T. Miko, William H. Robinson (all from Library of Congress)

Information East of the Oder: Gathering, Dissemination, Availability in the West

Chair: Wojciech Zalewski, Stanford U.

Participants: George Klim, U. of Washington; Mark Pinson, Project PROEE, MA; Harold M. Leich, Library of Congress; Molly Molloy, Hoover Inst.; Dawn Mann, Radio Free Europe/Radio Library Research Inst.

The Effect of Budgetary Problems on Slavic Collections and Services: Roundtable

Chair: Robert H. Burger, U. of Illinois, Urbana

Participants: Mary Stevens, U. of Toronto; Howard W. Robertson, U. of Oregon; Gordon Anderson, U. of Kansas; Nadia Zilper, U. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

*The Changing Structure of Book Publishing in Eastern Europe:
The Book Dealer's Dilemma: Roundtable*

Chair: Allan Urbanic, U. of California, Berkeley

Participants: Jürgen von Schultz, Kubon & Sagner (Germany); Zdenek Mastnik, Interpress Limited (UK); Irena Szwece, Szwece Slavic Books (CA); Kent Lee, East View Press

Sources for Russian/Soviet Art Studies in Western Repositories

Chair: Edward Kasinec, New York Public Library

Participants: Carol Leadenham, Hoover Inst.; Robert Davis, Jr., New York Public Library; Benjamin Goldsmith, New York Public Library; Richard J. Kneeley, Columbia U.

Bibliography and Documentation Committee

Minutes submitted by Harold M. Leich

Executive Committee: Hugh Olmsted (Chair), 1990-1992
Barbara Galik, 1990-1992
Juné Pachuta Farris, 1991-1993
Alan Pollard, 1989-1991
Allan Urbanic, 1989-1991
David Kraus, ex officio

The meeting was chaired by Hugh Olmsted (Harvard).

1. Special report: Kent Lee and Igor' IA. Levin

Kent Lee (East View Publications) gave a report on his firm's activities in distributing the bibliographic publications of the Vsesoiuznaia knizhnaia palata (*Knizhnaia letopis'* et al.). Mr. Lee has negotiated an exclusive distribution agreement with the Palata, and explained the benefits to the Palata of this new monopoly (it will provide much-needed hard currency to the palata and replace the former monopoly dominated by *Mezhdunarodnaia kniga*). East View is also supplying previously classified military and intelligence publications, many of which were never even cited before. They have also published a guide to the Soviet Army archives (TsGASA), and have access to various lists of censored and suppressed publications issued by Glavlit.

Igor' Iakovlevich Levin (Izdatel'stvo "Vsesoiuznaia knizhnaia palata") spoke in Russian on Soviet publishing in general and on the

activities of the Knizhnaia palata publishing house in particular. There has been a 20-30% reduction in the output of the state publishing houses, and a large (unspecified) increase in the activities of the new private and cooperative houses. New newspaper titles have been included in the weekly newspaper index, *Letopis' gazetnykh statei* (e.g., *Nezavisimaia gazeta*, *Kuranty*) and even more will be included as of January, 1992. As of 1991, *Letopis' retsenzii* includes reviews of foreign as well as domestic books. Given the changing and uncertain future of the Soviet Union, Mr. Levin remarked that one of the Palata's chief problems is simply defining the territory for which they will produce a national bibliography. According to him, Latvian and Estonian publishers are still sending deposit copies to Moscow, and he hoped that all Baltic publishers would continue to send at least their Russian language publications to the Palata for registration. Levin stated that according to Palata figures, 90% of materials from all current/former republics (including the RSFSR but excluding Lithuania) are being sent to Moscow for registration.

Lee and Levin answered several questions from the audience. East View will shortly be able to provide U.S. libraries with *Avtoreferaty dissertatsii*. Hitherto, monographs with press-runs of less than 100 have not been included in *Knizhnaia letopis'*; beginning in 1992, the national bibliography will include all items with a tirazh of 50 or more. In response to questions about the indexing of *Letopis' zhurnal'nykh statei* (which is at least ten years behind), Levin noted that beginning with 1992 issues, each weekly issue will contain personal and geographic name indexes, to be cumulated quarterly. Levin noted that the Palata's new complex in Mozhaisk (two buildings) has been completed and that the buildings are occupied by the Palata's Arkhiv pechati. Finally, Levin speculated some about the future of the Knizhnaia palata, noting that it had just been transferred to a Russian Republic ministry from which it would receive its funding in the future.

2. Reports from the field

Marianna Tax Choldin (University of Illinois/Urbana) reported on a number of meetings, conferences, events, and future plans.

- a. Two visitors are currently at Illinois and will be visiting several other libraries in the country: Elena Zapol'skaia (Irkutsk University Library) and Lindita Bubsj (National Library of Albania, Tirana).

- b. Various activities of the Bibliography, Information Retrieval and Documentation (BIRD) Committee, including the backlog reduction grant proposal made by BIRD and funded by SSRC. Members of the review subcommittee include Janet Crayne, Pat Polansky, Leena Siegelbaum, Blair Ruble, and one member yet to be selected. ABSEES has moved from the Library of Congress to the University of Illinois/Urbana; Aaron Trehub is the new editor, and other staff is in place and ready to begin working on the 1990 volume. They have plans to provide online, remote access as soon as possible. A February 1992 conference in Italy will explore the possibility of cooperation between the U.S. and European bibliographies.
- c. Choldin reported on the ABDOSD (German Slavic librarians) meeting in Cologne in April 1991, and the British Slavic librarians' meeting in Glasgow in September. Christine Thomas, editor of *Solanus*, is eager for American contributions and subscriptions to the journal.
- d. A conference was held at Oxford in late September and early October on the bibliographic control of the new (independent or unofficial) Soviet press. Sponsored by RFE/RL and the Signals Trust, the meeting was attended by librarians and bibliographers from Russia, Germany, France, Britain, and the United States. The BIRD Committee will seek funding to establish the international database/union list proposed by the conference participants.
- e. Choldin reported on the INION remote access pilot project. She needs ten US volunteer libraries to test the remote dial access to the INION databases. Helen Sullivan, Univ. of Illinois/Urbana, is the contact person for inquiries (217/333-1349).
- f. Progress has been made recently in e-mail contact with Eastern Europe and Russia (including the State Public Historical Library, Moscow).

Eric Johnson (Library of Congress) announced a call for interested parties to participate in the Conference on Baltic Studies, planned for Toronto in mid-June, 1992. There will be five library and bibliography-

related panels, and there are still remaining slots for people interested in giving papers or serving as discussants. Eric is coordinating the five panels and should be contacted if anyone is interested. Johnson also reported progress in establishing a uniform format for the international database of Soviet independent serials mentioned by Choldin. The format was developed by Johnson, Aleksandr Suetnov, and Marina Razorenova; a copy is available from Johnson upon request (202/707-9498).

Jürgen von Schultz (Kubon & Sagner, Munich) reported on the changing situation in the book trade in the USSR and Eastern Europe. Their company has been regularly attending the relevant book fairs to maintain contact with old publishers and establish such with the many new houses.

Henri de Mink (IDC, Leiden) reported on his firm's two years' microfilming experience at Soviet libraries—BAN, GPIB, and the Publichka in St. Petersburg. Their two major new projects are to film the author/title catalog at the Publichka, and to film the governors' detailed manuscript reports for the 1854-1917 period.

Norman Ross (N. Ross Publishing, New York) reported on his firm's activities, including the first publication (from galleys suppressed in the 1930s) of volume 4-5 of *Sibirskaiia sovetskaia entsiklopediia*. He is also soliciting input on desiderata to film from the Russian Historical Emigré Archives in Prague (recently re-discovered and described by Richard Kneeley, Columbia University). The library part of the Archive is still in Prague and was investigated by Kneeley in the summer of 1990. The manuscript part of the Archive was taken to the USSR in 1945 and split up among 26 Soviet repositories. Hugh Olmsted noted that he had just received a fax communication from Kneeley regarding the situation of the Emigré Archives in Prague.

Michaela Harnick (Columbia University) reported on her recent stay at the National Library, Prague, where she served as a consultant. The Library has just issued a new and very useful *Soupis periodik* of current Czech serials; also, a bibliography of samizdat serials which was issued in a press run of only fifty copies.

John Daly and Dawn Mann (RFE/RL, Munich) reported on activities at Radio Liberty/Radio Free Europe. The two weekly research reports are being combined into a single publication beginning with the first issues for 1992. Negotiations are underway to include the daily reports in the NEXIS database and on BITNET/INTERNET. They have located several new periodical dealers in Germany that can handle subscriptions for East European materials at reasonable rates (Mann distributed a list

of such; Allan Urbanic will distribute it to US Slavic librarians over the e-mail network). Finally, the second volume of the Superfin bibliography and holdings list of RL's independent serials has just been published (in the *Materialy samizdata* series).

Ann Robertson (IREX) reported on a new bibliography that IREX is producing listing published research funded by IREX. A retrospective bibliography is underway for the 25th anniversary of IREX in 1992. IREX is working with Patricia Grimsted (Harvard) on her ArcheoBiblioBase, a combined guide and bibliography on Soviet archives and manuscript repositories. IREX has just established a unified Committee on Archives, Libraries, and Information Science (covering both the USSR and Eastern Europe), combining three previous committees dealing with the same topics.

Patricia Grimsted (Harvard) reported on archival news and developments. She is working on expanding her ArcheoBiblioBase project, designed to provide researchers with information about Soviet repositories as well as specific citations to relevant finding aids. The USSR Central State archives are now under the jurisdiction of the RSFSR Committee on Archives (R. Pikhoya, Chair). Grimsted also reported the great interest in the fate of German archives taken to the USSR after World War II.

Aleksandr Kershteyn (MIPP, Brooklyn) reported, in Russian, on his firm's activities as US representatives of the Moscow Bureau of Information Exchange. They have distributed lists of Russian and other Soviet periodicals available on subscription; the list includes a number of independent titles. A microfiche project is underway for independent newspapers, begun in early 1991. Sample fiches are available for inspection.

Luba Pendzey (University of Toronto) reported on programs developed with the Central Scientific Library in Kiev and the Stefanyk Library in Lvov.

Robert Davis, Jonathan Goldsmith, Serge Gleboff, Natalia Zitselsberger, and Wojciech Siemaszkiewicz (Slavic & Baltic Division, New York Public Library) reported on recent NYPL activities. (see Reports from the U.S. and Canada, Acquisitions, and Grants sections)

June Pachuta Farris (University of Chicago) reminded those in attendance that she edits a library- and bibliography-related news column in the *AAASS Newsletter*. Items to be included should be sent directly to her.

Allan Urbanic (University of California/Berkeley) reported on the recently-established e-mail network among US Slavic librarians. There

are currently 36 members participating. Several institutions, including the Library of Congress, still do not have access to the network which reports on new developments in the field, and which may be expanded to include difficult reference and cataloging inquiries.

Patricia Polansky (University of Hawaii/Manoa) reported on a recent trip to Siberia and the Soviet Far East, and on several issues arising therefrom.

Molly Molloy (Hoover Institution) announced a February 1, 1992, deadline for submission of articles to her for the ALA SEES *Newsletter*.

Wojciech Zalewski (Stanford University) reported on several bibliographic projects currently underway at the Saltykov Shchedrin State Public Library, St. Petersburg. Zalewski also raised the issue of bibliographic records entered into local automated systems (particularly NOTIS) that are not included in the major utilities such as RLIN or OCLC.

Nadia Zilper (University of North Carolina) requested Olmsted to establish a new subcommittee to monitor recent developments in the area of the book trade. Zilper will draft charges for the proposed subcommittee and mail them to Olmsted for follow-up and action.

Those present discussed possible panels for the 1992 Phoenix conference. The deadline for submission of completed panel proposals to Molly Molloy is January 1, 1992. The group proposed six panels and delegated responsibility for organizing them: Cataloging (Konstantin Gurevich); Online systems and databases (Molly Molloy); Independent Press (Harry Leich); Cooperative Collection Development (Miranda Beaven Remnek); Archives (Joseph Dwyer); and Exchanges and Contacts, East-West (Marianna Tax Choldin and Irene Steckler).

3. ALA ACRL/Slavic and East European Section

Tanja Lorković (Yale University), Chair of the Section, reported on recent activities and developments within the Slavic and East European Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries. There are about 300 section members and the programs at the annual summer conferences have been popular. She discussed the most recent programs and upcoming sessions on continuing education. Fifty copies of the newsletter were distributed at the 1991 IFLA meetings in Moscow.

Lorković also reported on a new subcommittee of the ALA International Relations Committee, dealing with US/USSR library relations. The subcommittee is headed by Helen Teplitskaia (University of Illinois/Chicago).

Lorković noted that a Friends of the Saltykov-Shchedrin Public Library, St. Petersburg, has been formed and is soliciting donations of money and materials.

4. Library of Congress

Harold Leich (Library of Congress) reported on developments at the Library of Congress.

