

NEWS FOR THE ASSOCIATION

ALEX SIMIRENKO (1931-1979)

Alex Simirenko, Professor of Sociology at The Pennsylvania State University, died April 27, 1979, after a long illness.

Born in Kiev, Ukraine, in 1931, Alex came from an illustrious family, descended from Zaporozhian Cossacks. Members of the Simirenko family were known for their contributions to science and technological development; their patronage of the arts, including sponsorship of the work of Taras Shevchenko; and their commitment to social reform and Ukrainian independence.

After fleeing the Soviet Union, Dr. Simirenko attended the Ukrainian school in Prague and completed his secondary education in Augsburg, Bavaria. Coming to the United States in 1950, he attended the University of Minnesota where he received the BA, MA, and PhD, all in sociology.

He taught at the University of Nevada, Reno and the California State University at Northridge before joining the Penn State faculty in 1969.

Dr. Simirenko was a member of many professional societies, including ASN since its founding, reflecting his interest in both sociology and Slavic studies. He was active in the organizational and administrative work of these associations, and also served on the editorial boards of several professional journals.

He was the author of numerous articles, book reviews, and professional papers. He was the author or editor of three books: *PILGRIMS, COLONISTS, AND FRONTIERSMEN: AN ETHNIC COMMUNITY IN TRANSITION* (1964), a study of the Carpathian community in Minneapolis; *SOVIET SOCIOLOGY: HISTORY, ANTECEDENTS, AND CURRENT APPRAISALS* (1966); and *SOCIAL THOUGHT IN THE SOVIET UNION* (1969). At the time of his death, he was working on a survey research study of the ethnic identity of Polish-American students.

Association for the Study of the Nationalities mourns and honors a prolific scholar, an excellent teacher, and a friendly human being.

Stephan M. Horak

ASN ACTIVITIES

ASN continues to be active in 1980 by sponsoring one session at the Second World Congress on Soviet and East European Studies in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, and two sessions at the AAASS annual convention in Philadelphia, Pa.

With the publication of *Nationalities Papers* and "Series in Issues Studies, USSR and East Europe," ASN actively contributes to American Soviet and East European studies. The increasing number of contributors, book reviews, and subscriptions testify to the success of the Association which is entering its tenth year (1971-1981). This first decade in retrospect offers an opportunity not only to count accomplishments, but also to look upon the next decade as a new challenge.

In the list of our immediate priorities the following must have special attention:

1. To make *Nationalities Papers* a quarterly, available in all major libraries of the World.
2. To secure new members for the ASN and to increase circulation of N.P. to one thousand copies.
3. To make N.P. available to scholars outside the United States and to publish articles in all major Western languages.
4. To provide N.P. with a solid financial base through life-memberships, donations from members and friends, and subsidies from foundations and benevolent organizations.
5. To make it possible for the ASN to organize its own national and international meetings aimed at the promotion of research and interest in non-Russian nationalities of the USSR and various national minorities populating the countries of Eastern Europe.
6. To establish close cooperation with institutions, associations, and organizations sharing common interest and activities.
7. Finally, to convince members of the ASN that the above goals are indeed within our reach provided, of course, that each one is willing to secure at least one new member, one additional subscription, and send a generous check to our Secretary-Treasurer, Professor Andris Skreija.

The past successes — and they were numerous indeed — are the best testimony to our collective ability to continue to move forward.

CANADIAN ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Professor Martin L. Kovacs has been appointed Associate Editor of

the *Nationalities Papers*. His responsibilities include soliciting manuscripts from Canadian scholars, promotion of subscriptions to the N.P. and of membership in the Association for the Study of the Nationalities (USSR and East Europe).

The Editors of the N.P. welcome Prof. Kovacs and wish him further success in his prolific academic career.

Interested persons may contact him at:

Department of History
University of Regina
Regina S4S OA2

REMINDERS

Prof. Andrew Ezergailis, Book Review Editor, welcomes your willingness to review books for N.P. which are arriving in large numbers. Please write to him and indicate your speciality and knowledge of languages.

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Prof. Edward D. Wynot appeals to volunteers to participate in sessions sponsored by the ASN at the AAASS and AHA meetings. ASN members will enjoy preferential selection.

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The first *Guide to the Study of the Soviet Nationalities: Non-Russian Peoples of the USSR*, prepared by Stephan M. Horak in collaboration with Marjorie Mandelstam Balzer, David M. Crowe, Kenneth C. Farmer, Stephen Fischer-Galati, Sidney Heitman, James L. Heizer, Vitaut Kipel, Isabelle Kreindler, Joseph Lazzarini, Joseph D. McCadden, and Shimon Redlich, has been completed and submitted to the K.G. Saur Publishing Inc.

The *Guide* scheduled for publication in 1981, comprises over 1,500 annotated entries on all non-Russian peoples of the USSR, and offers pertinent information on a various aspects and problems related to the study of the Soviet nationalities in the West.

Pre-orders for the *Guide* are to be sent to:

K.G. Saur Publishing Inc.
45 N. Broad Street
Ridgewood, N.J. 07450