
NEWS OF THE PROFESSION

CONFERENCES

October 13-14, 1972: Southern Conference on Slavic Studies of AAASS, Eleventh Annual Meeting, University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida. Program: Edward Chmielewski, Department of History, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee 37916. Local Arrangements: Gerald Govorchin, Department of History, University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida 33124.

October 20-21, 1972: Midwest Slavic Conference Meeting, at Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio. Contact: Patrick L. Alston, Department of History, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio 43402.

November, 1972: Sixth Congress of the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences (SVU) in America. Theme: "Historical Development and Present State of Scientific Research in Czechoslovakia" and Czechoslovak Sciences in the Western World Outside Czechoslovakia" plus other panels. Program: Dr. O. A. Horna, P.O. Box 115, Clarksburg, Maryland 20734.

November 17-18, 1972: Central Slavic Conference Eleventh Annual Meeting, William Jewell College, Liberty, Missouri 64068, commemorating the tenth anniversary of the founding of the conference at William Jewell. Theme: "The Samizdat Explosion." Program: Will Adams, Department of Political Science, William Jewell College, Liberty, Missouri 64068.

April 19-21, 1973: American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies meeting jointly with the Northeastern Slavic Conference in New York City at the Roosevelt Hotel. Program: Michael Cherniavsky, Department of History, State University of New York, Albany, New York. Local Arrangements: Paul Trenskey, Russian Institute, Fordham University, New York, New York 10458.

May 3-6, 1973: Bulgarian Studies Group

Meeting, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin. Contact: Thomas Butler, Slavic Department, Van Hise 720, 1220 Linden Drive, Madison, Wisconsin 53706.

APPOINTMENTS AND STAFF CHANGES

Brooklyn College of the City University of New York: Spencer E. Roberts promoted to professor of Russian in the Department of Modern Languages.

Hamilton College, Clinton, New York: Michael H. Haltzel of Harvard University appointed assistant professor of history.

Harvard University: Wiktor Weintraub appointed first Alfred Jurzykowski Professor of Polish Languages and Literature in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures.

University of Massachusetts, Amherst: Maurice I. Levin and Laszlo M. Tikos promoted to professors in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. Karl W. Ryavec promoted to associate professor of political science; he remains chairman of the Soviet and East European Studies Program.

Millersville State College, Millersville, Pennsylvania: Edward A. Tuleya appointed associate professor of history.

Princeton University: Stavro Skendi, professor of Balkan languages and cultures at Columbia University, selected as a member of the Institute for Advanced Study during the academic year 1972-73.

Southampton College, Long Island University: Sidney R. Shertzer promoted to associate professor of history.

State University of New York at Albany: Joseph F. Zacek promoted to professor of history.

Stockton State College: Maxim W. Mikulak of SUNY at Fredonia appointed professor of history and coordinator of the history program and member of the science, technology, and society program.

United Nations, New York City: Claus Wittich of the University of Southern California appointed Economic Affairs Officer, Centrally Planned Economies Branch, CDPPE/ESA, for a two-year term.

G. V. ADAMOVICH, 1894–1972

Georgii Viktorovich Adamovich, long a central and influential literary figure in the Russian émigré community, died February 21, 1972, in Nice, at the age of seventy-seven. He had just returned home to France from his first trip to the United States, where his visit included speaking engagements at a number of eastern colleges and universities. Georgii Viktorovich was born April 19, 1894; his father was a military doctor of Polish descent and his mother a gifted pianist. Though born in Moscow he attended both *gimnazium* and the university in St. Petersburg. There he set himself seriously to developing his poetic talent, and shortly after the Revolution became associated with the group of young poets who called themselves “acmeists” and gathered around Nikolai Gumilev.

Adamovich had already published a collection of verse entitled *Chistilishche* when he emigrated in 1922. After this, although considerably more appeared in journals than was collected, he published only two more books of verse—*Na zapade* (1939) and *Edinstvo* (1967). If his poetic output was modest, this poet turned out a vast body of critical work during his fifty-year career, and his articles found their way into nearly every important émigré literary journal and newspaper. Until his death, Adamovich continued to write and publish thoughtful and perceptive essays in periodicals such as *Novyi Zhurnal* and *Mosty*. But many remember the younger and less subdued Georgii Viktorovich of the 1920s and 1930s, the literary editor of the Paris daily *Poslednie Novosti*, whose provocative statements and outspoken judgments sometimes spurred heated discussion. Many readers recall the controversy that smoldered for years between Adamovich and his fellow poet-critic Vladislav Khodasevich, and not a few remember him as a kind of mentor who taught what poetry should be and how to write it. It was at this time, before the Second World War, that Adamovich involved himself actively in nearly every area and aspect of the Paris émigré community’s literary and cultural life. It was then that he took his place in this community as an important shaping force and spokesman for it.

Adamovich thought of himself not as a critic but as a literary commentator. For him “criticism” was something official and restrictive, and he always liked to indulge himself in the freedom of ranging beyond a given subject. His reviews and essays over the years were never limited to Russian-émigré or even Russian-language literary events and trends. Although he knew Russian culture best, and knew it well, in his “commentaries” Adamovich’s mind moved freely through Western culture as a whole, and it was this broad grasp, this comprehensive view, that gave what he wrote much of its meaning and value.

Adamovich left behind two collections of literary essays—a unique book on Russian émigré writers, *Odinchestvo i svoboda* (1955), and a number of essays reprinted from various émigré journals (*Chisla, Opyty, and Sovremennye Zapiski*) under the characteristic title *Kommentarii* (1967). It is mainly by these two books that Georgii Viktorovich will be known to future scholars, but for those who knew him personally, he will be remembered for much more.

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