- a. Various new staff appointments in the European Division: Ronald Bachman, Polish Area Specialist; Predrag Pajic, Reference Librarian; Michael Neubert, Reference Librarian; in the Music Division, David Cooper as Russian specialist; in the Exchange & Gift Division, Eric A. Johnson as Senior Soviet Exchange Specialist.
- b. Several acquisitions trips were made in 1992: Predrag Pajic to Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, and Albania. George Kovtun travelled to Czechoslovakia. Bohdan Yasinsky made several trips to the Ukraine. Kenneth Nyirady made several acquisitions visits in Hungary during a six-week stay there. Eric Johnson travelled to the Baltic countries in the summer of 1991 and also visited several exchange partners in Moscow as well as LC's Moscow Office.
- c. ABSEES has moved to the University of Illinois/Urbana. The 1989 volume, the last compiled at LC, is currently being produced.
- d. The Slavic librarians' directory will now be updated and produced by the European Division. David Kraus will be in charge of it, and questionnaires will be mailed to all institutions in January, 1992. A new edition will be issued in mid-1992.
- e. Leich reported on the reopening of the Main Reading Room and the recent relocation of European Division staff and reference offices to Alcoves around and above the Main Reading Room.

- f. Several Slavic publications have been issued at LC in the past year including Zbigniew Kantorosinski's *Polish Independent Publications* and Eric Johnson, Michael Neubert, and Harold Leich's *New Soviet and Baltic Independent Serials*. The 1988 cumulation of ABSEES, compiled in the European Division, was published in 1991 by AAASS.
- g. LC has been flooded with visitors, particularly from the USSR. Recent important visitors included Vaclav Havel, Patriarch Aleksii, and Egor Ligachev.
- h. LC has placed top priority on reducing arrearages. The European Division has two backlog-related projects: Soviet serials from the 1917-1939 period (being entered into the OCLC database) and Russian and Ukrainian pamphlets from the 1860-1939 period.
- i. Leich distributed a list of the fifteen special LC Soviet-related projects coordinated by the Librarian's Office. (See Section III, News from the U.S. and Canada)

AAASS Bibliography and Documentation Committee, Subcommittee on Access to Research Materials

New appointments have been made for the Subcommittee on Access to Research Materials, which functions as a clearing-house for information on access (in the broadest sense) to libraries, archives, and other research resources in the Slavic and East European world. Current membership is as follows:

Harold M. Leich, Chair (Library of Congress), 1990-1992
 Keith Bush (Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty), 1992-1994
 Marianna Tax Choldin (Univ. of Illinois/Urbana), 1990-1992
 Joseph Dwyer (Hoover Institution), 1992-1994
 Murray Feshbach (Georgetown Univ.), 1992-1994
 Wesley Fisher (IREX), 1991-1993
 J. Arch Getty (Univ. of California/Riverside), 1992-1994
 Patricia Kennedy Grimsted (Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute), 1992-1994
 Randi Ryterman (Univ. of Pennsylvania), 1992-1994
 George Ursul (Emerson College), 1992-1994.

The Subcommittee welcomes reports on experiences in libraries and archives in Eastern Europe and the former USSR. Please contact Harold M. Leich (European Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540; fax 202-707-8482).

III. Reports

NEWS FROM THE U.S. AND CANADA

ABSEES update

ABSEES moved from the Library of Congress to the University of Illinois in the fall of 1991. The volume for 1989 will be appearing in April. We hope to have the 1990 volume out by the fall. We are developing an online version of ABSEES, hopefully ready by the end of the year. Both versions, paper and online, will have subject access, which should make them easier to use. Please send copies or citations of articles or books published in North America from 1990 onward to: Editor, ABSEES, Room 246A, University of Illinois Library, 1408 W. Gregory Dr., Urbana, IL 61801. Telephone: (217) 244-3899; FAX: (217) 244-3077; E-mail: absees@ux1.csouiu.edu. (Aaron Trehub)

Acquisitions Conference at U. of Illinois, June 26-28, 1991

Twenty-five Slavic librarians from the United States and Canada met in Urbana to discuss recent developments in the acquisition of material from the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. Sessions concentrated on monographs, serials, independent publications, exchanges, remote access to online catalogs, the e-mail network for Slavic librarians, and other suggestions for improving accessibility to Soviet and East European publications. Kirill Sapelkin of Znanie bookstore in San Francisco spoke to the group about his newly computerized operation and the use of Mezhnig bibliographic data in machine-readable form. Natalie Zabavsky of Victor Kamkin bookstore spoke about their operations. Individual and small group meetings were held with both Sapelkin and Zabavsky.

Most participants left with a sense that the situation was still in flux.
(Bob Burger, University of Illinois)

Book Culture Workshop, New York, March 1991

An all-day workshop on "The Crisis of Book Culture in Eastern Europe and the USSR: Developing New Programs of Assistance" was held at the New York Public Library's Slavic and Baltic Division on March 28, 1991. The meeting was sponsored by PUBWATCH, a non-profit organization that coordinates Western assistance to publishers and booksellers in Eastern and Central Europe. The main purpose of the meeting was to introduce one another to the various American constituencies interested in assisting book culture in the East. Publishers, booksellers, and librarians met with representatives of the foundation world and the Federal government's U.S. Information Agency (U.S.I.A.). Approximately 30 participants attended the workshop.

The day was divided into four sessions. Session I was an overview of the problems facing the book trades. Speakers included Edward Kasinec, Peter B. Kaufman, chair of PUBWATCH; Grzegorz Boguta, chair of the Polish Chamber of the Book, managing director of Panstwowe Wydawnictwo Naukowe, and co-founder of NOWA Publishers in Warsaw. Session II featured discussion of some of the exemplary assistance programs that American publishers and other book people have introduced in the region. Michael Jensen, Electronic Media Manager of the University of Nebraska Press in Lincoln, discussed Nebraska's initiative in establishing, with donations from Apple Europe in Sweden, a viable publishing program, centered on desktop systems, at Charles University in Prague. William Brinton at Mercury House discussed the pre-press technology that he had recently donated to *Lidove noviny* in Prague for its newspapers and book series. Norman Ross detailed the vital efforts of Norman Ross Publishing in micro-filming, with the assistance of the Charter 77 Foundation and other philanthropies, archives and book collections to preserve them against natural disasters and decomposition, and to make them more readily available to scholars in the West.

Session III focused on the programs of some of the leading foundations that contribute money and assistance to the region. Tania Vitvitsky presented the ongoing and much-needed program of the Sabre Foundation, which delivers hundreds of thousands of American books to registered non-profit institutions in the region. Patricia Klecanda, emphasizing the needs of Bulgaria and Romania, addressed the aid-to-

publishing programs of the Soros Foundation, which in 1990 gave a total of \$24 million of assistance to Eastern and Central Europe and the USSR. Wendy Luers of the Charter 77 Foundation elaborated on the million dollars worth of computers and publishing equipment that the Foundation had given to Czechoslovakia. Sally Laird of the Central and East European Publishing Project in the U.K. spoke of the wide-ranging grant-giving operations of her project; a sophisticated project, funded by major philanthropies, which is now moving away from its traditional focus on underground and emigré presses in the region. All agreed on the need for a clearinghouse of information for aid projects to streamline information and avoid duplication of effort.

In the closing Session IV, James Morad, Chief of Book Programs at the U.S.I.A., detailed the assistance programs: translations of American texts, donated books, start-up grants, past and future. With more money appropriated by Congress, the so-called SEED II grants will likely include various training programs. John Cole, Director of the Center of the Book at the Library of Congress, wrapped up the meeting with an overview of the links that LC has forged with other leading libraries in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. (Edward Kasinec, NYPL)

Continuing Education Workshops in San Francisco

The Continuing Education Committee of SEES is offering two workshops on Saturday, June 27th at the 1992 ALA Annual Convention. The first session, to be held from 9-12 noon, will be "Slavic and East European Collections and the Dilemmas of the Non-Specialist." Workshop leaders will be Allan Urbanic (U. of Calif., Berkeley), Wojciech Zalewski (Stanford), Leena Siegelbaum (Michigan State), and Laszlo Kovacs (St. Olaf's College). They will discuss a wide range of topics, which may include: what to collect: vernacular material vs. English language material; basic selection tools; key publishers and vendors; and current issues in technical services; public service issues. This session will be invaluable for the non-specialist, non-Slavicist, or any librarian whose assignments include the part-time selection, cataloging, or public service of Slavic materials. It will also be useful for the new Slavic librarian or the library school student interested in the Slavic field.

For the more advanced Slavic librarian, SEES is offering a Saturday afternoon workshop (from 2-4) entitled "New Challenges in Slavic and East European Librarianship." There will be short presentations on many topics, including: collection development and policy; access to collections outside the U.S.; exchange relations; and how to plan and carry

out an acquisitions trip. Speakers will be Alan Pollard (U. of Michigan), Harold Leich (Library of Congress), Sandra Levy (U. of Chicago), Ared Misirliyan (U. of Pennsylvania), and Joseph Dwyer (Hoover Institution).

For further information, please contact Laszlo Kovacs, (507) 645-9649 or Susan Burke, (206) 543-5588; sburke@u.washington.edu.

Hoover and Roskomarkhiv to film KPSS archives

A comprehensive program for preserving on microfilm the archives of the former Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the State Archives — materials now under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Archival Affairs of the Russian Federation (Roskomarkhiv) — will be undertaken jointly by Roskomarkhiv and the Hoover Institution.

Dr. Rudolf G. Pikhov, Chair of Roskomarkhiv, and Dr. John Raisian, Director of the Hoover Institution, today announced their intention to begin the joint, 3 million dollar preservation project in April, and to make the microfilms broadly accessible to the Russian people and the world community of scholars. All microfilms will be opened for research in Moscow at Roskomarkhiv and in the U.S. at the Hoover Institution. An Editorial Board, chaired by Dr. Pikhov and composed of prominent international scholars, will select the materials to be filmed.

Roskomarkhiv and the Hoover Institution, in association with the International Committee of Scholarly Advisers chaired by the U.S. Librarian of Congress Dr. James H. Billington, will publish selected microfilms covering record groups of greatest interest to scholars. Distribution outside Russia will be through the publishing firm of Chadwyck-Healey, Ltd. of Cambridge, England. Copies of the published microfilms will be deposited at the Russian State Library (the former Lenin Library) and the Library of Congress.

As part of the agreement, the Hoover Institution will provide financial support of the project, and will establish a fund to support a scholarly and archival exchange program in the field of Russian studies. The Hoover Institution will also provide copies of its microfilms of Russian materials to Roskomarkhiv. The Hoover Institution currently holds one of the world's largest and richest collections of materials on 20th century Russian history outside of Russia.

Chadwyck-Healey signed a separate microfilm publishing agreement with Roskomarkhiv in December 1991. Publication is already underway and will continue in parallel with this new, more comprehensive program. (Hoover/Roskomarkhiv press release, March 10, 1992)

Hoover/UMI microfilming projects

University Microfilms International recently announced that it will film and distribute on microfilm the Boris I. Nicolaevsky collection, regarded as one of the preeminent archival holdings in the world on modern Russian history. The Leon Trotsky papers are also being filmed. (*Microform Review*, Winter 1991)

In Memoriam

Robert Vincent Allen, retired Russian/Soviet Specialist in the European Division at the Library of Congress, died November 24, 1991, at the age of 68.

A native of Illinois, Allen received his Bachelor's degree from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale. After Army service during World War II, he attended Yale University, receiving a Master's degree in 1945 and his Ph.D. in Russian history in 1950. After teaching for two years at the University of Toronto, Allen came to the Library of Congress as Senior Research Analyst in the former Air Research Division. In November 1960 he became Area Specialist for Russia and the Soviet Union in the Slavic and Central European Division, the predecessor to today's European Division. He retired from federal service in 1985.

Allen participated in the compilation of several published bibliographies on Russia and East Europe, and taught courses in Russian history at the American and George Washington universities. He contributed reviews and articles to a number of journals, including the *American historical review*, *William and Mary quarterly*, *Slavic review*, and the *Quarterly journal of the Library of Congress*. Allen's chief research interest was Russian writings about the United States, in particular Soviet historical studies about the American Civil War. He visited the USSR a number of times, most recently in summer 1991.

His publications include *Russian studies of American literature: a bibliography* (Univ. of North Carolina Press, 1969) and *Russia looks at America: the view to 1917* (Library of Congress, 1988). Allen had accumulated a wealth of material for a companion volume to the latter publication, consisting of detailed citations and annotations to over 6,000 pre-revolutionary Russian books and articles on the U.S. The European Division is in the process of editing and converting these citations to machine-readable form with the intention of publishing them.

Library of Congress News

1. LC to aid libraries in Eastern Europe

LC is developing programs and exploring funding possibilities to provide technical assistance and core libraries on democracy as an essential component of creating a culture of democracy and preserving the positive legacy of the past in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. A needs-assessment team headed by Declan Murphy visited Czechoslovakia in September and a Czech delegation came to LC in October. The Librarian of Congress is advising the American Committee to Aid Poland on help to the Sejm library.

The current emphasis on the fire-recovery project at the Academy of Sciences Library (BAN) in St. Petersburg is on phased conservation and providing private funding for conservation efforts. LC is coordinating with German "Friends of BAN" to assist in the replacement of destroyed collections. Two BAN specialists visited LC in April 1991 for phased conservation work, under the auspices of the Getty Foundation. Getty is providing additional funding for LC specialists to continue assisting BAN in these efforts.

2. LC Exhibits

On May 3, 1991, the Library unveiled a small exhibition: "The Bicentennial of the Polish Constitution: All Power Shall Be Derived from the Will of the People," observing the 200th anniversary of this work, the first written fundamental law in modern Europe. The exhibit is on indefinite display in the Madison Building. It includes the first edition of a contemporary English translation of the constitution, and other works from the Rare Book and Special Collections Division.

The "Averell Harriman: A Statesman for All Seasons" exhibit opened on November 14, 1991, celebrating the 100th anniversary of Harriman's birth. A register of his papers, "the most heavily used collection of papers in the Library's Manuscript Division," was also published. A symposium was also held, exploring his legacy of public service on the domestic and international fronts. The exhibit ran until March 29th.

The Prokudin-Gorsky Travelling Exhibit (photographs from LC collection) travelled through the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe in late 1991, with USIA collaboration.

"The Press for Freedom: Independent Newspapers from the Baltics and the USSR," opened December 1991. (See *LC Information Bulletin*, January 27 for a full description.)

3. LC's Georgian collection

LC Exchange & Gift Division is coordinating acquisitions of Georgian publications with the National Library of Georgia and other major Georgian libraries, following the Georgian government's designation of LC as a depository library for all new Georgian publications. Cataloging of Georgian arrearsages (over 2,000 titles) has been completed.

4. Medieval Russian Manuscript Microfilm Project

This project envisions the microfilming of very rare, valuable, and unique medieval Russian manuscripts at three St. Petersburg libraries: the Institute of Russian Literature "Pushkin House," Academy of Sciences Library (BAN), and Saltykov-Shchedrin Public Library. Inspired by Academician Dmitrii S. Likhachev, and with the help of small start-up grant, LC has established an American scholarly committee to approve the lists of candidate manuscripts.

5. Visiting Fellows Program

Funded by the Soros Foundation, this program will make it possible for up to 12 librarians and information specialists from Eastern Europe per year to spend 2-3 months at LC for hands-on training and exposure to LC philosophy and practice. As the ultimate model of a national, parliamentary, and universal library, LC is in a unique position to provide the Fellows with broad and in-depth training.

Mid-Atlantic Slavic Conference, 1991

The 15th Annual Mid-Atlantic Slavic Conference, February 7, 1991, included two library-related panels: "Roundtable on the current press in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union," (chair: Wojciech Siemaszkiewicz, NYPL; participants: Ginte Damusis, Lithuanian Information Center; Milan Fryscak, NYU; Janis Kreslins, Council on Foreign Relations; Krystyna Olszer, *Polish Review*; Nicholas Thorner, LC) and "Roundtable on Slavic and East European collections and new consti-

tencies: business and law" (chair: Edward Kasinec, NYPL; participants: Lucy Cox, Rutgers; Marta Tarnawsky, U. of Pennsylvania; Norman Ross, Norman Ross Publishing; James Barkas, Business Network International).

Retirements

Zora K. Kipel, Assistant Chief of the Slavic & Baltic Division, retired from the New York Public Library in May of 1991, after twenty-five years of service.

Born in Belarus, Zora Kipel received her first academic degree in chemistry from the University of Louvain. She came to the U.S. in 1955, later earning a MLS at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. Shortly after graduation, she began work at the NYPL as a science cataloger, and in 1981, joined the Slavic & Baltic Division (then Slavonic) as Assistant Chief. In 1986 she received a Master's degree in comparative literature from Rutgers.

Mrs. Kipel remains active in many Belarusian ethnic organizations, including the Belarusian Institute of Arts & Sciences (NY), and currently serves as acting editor of the only Belarusian newspaper in the U.S., *Belarus*. Her publications include contributions to *The New Jersey Ethnic Experience* (Wm.H. Wise, 1977), a translation of a 16th century Belarusian prose *Tristan* held by the Poznan Public Library (Garland, 1989), and, in collaboration with her husband Vitaut, bibliographies entitled *Ianka Kupala i Iakub Kolas na Zakhadze* (Belaruski instytut navuki i mastatstva, 1985), and *Byelorussian Statehood: Reader and Bibliography* (Byelorussian Institute of Arts and Sciences, 1988). In the summer of 1991 Mrs. Kipel returned to Belarus to participate in the World Congress of Belarusianists. (R.H. Davis, Jr.)

Jelka Pogačnik Sheehan retired on October 31, 1991, after 35 years in Widener Library, Harvard University. Mrs. Sheehan worked in Widener's Slavic Department for 34 of those years. With her wide-ranging knowledge of Slavic librarianship, she made numerous contributions to the library and the academic community. A native of Ljubljana, Slovenia, she was the South Slavic specialist for collection development, cataloging, and reference. She also served for many years as chief cataloger and Assistant Head of the Slavic Department. Through participation and various presentations at national conferences, particularly at AAASS, she acquainted a wider audience with Harvard's rich and unique Slavic collections.

Slavic Librarians' Directory

The European Division of the Library of Congress has assumed responsibility for updating and producing the *International Directory of Librarians and Library Specialists in the Slavic and East European Field*. The Division is preparing a fourth edition of this work. Questionnaires will be mailed to all institutions listed in the third edition (1990) with a request for updated information. For further information, please contact David Kraus (European Division, Library of Congress, Washington DC 20540; fax 202-707-8482).

Slavic librarians help MLA

Miranda Beaven Remnek (U. of Minnesota), Janet Crayne (U. of Virginia), and Alena Aissing (U. of Florida) have joined the ACRL "MLA Bibliography" Scope and Overlap Committee, jointly sponsored by ACRL and MLA. Miranda will be working on 19th century Russian literature, Janet on 20th century Russian literature, and Alena will concentrate on Slavic linguistics. Suggestions and comments are welcome.

NEWS FROM ABROAD

ALA Institute in Romania

ALA sponsored a Summer Institute on principles and practices of American librarianship on August 10-12, 1991, in Brasov, Romania. The Institute was attended by more than 100 Romanian public and academic librarians, administrators, and library school educators. The American delegation consisted of 17 educators, administrators, and librarians under the leadership of Marilyn Miller, ALA President Elect, Professor and Chair of the Department of Library and Information Studies at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. The Institute was an outgrowth of ALA's successful Books for Romania project, concluded in May 1991, which delivered more than 240,000 scholarly books and journals to Romanian libraries. The estimated value of the books and journals was more than \$4 million. The Summer Institute was supported by a grant from the International Research & Exchanges Board (IREX) and the National Library of Romania.

The overall intent of the program was to familiarize Romanian librarians with the educational, information science concepts and tools as a basis for further scholarly interaction; informing practicing librarians about public and technical services offered in the U.S.; promoting the adoption of international library standards facilitating scholarly access to research resources in Romania; and increasing international understanding and scholarly cooperation through the establishment of professional and personal relationships, and the accomplishment of mutual goals. Topics discussed included: education for librarianship, the role and mission of library associations, library organization and management, public and technical services, computer searching, and library automation. The Summer Institute was followed by meetings and discussions with Romanian librarians and on-site visits to major Romanian libraries. (*ALCTS Network News*)

American-Baltic Scholarly Center established in Riga

The Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies (AABS) and the International Research & Exchanges Board, Inc. (IREX) announced the establishment of a Baltic Scholarly Center in Riga on September 6, 1991. The center will be the first American non-governmental office in the newly independent Baltic states. This is the first practical step to assure sustained broad cooperation between scholars in the Baltics and the Western scholarly community. The Center will be jointly operated by U.S. and Baltic staff, and will contain offices, conference rooms, a reference library, and an advising facility. Technical advice and equipment will be especially welcome. Agreement has also been reached with related Lithuanian and Estonian scholarly organizations to participate in the operation of the center and to expand its activities to all three Baltic states. (e-mail network)

British Librarians' Study Tour, April 1991

In April 1991, a delegation of eleven British librarians spent two weeks visiting libraries in Siberia (Novosibirsk and Tomsk) and Moscow. The visit was hosted and superbly organised by VGNTB (The All-Union State Scientific Library) in Novosibirsk and VGBIL (The All-Union State Library of Foreign Literature) in Moscow. Travel costs to and from the Soviet Union were paid by the British Council. All of the delegates except two were librarians working in the field of Russian,

and all were Russian speakers, which contributed greatly to the success of the visit.

Of all the changes that had taken place since the 1982 study tour, two were most striking. The first was the degree of openness with which Soviet librarians were able to discuss their situation. Although in 1982 we amassed quite a lot of practical and useful information and often found individual librarians willing to talk realistically about their possibilities, we were still in an era when Soviet librarians were called upon to impress foreigners with the achievements of their library system, and we felt the need to read between the lines on occasions when we were bombarded by impressive-sounding statistics. Because of changes associated with glasnost, we felt in 1991 that we gained real insight into the workings of the Soviet library system and were able to appreciate real achievements.

The second striking change was in what Soviet libraries see as their role. Rather than promoting Communist policy, the concept of the "sovereignty" of the reader is coming into currency, and librarians now have to think of the task of catering for public demand instead of (or as well as) guiding and educating their readers.

Our warmest thanks are due to the British Council for funding the trip and to our Russian hosts. We will have an opportunity to attempt to return their hospitality in December (1991) when a return delegation of staff from VGTNB and VGBIL will spend two weeks visiting libraries in Britain. (Christine Thomas, *The British Library*, from *SCONUL-ACOSEEM Newsletter*, no. 50, Summer 1991)

Conference on Soviet Independent Publications

With funding from the Signals Trust, St. Antony's College, Oxford, and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, a conference was held in Oxford, September 30-October 4, 1991, on issues in the acquisition and bibliographic control of the Soviet independent press. American institutions represented included Harvard, the Hoover Institution, the University of Illinois/Urbana, the Library of Congress, and the University of North Carolina. Representatives from a number of West European and Soviet institutions were also present.

One of the goals of the conference was to establish an international database of bibliographic and holdings information for the Soviet independent press. As a result of agreements reached at the conference, efforts are underway to secure funding and an institutional home for the

project. RFE/RL, Inc., plans to publish the papers and debates of the conference in early 1992. (Harold Leich)

Friends of the St. Petersburg Public Library

Russia's oldest library, the St. Petersburg Public Library, is regaining its former eminence as one of the world's great collections. Until 1917 the main library of the empire, it is still unsurpassed for pre-revolutionary holdings. Its low status as an RSFSR republican library and the main library of Leningrad, a secondary center, meant an inadequate budget, especially in the case of the hard currency budget for foreign acquisitions. The current economic crisis makes it extremely difficult to rectify the situation.

In response to the library's needs, a group of American scholars and interested citizens have come together to help out. Based in New Haven, Connecticut, Paul Bushkovitch, Tanja Lorković, Alexander Schenker, Igor Sikorsky, Jr., and Richard Ballard have formed the Friends of the St. Petersburg Public Library. Though most of us are connected with Yale University, our organization is not a university office but a public organization. Yale's Sterling Memorial Library has graciously allowed us to use its shipping and other facilities. The Public Library's director, Vladimir Zaitsev, has offered his full cooperation, and has informed us that his priority is the acquisition of: 1) Russian emigré publications, from 1917 to the present, 2) post-1917 Western Russica, anything relating to Russia in any respect, history, culture, or society, both older works and the latest publications of Western scholars, and 3) books by Russians abroad, even if not on Russian themes. We are providing books, not money, and urge our colleagues with books in the above categories to send them to the address below for reshipment to the Public library by whatever means currently available. We hope to contribute not only to our Soviet colleagues' needs but to the much needed revival of St. Petersburg. For further information contact: Friends of the St. Petersburg Public Library, Slavic and East European Collections, 406 Sterling Memorial Library, 120 High St., Box 1603A Yale Station, Yale University, New Haven, CT 06520. (See T. Lorković's paper from ALA Annual conference)

Helsinki area library collections

In the course of the last several decades, the collections of the Slavonic Library of the Helsinki University Library have become widely

known. However, material is housed in a number of other collections in the Helsinki area which are of importance to specialists in Russian and East European studies. In a recent interview with Dr. Jarmo Suonsyrja, Head of the Slavonic Library, Helsinki University Library, Edward Kasinec from the New York Public Library was informed about Russian materials in five of these collections: 1) the Library of the Russian Merchants' Society in Helsinki; 2) the Central Library of Military Research; 3) the Library of the Central Statistical Office; 4) the Valamo Monastery Collection; and 5) the Slavic Collection of the Finnish Labor Archives.

The Library of the Russian Merchants' Society in Helsinki was founded in 1938, and contains approximately 14,000 volumes. Its strengths are in the areas of emigré literature (particularly from the Baltics), Russian art books, and children's books. The library itself is a physical reminder of emigré life in the 1920s-30s.

The Central Library of Military Research consists of approximately 500 shelf-meters of Russian material, half of which dates from the Imperial period. This collection was created by the consolidation of the Cadet Corps Library and the surprisingly rich collections of the Russian regimental libraries, which took place after Finland achieved independence in 1917. The collection's strengths are in regimental histories, as well as reference works such as *Voennaia entsiklopediia* (Petrograd, 1915). In addition, there are numerous *ukazy* and *prikazy* dating from the early 19th century to 1917. Many of the regimental library books bear beautiful bookplates specially designed for each volume.

The Library of the Central Statistical Office consists of collections of the Central Statistical Office of the Finnish Grand Duchy. This office received materials from the Central Statistical Administration in St. Petersburg from the mid-19th century on. It includes a full set of the *Pervaia vseobshchaia perepis' naseleniia Rossiiskoi imperii 1897* (St. Petersburg, 1899-1905). The communist leader Edward Gyling (b. 1881) was at one point a scholar at Helsinki University with a good working relationship with the Statistical Library. He sent a good deal of Soviet statistical material back to Helsinki until his death in Stalin's purges (1938?).

The Valamo Monastery Collection contains approximately 32,000 volumes, primarily of religious literature, and 270 manuscripts from the old Valaam Monastery on Lake Ladoga. The Finnish Orthodox Church has deposited 12,000 rare titles and all the manuscripts with Helsinki University. The remaining 20,000 titles are in the new Valamo Monastery Library near Heinävesi, north of Helsinki. Over the years,

the old Valaam Monastery Library resisted discarding material subsequently declared heterodox; for example, works by a former *Igumen* of the Valaam Monastery and great bibliophile, Damaskin (Daniil K. Kononov, 1791-1881). This may be in many respects a unique collection.

Finally, the Slavic Collection of the Finnish Labour Archives, consisting mainly of materials in Russian, was until the mid-1980s unorganized and therefore unavailable for use by researchers. A catalog of Russian language holdings was completed in 1986 with the help of the Institute for Cultural Relations between Finland and the USSR. However, the Labour Archives include much material dealing with Russian and the USSR in other languages as well. The 2500 monograph titles and 500 periodical titles listed in the catalog were most likely collected by Finnish labour leaders. The monographs date mainly from 1905 to 1917, newspapers from 1917 to 1925, and journals from 1900 to 1940. The Archives' strengths are social and historical literature and fiction. There is a wealth of material dealing with revolutionary activities, the history of the labour movement, legal issues, and land and the peasantry.

The collections described above, all located in the immediate Helsinki area, comprise a rich and unusual group of resources. Slavists should recognize the research value of these collections, both separately as unique entities and collectively as a significant complement to the riches of Helsinki University's holdings.

E. Kasinec, with R.H. Davis, Jr., and Benjamin E. Goldsmith (NYPL)

Hoover office in Warsaw

The Hoover Institution has opened a library and archival acquisitions office in Warsaw to help expand its documentation of the sweeping changes taking place through Eastern Europe and the (now former) USSR. The office is directed by Maciej Siekierski, deputy curator of the East European Collection at Hoover. Siekierski holds a doctorate in Russian and East European history from the University of California, Berkeley, as well as a MLS. (*C&RL News*, May 1991)

IFLA: Selected papers and workshops

R.H. Davis, Jr.

The list below, of selected papers on Slavic librarianship and bibliography from IFLA's 57th Conference held in Moscow August 16-23, is intended as a reference resource for library professionals interested in ordering reprints of conference papers from IFLA. Included are only those papers perceived to be of greatest interest to the general research and academic library communities. Many papers were authored by prominent Russian librarians and bibliographers, among them N.I. Tiulina, and B.A. Semenovker. Arrangement of the list is by IFLA Division. The specific identifier assigned to each paper by IFLA is included to facilitate orders. IFLA's method of transliteration and its translations of titles have been retained. Papers not examined *de visu* are marked with an asterisk. The address for ordering follows this list.

Division of General Research Libraries

"On the Concept of the Development of the National Library of the USSR," by N.I. Tyulina, Senior Researcher, LSL. (78-Nat-1-E)

"University Libraries in the USSR," V.V. Mosyagin, Director, Moscow University Scientific Library. (24-Un-1-E)

Division of Special Libraries Services

"Information Ensurance [sic] of a Scientist," V. Matveyev, Deputy Director, INION. (10-Soc-1-E)

"Maps for Planning," V.I. Zhukov, Professor, Chair of Cartography, Moscow University; L.G. Rudenko, Institute of Geophysics, Academy of Sciences of the Ukrainian SSR. (3-Geo-1-E)

"Development of Atlas Cartography in the USSR," O.A. Yevteyev, Laboratory Chief, Geographical Faculty, Moscow University; N.Ye. Kotelnikova, Chief, Cartographic Department, LSL. (5-Geo-2-R+E)

"Soyuzmedinform Computer Technology and Soviet Medical Data Bases," B. Loguinov, Director of the State Central Scientific Medical Library, Moscow. (69-Biol-1/Scie-1-E)

"Experiences in Using Soviet Databases in Scandinavia," Sauli Laitinen, Technical Research Center of Finland, Information Service. (107-Biol-2/Scie-2-E)

*"Scientific and Technical Libraries of the USSR: Short Survey," Andrei Zemskov, Director of the USSR National Public Library for Science and Technology. (302-Scie-Uninvited-R+E)

*"Current Trends in the Department of Automated Technologies in Large Multibranch libraries," Jakov D. Shraiberg, Chief Designer of Automated Library Systems and Networks, USSR National Public Library for Science and Technology. (304-Scie-Uninvited-R+E)

"The Functioning of the Lenin State Library of the USSR Information System on Culture and Arts," T.I. Lapteva, Deputy Director, LSL. (1-Art-1-E)

Division of Serving the General Public

"The Main Activities of the Central Collector for Research Libraries," A.P. Kuznetsov, Director of the Central Collector for Research Libraries, Moscow. (64-ROTNAC-1-E)

Division of Bibliographic Control

"International Cataloging Policy Impact on the Development of Bibliographic Description: Normative Basis in the USSR," L. Chibisenkova, Deputy Chief, Department of Foreign Librarianship and International Library Relations, LSL. (22-Cat-1-E)

"National Bibliography of the USSR--Cultural Wealth of the Society," A.A. Dzhigo, Head, department of National Bibliography, All-Union Book Chamber, Moscow. (63-Bibl-2-E)

*"Conceptual Foundations of National Bibliography," Alexey L. Muratov, Deputy Director; Boris A. Semenovker, Leading Researcher, Department of National Bibliography, All-Union Book Chamber, Moscow. (142-Bibl-6(WS)-E)

*"Les activités de la bibliothèque nationale dans la création des répertoires des publications nationales leur rôle dans le développement

de la culture," T. Kuznetsova, [Chief, Library of Foreign Literature, Moscow]. (141-Bibl-5(WS)-F)

"Thematical Search in the Automated Library System on the Basis of the Library Bibliographic Classification (IBC) with Subject Entry," O.A. Lavryonova, Sector Chief, Department of Automation, LSL. (2-Clas-1-E)

Division of Collections and Services

"Acquisition Policy of the USSR National Library Collection," Z.P. Sorokina, Consultant, Library of the Secretariat of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Moscow. (8-Acquis-1-E)

"Interlending in New Environments," S.N. Prosekova, Chief of Lending Department, LSL. (9-Intl-1-E)

"The System of Union Catalogues of Serials: State-of-the-Art and Prospects," N.N. Kasparova and A.S. Chistyakova, Catalog Department, LSL. (18-Ser-1-E)

"Collection Development and Management Problems Associated with Russian and Slavic Newspapers: The Hoover Institution Library's Experience," Judith Fortson, Hoover Institution. (47-News-1-E)

"The Newspaper Collection of the Lenin State Library and its Opening and Access," Olga Yadykina, Chief, the Newspaper Department, LSL. (118-News-2-E)

"The Lenin State Library of the USSR as a National Library and Official Publications," T.V. Ershova, Sector Chief, Department of Foreign Acquisitions and International Book Exchange, LSL. (13-Gi&Op-1-E)

"Control and Use of Rare Books Special Collections in the Largest Libraries of the USSR," T.I. Kondakova, Head of Rare Book Research Department, Museum of the Book, LSL. (19-Rare-1-E)

"Slavonic Rare Books and Manuscripts in Libraries in the United Kingdom: History and Provenance," Christine Thomas, The British Library. (32-Rare-2-E)

*"Scientific Value of the Incunabula and Palaeotype Collections of the Saltykov-Shchedrin Public Library," A.Kh. Gorfunkel, SSPL. (300-Rare-Uninvited-E+R)

Division of Management and Technology

"The State Conservation Programme (Concept Approach)," Tamara Burtseva, Chief, Department of Restoration of Library Collections; Zinaida Dvoriashina, Chief, Research Laboratory on the Conservation of Documents, LSL. (102-Conserv-1-E)

Spatial Development and Disposition of Services of the State Lenin Library of the USSR," V.V. Timokhina, Chief, Department of Library Technology, LSL. (4-Build-1-E)

Division of Education and Research

"The Continuous Education System at the Training Centre of the V.I. Lenin State Library (GBL)," L.S. Martynova, Chief, Division of the Organization and Methodology of Training and Upgrading of Qualifications, LSL. (66-RTCPE-1-R+E)

"Organisation and Content of Postinstitutional Continuous Education of Instructors of Higher and Secondary Library Educational Establishments," T.F. Karatygina, Professor, Moscow State Institute of Culture; V.V. Skvortsov, Assistant Professor, Moscow State Institute of Culture. (67-RTCPE-2-R-E)

"The Conceptual Library Researches [sic]: Problematics, Methodology, Aims (GBL Experience)," Natalia Tyulina, Senior Researcher, LSL. (109-Theor-1-R+E)

"A Russian Librarian's View of European Libraries in 1859: V.I. Sobol'shchikov's Grand Tour," Peter Hoare, University Librarian, University of Nottingham, England. (54-Libhi-1-E)

"Social Dynamics and Library Tradition (The Russian Libraries in the Years of Great Changes of History: 1905, 1917, 1989)," M.D. Afanasiev, Director, State Public Historical Library of the RSFSR, Moscow. (98-Libhi-2-E)

"Literature and Social Process: Soviet Scene," Lev Gudkov, Boris Dubin, Senior Researchers, National Public Opinion Research Center, Moscow. (97-Read-5-R+E)

"The Place of the Periodical Press in the Perestroika of Librarianship," L.M. Inkova, Deputy Editor in Chief, *Sovetskoye bibliotekovedeniye*, LSL. (15-RTELJ-1-E)

Uninvited Papers Lacking Specific Divisional Identification

*"Regional Databases as the World Community Information Sources on Research Development in Siberia," E. Soboleva. (305-Uninvited-R+E+F+G)

*"Library Information Network 'Siberia'," B. Elepov. (306-Uninvited-R+E+F+G)

*"On the Way to the Mediatheca," A. Nesterov. (307-Uninvited-R+E+F+S)

*"Access to International Databases in the Siberian Branch of the USSR Academy of Sciences," S. Bazhenov, N. Bobrov, et al. (308-Uninvited-R+E+F+G)

*"The Problem of the Physico-Chemical Preservation of Information on Non-Traditional Carriers," F.A. Gedrovich, V.A. Ustinov. (311-Uninvited-E)

*"Normative-Technical Ensurance of Library-Information Activity in the USSR," V.N. Ugryumova. (312-Uninvited-E)

*"Conversion Technology of Multilingual Card Catalogues of the Lenin State Library in Machine Readable Form with the Use of Scanning devices," A. Vostikov, Chief, Department of Automation of Libraries; Yu. Fenin, Chief, Sector of Study and Development of International Automated Library Systems, LSL. (62-Inf-2(WS)-E). This paper was the only advertised paper for the Information Technology Workshop, noted below.

Copies of papers listed above can be ordered from Theresa Stanton, Publications Assistant, Secretariat, IFLA Headquarters, P.O.B. 95312,

2509 CH, The Hague, Netherlands. [See also *Special Libraries*, Winter 1992, pp.65-66, for selected paper titles available from SLA.]

Workshop Topics

Parliamentary Libraries. Theme: Library and Information Services to the Soviets of the USSR.

Geography and Map Libraries. Theme: Contributions of Maps to Society.

Art Libraries. Theme: Art Libraries Inside and Outside the USSR: The Indivisibility of Art Librarianship.

Information Technology and Cataloging. Theme: Retrospective Conversion.

[R.H. Davis was a contributor to the Art Libraries Workshop. His paper, written with E. Kasinec, was entitled "Materials for the Study of Russian/Soviet Art and Architecture: Problems of Selection, Acquisition, and Collection Development for Research Libraries, in Historical Perspective."]

International Book Bank helps Eastern Europe

The International Book Bank in Baltimore has received \$48,000 from the U.S. Information Agency, which will be used to send 120,000 books in a wide variety of categories to Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and Poland, during 1991. (*C&RL News*, April 1991)

Moscow Library Conference

On 29-31 October 1991 a IREX funded conference entitled "The Role of the National Library in the Life of the Nation: Libraries and Democracy" was held in Moscow. The American participants stressed the central role libraries play in providing open access to information and knowledge in order to ensure the well-informed, knowledgeable citizenry that democratic societies require. The conference was a major cultural event. Its opening session and the U.S. Embassy-sponsored reception on the evening of the first day were filmed by the Global

Library Project crew as well as Soviet TV and subsequently televised on national Soviet TV. The American delegation was headed by Librarian of Congress James H. Billington. Conference participants included leading U.S. and Soviet library, information, and cultural figures, as well as heads of the Republic national libraries. The Lenin Library and the Library of Congress will publish proceedings in Russian and English.

The Problem of Aid to Russian Libraries. M.F. Menyaev. (Translated and edited by Irene Gashurov, University of Southern California)

Today I shall share with you a number of proposals which, on the one hand, will make the origins of our activity more explicit and on the other, allow us to point to possible solutions of the existing problems. It is difficult to comprehend the tragedy of the Russian library and the horror of the Soviet regime it reflects without giving a brief analysis of the current situation. For many years Russian libraries shared the fate of our nation. Deemed unworthy for preservation, culture was increasingly deformed into a mass of stock phrases, comparable to a hollow-out colossus of paper-mache, but taken for an *objet d'art* from afar. The library too came to mirror this attitude toward culture. Its collections were first purged and then replaced with a system of library acquisitions which kept producing freak twins mouthing ideological cliches.

The final blow to the Russian library system came in the sixties and seventies with the establishment of the Government System of Scientific and Technical Information. The GSNTI was created by ... retired martinetts from the military-industrial complex and financed by the USSR Academy of Sciences and government committees on scientific and technical affairs. It relegated the libraries to the mere role of providing storage space, while millions of rubles in donations were poured into building a large number of information institutes. ... For nearly thirty years these resources went first through the GSNTI, as the libraries grew anemic; their collections reflected the interests of the military rather than providing the works of Russian philosophy, history, or didactics. This deflection of huge sums from funding cultural enterprises ruined the nation's library system. The GSNTI ... succeeded only in transmitting an endless quantity of useless paper. Although it is apparent that the GSNTI is of no worth, it continues to exist and to annoy the world with its talk of "humanizing" information. The world remains blind to the GSNTI's role of draining the nation's libraries. Even as

libraries approach the threshold of the new century, many do not own typewriters, to say nothing of computers.

The libraries do not have technology, the means to acquire it, and the library education system resembles a school for communist education. No institute of culture in the Union preparing the library specialist offers a single computer course. Librarians receive the lowest wages nationwide. Even the cleaners of the metro receive two to three times more than the librarian. ... The librarian's monthly wages can only pay for a pair of cheap shoes.

The library is the foundation of ... schools, of universities, ... of the entire social structure. Without the library, a civilized society is unthinkable... Although libraries are the mirror image of society, the cause of society's illness lies elsewhere. All of perestroika has been choked since no one "from above" wanted to rebuild the economy. This myth was dreamed up to receive and to devour the next series of loans. It is namely this situation we are witnessing today. The "aid" we receive from the West sinks where "repositories" have been set up to store it. The situation ... is aggravated by the Russian system of library education. The level of instruction in library technologies is very low. The instructors are themselves often unclear about the computer and library computer technology.

Most discouragingly, we are not able to receive direct aid. The reasons for this state of affairs ... lies in the informational isolation of our society. Those who are engaged in work of a practical nature have difficulty in finding partners with whom to cooperate. In a recent example, the countries of the Common Market decided to help the Union. The company COMNET joined forces with the "democratic" Mossovet and asked it to identify which groups it should finance. But what could Mossovet do? After the meetings, Mossovet needed to get to business, but ... it was no longer accustomed to conducting affairs on an international level. Then Mossovet turned to the various joint ventures for financial support, full of redundant bureaucrats, and these very bureaucrats are now forming teams for collecting Western aid. Of course, we were not recommended for aid, although our project required only .01% of the whole "pie". We are left with the hope that the gentlemen of COMNET (Holland) will be more attentive to spending the European taxpayers' money.

The other reason for the informational isolation lies in the weak technical support from the private enterprises. Whatever we are empowered to oversee falls into the jurisdiction of a parent organization and whatever aid libraries receive becomes the property of that

organization. Libraries could use the aid in technology and information to expand the scope of their work and raise the wages of their librarians, but because they are not independent, it is simpler for them to refuse assistance and technical knowledge in favor of their patrons. It seems that the libraries will be resurrected only when such organizations need them to promote cooperations. At present, Russia does not have laws in the commonly held meaning of the word. So if we are to protect what we have built, we need to rely on international law.

Despite this situation in our homeland ... we have built a center of computer instruction for our library staff through a "post-graduate" continuing education program at the International Association For Engineers, opened two small companies specializing in the sale of our library computer technology and are building several centers for the study of library methodology at Samara, Tambov, and Moscow to raise the level of instruction of future librarians and to establish local library networks.

The first path to opening up cultural exchanges between the libraries is to plant companies in the West which can finance Russian libraries. This enterprise would encourage the transfer of information from Russian libraries in exchange for technological aid and the support of library education. The second path is to enact the various programs to support Russian libraries proposed by IFLA and other organizations. We do not want to be the recipients of philanthropy, but rather to exploit our own intellectual resources and institute international projects. It is also important that we rethink the purpose of libraries in our society and create a Russian library free from ideological clichés and economic monopolies. We need to learn much and to learn anew ... We need to learn about library management, about conducting library and bibliographic work in its full breadth, about establishing interlibrary loan.

We have discussed with you the various alternatives ... The first was to establish an independent organization in the West. The second was to institute scientific and philanthropic programs. The existence of one does not exclude the other ... Today each of us understands that our present reality is not cause for optimism. Only the commitment to the future and to our nation's culture motivates our efforts ... Herein lies our weakness, but maybe it is our strength.

(Mikhail Fedorovich Menyayev is Director of the Center for Library Computer Education at the International Center for "Post-Graduate" Continuing Education. He is a Docent at the N.E. Bauman Institute at the Moscow State Technical University. He is the author of *Kompiu-*

terizatsiia tekhnologii obucheniia (Moskva: Izd-vo MGTU, 1991). This letter was written in October 1991.)

Terra Baltica: 13th Conference on Baltic Studies

The University of Toronto will host the 13th conference on Baltic Studies, June 10-13, 1992. There will be panels in a variety of disciplines including history, linguistics, literature, musicology, art and film, folklore, education, and bibliography. There will be four panels in the area of bibliography and librarianship: the Baltic independent press; the role of libraries in building a democratic infrastructure; Baltic acquisitions; and Baltic collections and resources in North America. For more information contact the Chair of Estonian Studies at the University of Toronto (100 St. George St., #1022, Toronto Ontario M5S 1A1, Canada). For information on the library and bibliography sessions, contact Eric Johnson, Library of Congress, Exchange & Gift Division, Washington, D.C. 20540.

IV. Grants

Hoover Institution Archives Hosts Polish Historical Records Project

The Hoover Institution houses one of the strongest and most significant historical archives of Polish materials outside Poland. The National Endowment for the Humanities recently awarded the Hoover Institution a generous grant to support a two year archival project to make some of these important records accessible to scholars. At the same time, the Council for International Exchange of Scholars gave support for two archivists from Poland to join the work on this project for six months.

At the conclusion of the Second World War when the United States and Great Britain withdrew recognition of the London-based Polish Government-in-Exile, the fate of its archival records became problematic. Sending them back to Poland would have meant their suppression or destruction by the Soviet dominated government in Warsaw. Yet there was no continuing Polish organization to maintain them in the

West. Deposit of the bulk of the records with the Hoover Institution provided an alternative means of preserving their physical and intellectual integrity.

Most notable among them are the records of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Polish Government-in-Exile, which cover the years 1925-1945. These records include important documentation on Poland's foreign relations during the interwar period and Polish military and diplomatic activities during the Second World War. They are of particular value to research about Polish-Soviet relations during that period and contain some of the most complete documentation about the fate of hundreds of thousands of Polish citizens who were imprisoned, deported, or forced into labor camps.

With the current political changes taking place throughout Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, there is a new openness in both scholarly and official re-examination of the history of these nations. The emphasis on filling in the blank pages of the past had led to a new demand for use of historical archives that contain the evidence about Polish-Soviet relations.

These records are especially relevant to Polish historians now that a newly independent government is searching to re-establish continuity with Poland's pre-Communist past. According to Zbigniew Stanczyk of the Hoover Archives staff, "the content of these records will change Polish and Soviet historiography once scholars have the opportunity to study them." Mr. Stanczyk is serving as the program archivist and has now been joined by two colleagues from Poland.

The visiting archivists are Krzysztof Laczynski, the archivist for the Warsaw Archdiocesan Archives, and Miroslaw Filipiak, an archivist at the PAX Publishing Institute in Warsaw. Both are also affiliated with the Eastern Archives in Poland, an organization trying to document the fate of Polish citizens during World War II. (Anne Van Camp, Hoover Institution Archives)

Other new Hoover grants

The National Endowment for the Humanities has awarded the Hoover Institution a grant of \$953,783 for preservation of rare library materials. The project will focus on the Institution's European pamphlets, including many from Eastern Europe. They include the writings of dissidents, tracts of political parties, government propaganda, and underground literature. More than 60,000 pamphlets will be microfilmed and rehoused in acid-free enclosures. The Hoover Institution will

provide bibliographic access to the materials through review and revision of existing records and through the creation of new collection-level entries in RLIN. The Institution will also produce a complete online item-level index. (*Hoover Institution Newsletter*, Winter 1992)

The U.S. Department of Education has awarded funds for micro-filming the Russian diplomatic archives. They amount to 198 linear feet and include the records of the Russian Embassies in Washington, D.C. (1897-1933) and Paris (1916-1924). The records from Paris include reports, dispatches, and instructions exchanged between the Paris Embassy and the White Civil War governments in Russia, 1918-1922. (*Hoover Institution Newsletter*, Summer 1991)

Hoover, the Stanford University Libraries, and the Library of the University of California, Berkeley received a grant from the Department of Education to convert 188,367 manual records of Slavic/East European materials into machine-readable format and enter them into OCLC and RLIN. (see also *AAASS newsletter*, March 1992)

NYPL Grants

Two major grant-funded projects were completed in 1991: the NEH "Early Soviet Periodicals Project (\$222,489) and the Department of Education Title II-C "Russian Illustrated Books and Photographs Project" (\$211,238). The NEH project produced some 224,275 frames of microfilm, preserving on archival film approximately 448,550 pages of brittle book material. Materials preserved included rare literary journals from the 1920s and early 1930s, and important early Soviet governmental statistical publications. Some 342 previously uncataloged MOPR (Mezhdunarodnaia organizatsiia pomoshch bortsam revoliutsii) serialized pamphlets were microfilmed, and are in the process of being cataloged. The Title II-C project produced some 59,000 frames of microfilm, and included original photo albums, rare folio books, and the particular vulnerable "pamphlet" collection of art and art historical material. Virtually every title in this classification is now on microfilm, and has been recataloged. Among the items selected for physical conservation work were an album of Siberian penal colony photographs collected by the elder George Kennan, early 20th century images of Slavic-American communities, and a folding 360 degree panoramic view of Moscow circa 1867. Some 541 volumes were provided with acid-free, custom-fit protective boxes. A new Title II-C grant is supporting the conservation, preservation, and cataloging of the Library's outstanding collection of pre-1860 Slavic and East European materials.

From December 1991 to January 1992 Dr. Irina V. Pozdeeva of Moscow University served as a consultant to the project, and Zora Kipel, the recently retired Assistant Chief of the Division, is providing cataloging support on a part-time basis. (NYPL Slavic & Baltic Division Annual Report for 1991)

Yale Grants

Recently Yale University's Slavic and East European Collections received a grant of \$25,000 from the U.S. Peace Institute to support the acquisition and processing of new materials to serve scholars in the post Cold war era. A Department of Education grant of \$34,000 also supports acquisition and processing of Slavic materials as part of a larger grant to support Yale's Soviet and East European Council. In addition to adding new items to our collections, we are able to respond to urgent requests from new book dealers, publishers, and governmental agencies in those countries for assistance in expanding their markets among Western educational and research institutions. (T. Lorković)

New Backlog Grants

The Social Science Research Council and the American Council of Learned Societies have announced the following grant awards for making currently uncataloged Slavic and/or East European collections accessible to users. The \$338,000 will be distributed to the following nine libraries for projects beginning in the fall of 1992:

Amherst College, for the Thomas P. Whitney Collection of 20th century Russian art and literature

Columbia University Teachers College, for 1,000 titles on Soviet education

Hoover Institution, for the Kyril Drenikoff collection of Bulgarian and Balkan materials (history 1878-)

Indiana University, for 1,500 titles; multidisciplinary East European books

Library of Congress, for 6,000 volumes of late Imperial/early Soviet monographs on philosophy, religion, economics, government, literature

University of Michigan, for 1,750 Armenian titles

New York Public Library, for multidisciplinary materials in many formats

Stanford University, for 800 titles of early 20th century materials in Russian on occult theosophy, Eastern religions, and related titles

Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison, for the Slobodan Komandic collection of 7,700 titles of pre-World War I and interwar materials on Balkan social movements and peasant organizations

Additional funding is dependent on the availability of annual federal appropriations to the Council for this program.

V. Acquisitions

Hoover's 1991 acquisitions

Noteworthy acquisitions of the Soviet and East European collection included the papers of Josef Skvorecky, the major Czech emigré publisher of dissident literature; six hundred reels of audio recordings of Solidarity's executive committee meetings during the early 1980s; the archives of *Tygodnik Mazowsze*, the principal weekly periodical of the Polish underground during the 1980s; Romanian Communist party materials on its Pioneer Youth Organization and factory party cells; a photograph collection on Rukh, the Ukrainian opposition movement; the papers of Sir Paul Dukes, chief of British intelligence in Russia, 1918-19; and 2,500 independent press publications from Russia, Belorussia, and Ukraine. Agreements have been concluded to collect and microfilm the archives of several major opposition organizations throughout the region, including the Latvian Popular Front, the Civic Forum in Czechoslovakia, and the KOR (Committee for the Defense of Workers in Poland). (1991 Annual Report of the Hoover Institution)

New papers at LC

LC recently acquired the papers of Jan Papanek, Czechoslovakian diplomat and representative to the U.S. of the exiled Czechoslovakian government during World War II. The papers, some two thousand items, dealing mainly with his activities from 1939 to 1949, are in Czech, English, German, Slovak, and French. The Library also acquired the papers of William Eldrige Odom, who served successively as assistant U.S. attache in Moscow, national security staff in the White House, U.S. Army Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, and Director of the National Security Agency. Desk diaries, reports, correspondence, and photographs (30,000 items) are included in the papers, covering 1977-88. (LC Manuscript Division, 1990)

What's new at NYPL

1. In the fall of 1991, the Slavic and Baltic Division received as a gift the valuable collection of Professor Serge L. Levitsky, a scholar of international reputation in the field of Russian and Soviet law and administrative history. The collection numbers some 1,750 items, 75% of which are in Russian. The bulk of the collection concerns administrative and legal history, with many rare titles, such as stenographic reports of the Russian Dumas and titles presented by Sergei Witte, Tsarist Minister of Finance, during a visit in 1905. The collection also includes reports of the state council, 1906-1914, extensive materials on the law of intellectual property, and also the legislation of perestroika. Some titles may be the only extant copies in the West. (Serge Gleboff)

2. In 1991 Sylvia Juran, presently an editor for a museum design and planning firm, presented the library with her collection of some 535 items, which is primarily in Russian and concentrates on 19th century Russian literature. It includes the valuable 14 volume of Gogol's complete works (1940), and the six volume large-format jubilee edition of Pushkin (1936). (Serge Gleboff)

3. Last fall the Library acquired the Vladimir Nabokov Archive for the Library's Berg Collection. Among the remarkable assemblage of materials gathered, protected, and treasured by the author, his mother, his wife, and his son, are manuscripts, draft translations, and no less than thirty-one diaries. Other treasures include heavily corrected typescripts, proofs, galleys, annotated teaching books, drawings of butterflies by the

author, and correspondence. Over thirty albums of Nabokov's copies of his poetry written from 1918 to 1931 make up the earliest material as well as albums in which his mother transcribed his early work, sometimes pasting in Nabokov's own manuscripts and typescripts. A large group of materials centers around the biography and autobiography of the writer. There are even clippings, gathered by his wife Vera which document his literary career. "The Archive," Berg Collection Curator Francis O. Mattson points out, "will allow scholars unparalleled opportunities to discover and explore in depth this great writer and his work." The Division held lectures by the author's son Dmitri Nabokov and Nabokov's biographer Brian Boyd concerning the new archive. (press release)

4. Important acquisitions during 1991 included: original sketchbooks and signed copies of publications by Sergei Hollerbach, a noted Russian emigré artist and art professor, as well as the unpublished memoirs of E.F. Gollerbakh, the respected early Soviet art expert, collector, and author; a copy of the Briusov *Kalendar'*; a Church Slavic Gospels of 1633; an early Russian imprint of Benjamin Franklin's works (dated 1799), donated by Abel Startsev; contemporary posters, leaflets, and election materials from the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe; numerous examples of rare illustrated children's books of the early Soviet period; and the so-called Early Soviet Imprints Collection, numbering some 200 Russian titles dating primarily from the period 1921-1935. This latter acquisition includes early editions of literary works, including translations of Upton Sinclair, H.G. Wells, and Fannie Hurst — many of which are distinguished by Constructivist cover art and illustrations. (Robert Davis)

New Polish Collection at U. of Pittsburgh

The University of Pittsburgh recently received a major gift from the Polish National Alliance, the largest Polish fraternal organization in the United States. The PNA has selected Pitt as the new home for the Polish collection developed and formerly housed in the library of its Alliance College.

Alliance College, founded by the PNA in 1912, became an accredited four-year liberal arts institution in 1948, with its largest student body of 629 in 1968. By the time of the college's closing in 1987, the library's Polish collection had grown to approximately 35,000 cataloged and 10,000 uncataloged volumes. The material is primarily in Polish, and is particularly strong in Polish language and literature, history, and the Polish experience in the United States. Also included are such additional subject areas as Polish music, art, folklore, science, economics, sociology, government, and foreign relations.

The collection contains a number of noteworthy items and subcollections, including complete runs on microfilm of *Tygodnik illustrowany* (Warsaw, 1859-1939), *Życie* (Cracow, 1897-1900) and *Życie* (Warsaw, 1887-1891). The library contains a significant percentage of world Polonian publishing output from the 1930s to 1985, including pamphlets and ephemera. A 176 volume collection of clippings from U.S. Polonia publications, gathered by Paweł Widera, represents a unique resource on the subjects of Polonia in general, Polonian organizations, and Polish affairs affecting Polonia. The reference collection is also well-developed, including not only such essential standard works as Karol Józef Teofil Estreicher's *Bibliografia polska*, but also less commonly held works, such as Samuel Orgelbrand's *Encyclopedja powszechna* in both the second and third editions (1883-1884 and 1898-1912, respectively). By the time the college closed, the Polish collection was nearly capable of supporting doctoral level research in Polish language, literature, and history.

The entire Alliance College Polish collection was brought to the University of Pittsburgh at the end of February last year, when the Alliance campus was sold to the state of Pennsylvania. An exhibit publicized the collection from May through August, and a large reception was held in October. Another exhibit ran through the end of February this year.

Processing of the collection has been proceeding in stages, and has been assisted by outside funding. Records will be entered into the OCLC database. A special code for the collection will enable users to retrieve material from the local database. Materials from the collection will receive a special identifying book plate, and will be housed in Hillman Library, Frick Fine Arts, or in the Music Library. Preservation is performed where needed. In the final stage we hope to bring a librarian from Poland to Pittsburgh for a year, beginning in the fall, to help with cataloging. While the processing is underway, most of the collection remains in off-site storage. Patrons can, however, access the

unprocessed material using Alliance's card catalog. Requested material is retrieved and rush-cataloged. (Karen Rondestvedt, U. of Pittsburgh).

VI. Professional Appointments

Sandra Levy, University of Chicago

TATIANA GOERNER BARR is the Slavic cataloger in the Serials Department at Stanford University Libraries. Tatiana was previously a rare books cataloger at the New York Historical Society (1987-90). She earned her MLS at Columbia University (1987), in addition to advanced degrees in Slavic languages and literatures. While at Columbia, she served the library system in a number of different capacities.

MIECZYSLAW BUCZKOWSKI became an original cataloger and Slavic bibliographer at the University of Colorado in Boulder after completing his Library degree at Simmons College Graduate School (1991). He had previously worked as a rare books cataloger at Harvard. He earned MAs at California State University, Sacramento (1985) and Lateran University, Rome (1972). He did additional work at the Vatican School of Archives.

RONALD BACHMAN is the new Polish area specialist for the European Division at the Library of Congress. He comes to this position after working as a Research Analyst for the Federal Research Division of LC and the Pentagon. He earned a PhD in Slavic linguistics from Ohio State University (1980).

DAVID COOPER now serves as a Russian specialist in the Music Division at the Library of Congress. Previously he was the Humanities bibliographer at Johns Hopkins University (1986-1990). He has a PhD from the State University of New York at Buffalo (1981), where he did a comparison of the young Dostoevsky and the young Shakespeare. He also earned his MLS at Buffalo (1976).

VICTOR F. GORODINSKY was appointed Assistant Slavic Librarian at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He had served in a visiting position since his graduation from Illinois' School of Library and Information Science (1989). Victor takes a particular

interest in the problems of automation and the cataloging of Central Asian materials. He is now a cataloger.

ANNE ZOLLMAN HASIUK is the new serials cataloger of Slavic materials at the University of Chicago. Anne worked as a monograph and rare books cataloger at Union College in Schenectady, New York, after cataloging Slavic monographs at Ohio State University. She earned her library degree at the University of Missouri in Columbia (1986) and attended Columbia University's Rare Book Cataloging School (1990).

GORDON E. HOGG was recently appointed Slavic Bibliographer and Monograph Cataloger at the University of Kentucky in Lexington. He had been Reference Librarian and Bibliographer for Foreign Languages and Military Affairs at Virginia Polytechnic and State University (1988-91). Earlier he had been a reference librarian at the University of Virginia at Charlottesville (1984-88). He earned his MS in Library Science (1983) at Catholic University in Washington, DC and his BA (1973) from the University of Virginia.

ERIC JOHNSON is on temporary assignment to the Congressional Research Service on a special project regarding libraries in and library materials for the Baltics. This interrupts his new appointment at Library of Congress' Exchange and Gift Section where he worked with areas of the former Soviet Union. He earned his MLS from the University of Maryland, College Park (1989), after doing work at the University of California at Santa Cruz.

KENNETH NYIRADY is now the Reference Librarian for Hungary and Finno-Ugrian areas of the former Soviet Union at the Library of Congress. Previously he has served as a Federal Research Analyst. He has a MA from the State University of New York, Binghamton in Russian (1976) and a MPhil from Columbia University (1979) in Uralic studies.

PREDRAG PAUL PAJIC is now Senior Reference Librarian for South Slavic Language materials at the Library of Congress, where he has served many years. He holds degrees in Soviet Studies from American University in Washington, D.C. and in Orthodox Theology from Paris.

ALAN P. POLLARD has been appointed Head of the Slavic Division at the University of Michigan Libraries. He comes to Ann Arbor after serving as Slavic bibliographer at Princeton University Libraries (1986-1991). Alan earned his MLS from the University of Rhode Island (1973) and a MA (1961) and PhD (1968) from the University of California, Berkeley.

RICHARD SEITZ is a Visiting Research Associate in the Slavic and Eastern Europe Library of the University of Illinois library system. His duties include cataloging materials for the Slavic Reference Service. Richard earned his MS in Library and Information Science from Illinois in 1990. His earlier studies include a BA in Russian from St. Louis University (1971) and advanced work in East European Studies at the University of Washington in Seattle.

VICKIE SEYMOUR is now Head, Acquisitions and Serials Department of the Hoover Institution Library. Before coming to Hoover in 1989 as Serials Librarian, she was a Slavic serials cataloger at Stanford University Libraries. She earned her library degree (1984) at the University of Hawaii as well as a MA in Russian (1982).

NINA GORKY SHAPIRO has been appointed Bibliographer of Princeton University's Slavic collection. She had been the Head of the Slavic-Germanic materials cataloging team at Princeton. She earned her MS in Library Science from Columbia University (1971).

VII. Special Reports

THE BIBKOLLEKTOR: AN ACQUISITIONS SYSTEM OF THE PAST OR OF THE FUTURE?

Eric A. Johnson and Nicholas Thorner, Library of Congress

Since its foundation in 1931, the Tsentral'nyi kollektor nauchnykh bibliotek has functioned as a centralized acquisitions system for Soviet academic and research libraries. From its headquarters in Moscow, the Bibkollektor (as it is more popularly known), provided the same kind of institutional control over library acquisitions as similar government agencies provided over every other aspect of Soviet life. Designed exclusively as a mechanism to help Soviet libraries acquire Russian-language books, the services of the Bibkollektor remained unavailable to Western libraries for 60 years. These long-shut doors finally opened in the fall of 1991 when the Library of Congress began acquiring books from the Bibkollektor with the assistance of Viktor Kamkin Bookstore

and Mezhnika. Whether this will be an accomplishment of lasting significance, remains to be seen. While the radical changes taking place in the former Soviet Union made it possible for Bibkolektor to finally deal with libraries in the West, the institution itself is both the product and practitioner of the Soviet centralized way of doing things which is rapidly withering away. Will the Bibkolektor survive the turbulent times ahead? Perhaps. The Library of Congress is hoping that it will.

The Bibkolektor functions in much the same way as the government document depository system of the U.S. Government Printing Office and has approximately the same number of participants. As of 1991, 1,326 academic and research libraries throughout the former Soviet Union used the services of the Bibkolektor. Since only 16 libraries received free mandatory deposit copies through the Knizhnaia palata system, the vast majority of academic and research libraries had to rely on the Bibkolektor. Around 500 of the Bibkolektor participants received what are known as "paid for" mandatory deposit copies. In other words, the 500 most important libraries in the former Soviet Union were guaranteed a copy of books in their subject areas provided that they pay for them.

By law, Soviet publishers were required to submit 400 copies of each book they published to the Bibkolektor if the printing run (*tirazh*) was more than 2,000 copies. If the *tirazh* ran between 300 and 2,000 copies, Soviet publishers supplied only 150 copies of each of their books. The Bibkolektor would pay Soviet publishers the Western equivalent of a wholesale price for their books and then send them to participating libraries at a discount price. What will happen in 1992 remains to be seen. The Bibkolektor system, however, may very well remain attractive to publishing houses in the former Soviet Union given the current economic uncertainties and the weak infrastructure. As it stands now, the Bibkolektor is a system which guarantees the sale of up to 400 books and distributes them throughout the Soviet successor states.

Once the books arrive from the publishers at the Bibkolektor's huge warehouse-like facilities on ulitsa Butlerova on the outskirts of Moscow, the distribution process begins. Each incoming title is given a unique number. The Bibkolektor's bibliographers then examine each title to determine its subject classification number and its level or type (e.g. if it is a reference work, a college text-book, etc.). This data is input into

a computer on a weekly basis to be matched against the subject profile of each of the 1,326 participating academic and research libraries. Each library, incidentally, is also assigned its own unique number.

The Bibkolektor produces a subject profile which must be completed by each library. The profile (*profil*) was last published in 1984 and roughly follows the Soviet classification system of that date. These subject categories are listed vertically on each page. The level or type of book is listed horizontally. The result is a grid of boxes in which each participating library write the number of copies of each book it would like to receive that match its subject and scope profile. This information is stored in a computer and is run against the weekly acquisitions of the Bibkolektor. The Bibkolektor's custom-tailored software program sorts all this data and matches unique book numbers to unique library numbers.

Distribution is a fairly straight-forward process. Each library is assigned a bin or shelf in the Bibkolektor's distribution area which corresponds to its own unique number. Some of the Bibkolektor 190 staff-members, use a computer printout as a guide, to place the appropriate books in the appropriate bins. Once a bin is filled, the contents are mailed off to the appropriate library. The Bibkolektor process is complete.

While not flawless, the Bibkolektor is a model of efficiency compared to similar Soviet era organizations. While it does not guarantee that every single participating library will get every single book it wants, many of the Bibkolektor's 1,326 participating libraries are subject libraries (e.g. chemistry libraries, theater libraries, etc.) and so the profiles of most libraries are not exact matches. As a result, the 400 copies that the Bibkolektor distributes are almost always adequate for its needs. The 150 copies of the *malotirazhnyi* titles (those with printing runs of 2,000 or less) are, however, seldom enough.

Within the Bibkolektor there is an elite group of 4 libraries that get the equivalent of a "full-set": one copy of each item acquired. Since the Bibkolektor handles only Russian-language books, these 4 libraries each get over 13,000 titles every year. The cost of this full set in 1990 to these 4 Soviet libraries was approximately 40,000 rubles. (In the same year, the Bibkolektor did 12 million rubles worth of business). Prices, of course, will be much more expensive for any potential Western participants.

The Library of Congress has made arrangements with the Bibkolektor and its director, Mr. Anatolii Kuznetsov, to acquire a close approximation of a full-set. The Library's profile excludes only those items in subjects (e.g. clinical medicine and technical agriculture) and at levels (e.g. high-school level) which are outside of the scope of its established collecting guidelines. The Bibkolektor is supposed to send the Library one copy of everything else.

While the contract was signed only in November, 1991, the Library has already received its first shipment from the Bibkolektor. Viktor Kamkin Bookstore and Mezhnkiga provided the air-bridge which insured that the books travelled from Moscow to Washington. The initial Library appraisal of this first shipment is quite positive.

The first shipment from Bibkolektor contained 162 titles. 33% of these, i.e. 53 titles, were published either without including any bibliographic classification data or with classification information which was "not announced" before publication. The absence of complete classification information means that titles are not listed in the pre-publication national bibliographic tools and may therefore be hard to acquire by foreign libraries. The remaining 67%, 109 titles, displayed full, pre-publication bibliographic classification data.

	Pre-Publication Announcement of Bibliographic Classification?		Total No. of Books	Per Cent
	Yes	No		
I. SOCIAL & HUMAN STUDIES				
1. Philosophy, Religion, History	14	2	16	10
2. Economics, Politics, Military	13	5	18	11
3. State & Law	3	1	4	3
II. SCIENCE				
4. Natural & Technical, Agriculture, Medicine & Sport	10	-	10	6
III. LITERATURE				
5. Education, Philology, Children's Literature	7	5	12	7
6. Belles Lettres	54	17	71	44
IV. ARTS				
7. Art, Architecture, Music, Theater	8	13	21	13
V. OTHER				
8. Other	-	10	10	6

The above table classifies the titles included in the first Bibkolektor-shipment in a somewhat compressed version of the current, standard Soviet bibliographic classification scheme. It displays the number of titles by class and by pre-publication announcement of bibliographic classification. It shows that the largest class in this shipment was belles lettres. The inclusion of several art exhibit catalogs from Sovetskii khudozhnik is the cause of the respectable showing in the Arts category. Economics and Politics were reasonably well represented, Science less so.

The best represented publishers were traditional houses such as Molodaia gvardiia, Sovetskii pisatel' and Mezhdunarodnye otnosheniia. Also included were titles from newer houses such as Nezavisimaia izdatel'stvo PIK, Izdatel'stvo MP (Maloe Predpriiatie) "Ostankino", and Interpraks, which is associated with the Fund for Cultural Initiative of the Soros Foundation. Regional variety was represented by titles from the Altai, Bashkir, Central Black-Earth, Eastern Siberia, Mari, Rostov and Volgo-Viatsk Book Publishing Houses.

While the Library hopes this will be the first of many shipments, the future of the Bibkolektor is unclear. If this centralized Soviet-era acquisitions system survives, it may be ironically thanks to Western libraries whose hard-currency purchases might provide the Bibkolektor with adequate financial means to do so. Even if it continues to exist, the Bibkolektor will not solve all the acquisitions problems of Western libraries. Firstly, the Bibkolektor only deals with Russian-language material published in the former Soviet Union. Alternative arrangements for acquiring non-Russian material will still have to be made. (The Central Bibkolektor is only one of many. Other subject level and former republic level bibkolektors exist as well. The Library is currently exploring arrangements with other bibkolektors). Second, the publishing scene in the former Soviet Union is becoming increasingly chaotic. While a small number of cooperative and independent book publishers are using the Bibkolektor system, participation is far from complete. The Bibkolektor's net may be large, but it is still filled with important holes that must be patched through other creative acquisition means.

The Bibkolektor, should it survive, would offer the acquisition departments of Western libraries certain comparative advantages. For example, the Bibkolektor acquires books right after they are published in order to distribute them to participating libraries. In other words, they are uniquely situated in the Russian book publication cycle to help libraries acquire books. By participating in the Bibkolektor, libraries get books whether or not they are announced in *Novye knigi* and whether

or not they appear in any *templany*. (According to the director of the Bibkolektor, 40-50% of all titles published in 1991 in the former Soviet Union never appeared in any *templan*). The approximately 13,000 Russian-language titles that might be available from the Bibkolektor each year far exceeds what could be acquired by any other means. In view of the increasingly chaotic publishing situation in the former Soviet Union, it might be in the interest of Western collecting institutions to insure that some form of this vestige of the Soviet state survives.

[Eric A. Johnson obtained much of the information for this report during a July 1991 visit to the Bibkolektor. He has applied for a September 1992 travel grant to return to Moscow to study the institution in greater depth in attempt to determine whether or not it will survive. Nicholas Thorner examined and analyzed the first shipment of books from the Bibkolektor.]

IFLA REPORT

Tanja Lorković, Yale University

August 17, 1991

Arrived in Moscow 2:30 p.m. Gregory Nersesyan and his driver Sasha were waiting for me with the ASTI's car (American Soviet Theater Initiative, a connection through Benjamin Mordecai, director of Yale Repertory Theater). They took me to the Hotel Ukraine, Room 404. The room was large and pleasant with a wonderful view of the RSFSR Parliament building (White House). I went directly to the conference center at the Krasnopresnenskaia Naberezhnaia. I registered, got my materials, met some colleagues from the BAN in Leningrad and went to the American Delegation Caucus at the FAXON Offices. There was a reception that evening.

August 18, 1991

In the morning I spoke with Helena Nebogatikova and Vladimir Zaitsev from the Leningrad Public Library, who thanked me for books sent by the Society of Friends of the Leningrad Public Library. I later spoke to Mr. Vojcek Balik, the Czech national librarian, who offered his assistance in finding accommodations for my upcoming visit to Prague. In the afternoon I voted by proxy for the New York Public Library in the IFLA Officer's balloting at the request of Mr. Davis. Mr.

Wedgeworth, Dean of the School of Library Sciences of Columbia University, was elected President with a great majority of votes. Following the election we went to the opening of the exhibitions and were greatly disappointed. Western exhibitors had nothing to show due to the poor mail service. Only Soviet exhibitors had anything of interest, notably a display of rare books from the Moscow Historical Library. We spoke to the director, Mikhail Afanas'ev, over coffee, who told of the difficulties involved in the transportation of materials to and from the library each day caused by the absence of security in the exhibition hall. After dinner that evening, I was escorted to my hotel by my colleagues. As we passed the White House, we saw police cars and policemen with radios at the corner of the Kutuzov Bridge.

August 19, 1991

As I ironed my skirt for the Conference's opening ceremonies the maid casually said, "A u nas perevorot: we've had a putch." I looked at her in amazement and asked, "Where is Gorbachev?" She answered, "They say he fell ill, but maybe they have already killed him, who knows?" Another maid added, "It could not go like this anymore. I have to spend three months' income to buy one pair of shoes." They complained about perestroika while I finished my ironing. I was surprised to get a taxi (8:30 a.m.) to the International Conference Center. The driver casually pointed to the tank tracks on the asphalt on the road and shrugged.

There was confusion among the Western delegates but the Soviets kept quiet. Hans Peter Geh, the President of the IFLA went to see the Minister of Culture of the Soviet Union, Mr. Gubenko to discuss the situation. Mikhail Afanas'ev, President of the Russian Library Association, gave a lecture entitled "Social Dynamics and the Library Tradition: Russian Libraries in the Years of Great Changes of History: 1905, 1917, 1989," and included commentary on today's events. He expressed fear that conservative forces would reintroduce censorship and political control, from which libraries had never really freed themselves. Perestroika meant the end of control but alternative ideologies had not yet developed. He predicted a new dark age. We feared he was right.

The official opening was planned for 2:30 p.m. in the Hotel Rossiia on Red Square but we tried to get there earlier, fearing transportation problems. Taxi and bus drivers refused to speak with us, preferring to remain glued to their radios, so we walked to the nearest Metro.

Along the way we saw columns of tanks and other military vehicles. Soldiers peered through turrets. When we arrived, we saw more tanks and a human chain of soldiers surrounding Red Square. We were shaken as we waited for the opening session. The Soviet Minister of Culture, Gubenko, brought the greetings of the Emergency Committee, who intended that our conference should proceed as planned. After a day of speeches we hurried to check on the situation outside. Red Square was totally deserted and the chain of soldiers looked even more ominous under the heavy clouds, which were gathering over the spires of St. Basil's Cathedral. A BBC crew was filming the square and people were trying to talk to the soldiers on the tanks. We returned to the reception to find that the food was already gone. I spoke with Ivi Eenmaa, the National Librarian of Estonia who urged me to come to Tallinn as planned. She was leaving to support her government against the tanks coming from all directions. A Librarian from BAN, Natasha, pulled me aside and whispered, "Don't worry, Tanja, nothing will come of it. Did you see how their hands shook on television?" Rumors flew that airports were closed. Bob Doyle of the American Library Association made a list of American participants and their accommodations for the Embassy and told us to expect to be evacuated. We tried to forget the situation outside with Prokofiev's "Romeo and Juliet," which went on as scheduled. At 10:00 we set off for our hotels. Dr. Balik and I saw people reading Yeltsin's call to defy the Emergency Committee's edicts. As we left the metro station for our hotel we saw tanks positioned against the White House. Barricades prevented the approach to the White House. Yeltsin's defenders lit fires around the barricades in preparation for a vigil. I opened my windows, as my mother did when expecting attacks during the war. "Flying glass is very dangerous," she would say. On television there was a performance of "Swan Lake." It went on deep into the night.

August 20, 1991

Dr. Balik, Dr. Bielik, the Slovak national librarian and I gathered for breakfast. We discussed the implications for Eastern Europe. Would Soviet tanks stay in Moscow or move to regain Eastern Europe? As we passed by the White House we saw a large amount of debris, building material and buses blocking the approaches to the building. At the conference center we attended lectures in an attempt to understand our predicament. At 11:30 Sasha waited with the car to take me to the ASTI to meet Grigory. Donald Daniels accompanied us through back allies to get us to the center of Moscow. Grisha maintained a sense of humor

and was optimistic. Donald and I left the ASTI center and walked by the heavily guarded post office at the corner and strolled down Tverskaia street. There was no traffic. People were gathering in little groups. I talked to some of them and it was obvious that they were all going to the Russian White House to hear Yeltsin speak. They were old women and youths and men of all ages and they kept repeating that they had to save Russia. On the building of the Mossoviet a huge Russian flag of white, blue and red flew. The atmosphere was that of a big celebration. The stores were closed except for one restaurant that agreed to let us in after we said that we were Americans. I asked the waiter what he thought of what was happening. He said, "We cannot continue living like this, the Emergency Committee is doing the right thing. Anyway, who is Yeltsin?"

At 4 p.m. a service was planned at St Basil's to honor IFLA. We pondered how we would get through the corridor of troops and we were doubtful that the service would even take place. We tried to get through the corridor at one corner and the answer was a firm "Nyet!" We went to the next corner. A very young officer told us that we should talk to the colonel. The colonel said that he didn't have any instructions. We went to another corner and tried again. We were advised to go to the back of the church, where we indeed were allowed to enter the empty Red Square. We entered the church and heard the beautiful singing of the Eastern Orthodox rites. About 30 people were in attendance. Following the service the priest told us that the dark ages have descended on Russia once again. He said that foreign librarians are the keepers of Russian culture. Should universities and research institutes be destroyed, documents would be preserved abroad for the next generation. I was moved by his words, and by the music and the beauty of Saint Basil's, an oasis of civilization in the surreal atmosphere which ruled Moscow.

In the evening at the reception at the Pushkin Museum we were informed that most of the delegates had left and the Embassy urged that everyone do so. No one had called me yet. At 9:00 the museum closed and I was scared to face the dark streets again. Dr. Zaitsev and Valentina Navrotskaya from Kiev walked me to the Metro where we met a man going to the barricades to die for Russia. He had heard the attack would come tonight and he felt that Yeltsin needed him. At the entrance to the hotel all the doors were closed. People were admitted by pass only. I was told that this was to prevent KGB snipers from sneaking in to shoot at the White House. I returned to my room and compared CNN reports with what I saw through my windows. I am eternally grateful for the peanut butter that Ford LeMay gave me before

I left New Haven. I spent the whole night listening to the bull horn announcements and plans of the defense strategies. Around 3 a.m. I heard the staccato of shots and feared the attack would begin at any moment.

August 21, 1991

Dr. Balik and I met for breakfast again. The talk was that the army has split into two factions which might fight it out in Moscow. No word on Gorbachev either. Gloom prevailed. We weaved through the barricades. A man urged us to hurry as an attack was expected at any moment. As we passed by the White House we saw many rain-drenched defenders and the Russian double-headed eagle on the steps. From a blimp above the building hung a wet white, blue and red flag which defiantly replaced the hammer and sickle. On the Moscow River there were several tugboats huddled together to defend Yeltsin if an attack came by the river. They looked small and toy-like. My spirits were low. Once at the conference center I attended a wonderful lecture by Chris Thomas on the development of the Russian collection at the British Library. I made a presentation about the ALA Slavic section and the United States Institute of Peace grant that brought me to the conference. I heard that the Swedish government had sent a plane for their citizens. The Americans were few and far between as were the Australians and the British. Dima, our driver was concerned. He told me that three people were killed overnight. We went to Grisha's whose spirits had sunk. He advised me to leave as bloodshed could start at any moment. He tried to call Ben Mordecai in Guilford to let him know that I was still alright and to relay a message to the library that I might leave although he expected that his telephone lines would be cut. From there we made our way to the embassy. I was forced to walk from the barricades to the embassy through the underpass where the killings had taken place. The embassy staff and the USIA representative told me to evacuate immediately. When I told them of my plans to go to the Baltic countries they insisted that it was out of the question as the situation was much worse in the Baltic countries. Crushed, I returned to a beaming Dima beyond the barricades who informed me that it was all over. The Emergency Committee had resigned. I ran back to the embassy with this good news hoping that they would allow me to stay, but their line was the same. When told that I planned to stay, they said it was at my own risk.

We were scheduled to meet at the Kremlin gate for a reception at 6:00 in the Supreme Soviet. I had doubts that it would take place considering that the junta had left at 4:00 p.m. The guards indeed let us through to a deserted Kremlin. On the sixth floor of the Supreme Soviet there was a party. Tables were beautifully set with everything from caviar to champagne. The three days of tension were over and everybody began drinking and toasting one other. A Gypsy band began to play. We joined in and became loud, happy librarians dancing between the tables. It struck me as totally unbelievable that such a scene should take place in the center of power; minutes ago it was controlled by the junta. After the party Valentina Navrotskaya, Vladimir Zaitsev, Helen Maul and I walked around the Kremlin walls towards the Metro station. People carried flags and chanted. "Yeltsin, Rossiia!" Back in my hotel room I looked again at the White House; it seemed to smile at me like a good friend. It was out of danger. I watched the return of Gorbachev on television. He looked weak and I sensed that real power had shifted to Yeltsin.

August 22, 1991

Today was a day of various workshops. The one I was signed up for was cancelled due to the fact that the speaker had flown home. In the afternoon we were scheduled to visit various libraries. I went to the Historical Library where I met with Ms. Severskaia. She had just come back from a rally with Yeltsin. She spoke about the unbelievable events taking place: the independence of Russia, the independence of the Baltic countries, the demise of the KGB, the end of the Communist party as a ruling force in the Soviet Union. She shared my feeling that Gorbachev belonged to the past. We felt a bond, having shared such monumental experiences. In the evening I visited the Lenin State Library where an impressive reception was staged for us in the main reading room. The deputy minister of Culture, Mr. Zolotarev spoke to me of his desire to come to Yale. The mood was joyous but highly placed librarians were concerned. Elena Nebogatikova told me she was a Party member and feared a witch hunt against the Communists. I left the party and at the steps of the Lenin Library I saw an enormous Russian flag carried by hundreds of people chanting "Yeltsin, Rossiia!" I followed the group toward Lubianka. This was enough excitement for me. I went back to my hotel room.

August 23, 1991

Helen Maul from Arizona called me to meet with the Soviet librarians to establish direct contact between the American Library Association and the former "Soviet" Library Association. There were only two Americans present. Helen Maul represented the International Relations Committee of the ALA and I represented the Slavic and East European Section. There were about twelve librarians on the "Soviet" side. Mikhail Afanas'ev, President of the Russian Library Association, arrived looking pale and distraught. He apologized for not being able to attend the meeting. His father had died the night before. The events of the past week were too much for an old man. The outcome of the meeting was that there should be much closer cooperation between us. We proposed publishing articles in Soviet and American journals. The Soviets were interested in internships. They felt that we should help them organize their professional organization following the model of ALA. The best organized group seemed to be the Baltic librarians. Zonin, Vice-President of the Russian Association, accused Igumnova of the Lenin Library of many years of professional and collegial neglect in the name of Communism. Helen and I insisted that she had the right to speak at the meeting. We said "the meaning of democracy is to respect everyone's right to speak." Future sessions will probably have more delegates, better protocol and tighter organization, but the exciting spirit of the first contact between the two nations was there.

In the afternoon we had an IFLA conference closing session. When we started we were greater in number, but now the brave ones who stayed made it a memorable occasion. Hans Peter Geh, our outgoing President, commented on the most exciting of all IFLA conferences in Moscow. The audience enthusiastically applauded. The former Minister of Culture of the Soviet Union, Mr. Gubenko, greeted us, but as a private citizen. He was fired because it was thought that he had cooperated with the junta. He said, "I did it on Monday the 19th for you, the librarians, to keep your conference going." On Tuesday he said, "I resigned from my post, but the new government didn't acknowledge that." Mr. Wedgeworth, the new President of IFLA, took the podium and elegantly ended this most exciting conference.

In the evening we were invited to two parties. First to the Library of Foreign Literature where Viacheslav Ivanov, a well-known Russian intellectual, greeted us and reminded us of the historical importance of the events we had just witnessed. His words had even more impact as it was rumored that he had persuaded Lukianov to give up and call off the putsch. James Billington confirmed his importance in bringing about

the demise of the emergency committee and added: "Imagine, a librarian helping to change the course of history." From there Natasha, Elena Nebogatikova and I went to the Knizhnaia Palata reception (Book Chamber of the Soviet Union) where everyone was euphoric (with the help of great quantities of alcohol). My colleagues spoke of the danger of the former Communists and KGB who remained in the infrastructure. I talked to the grandson of Yakovlev. The boy, in his twenties, exuded the charm of Russian youth devoted to democracy and freedom. He escorted me to my hotel, talking the entire way about the latest events.

August 24, 1991

According to the conference program, we were supposed to meet at 10:00 a.m. in front of the Hotel Rossiia for an excursion to Zagorsk. I decided to walk to the Rossiia because traffic in Moscow was in disarray after the putsch. I set out before 9:00. When I reached Red Square, I could not go through because it was blocked off for the funeral of the three victims of the putsch. After a lot of trouble, I finally reached the Hotel Rossiia half an hour late. One bus was still waiting for the latecomers. Zagorsk greeted us an hour and a half later with its shiny golden and blue cupolas. Our visit to the monastery was the only normal event in a week of total lunacy.

In the evening as we returned to Moscow, we drove by the pedestal where a statue of Felix Dzerzhinskii, founder of the Cheka, used to stand. Throngs of happy people looked at the place where this symbol of KGB oppression once stood.

In the evening I walked over the Kutuzov Bridge, this time without fear. I went to the Arbat and ended up at the Praga restaurant. Walking back to the hotel, I passed by the mountains of flowers in the street in memory of the victims. At the White House, cheering crowds milled around.

August 25, 1991

At 10:00, I met Emma Polotskaia, director of the Chekhov museum. We decided to visit the Kremlin together. She is a great guide and together we admired the Kremlin Cathedrals. Then we went to Vaganovskoe Cemetery to pay tribute to the fallen heroes of the putsch. In the metro, we saw people with flowers. At the cemetery, there was a long line waiting to pass by the graves. We put our carnations on the fresh graves and looked at the enlarged photos of the victims. They were so handsome, particularly the youngest, Ilya Krichkovskii. Somebody in the crowd screamed, "Gorbachev gave Yeltsin the Medal

of the Hero of the Soviet Union but Yeltsin rejected it." People clapped with approval.

In the evening I organized my papers and watched the television news. They showed Gorbachev's video made by his son-in-law while they were detained at Pharos, Gorbachev's villa in the Crimea. I could already sense that Gorbachev was losing power. It seemed that he had prepared this tape in advance, as it could have been used even if the junta had succeeded. Even more amazing was that the reporters kept on asking Gorbachev questions that indicated that none of the reporters believed his story.

August 26, 1991

It was my last day in Moscow and I spent the morning visiting different bookstores and buying books. I was amazed at how little was published.

Then I visited the State Central Theatrical Library where I met with the director, Tamara Iosifovna Silina. As usual, we discussed the exchange between our two libraries and I explained to her my mission for United States Institute of Peace. Mrs. Silina was excited about the confiscation and sealing of the KGB archives. She expected that a wealth of information would be found there: "Imagine the number of playwrights, directors, actors, and designers who were arrested along with their manuscripts during the terror. The KGB didn't discard anything. Librarians will be busy for decades going through everything and Russian literature will be much richer after we are through processing the KGB archives."

Later that afternoon as I packed my suitcase I felt a sort of nostalgia. So much had happened in the nine days since I had moved in.

[Editor's note: This trip report continues to cover Tanja's experiences in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Prague, and Bratislava, which we unfortunately are unable to include in this newsletter. She returned home on September 17, 1991.]

VIII. Selected Bibliography of Recent Publications on Slavic Librarianship and Collections in the West

Mary Stuart, University of Illinois Library

Note: Items preceded by an asterisk were not examined

Allen, Marie B. and Roland M. Baumann. "Evolving Appraisal and Accessioning Policies of Soviet Archives." *American Archivist*, 54 (1991), no. 1: 96-111.

Butler, W.E. "The New Soviet Law on the Press." *Solanus* n.s. 5 (1991): 167-176.

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