

LAVROV: GODY EMIGRATSII: LETTERS AND DOCUMENTS IN TWO VOLUMES. Edited, annotated, and with an introduction by *Boris Sapir*. Russian Series on Social History, 2. International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam. Dordrecht and Boston: D. Reidel, 1974. Vol. 1: LAVROV AND LOPATIN (CORRESPONDENCE 1870–1883). 1x, 603 pp. Vol. 2: OTHER CORRESPONDENCE OF LAVROV, AND VARIA (RUSSIAN TEXT). xx, 669 pp. Dfl. 345. \$125.00 for 2 vols.

Boris Sapir's two-volume collection of documents makes available to scholars a variety of materials relating to Peter Lavrov's biography and the politics of the Russian revolutionary emigration over the course of three decades. Lavrov's career is the organizing principle for the collection, and his correspondence with a number of revolutionary socialists—both Russian and non-Russian—comprises the bulk of the documents. In addition, there are a number of documents, especially in the second volume, which shed light primarily on the appearance of terrorism, the rise and decline of *Narodnaia volia*, and the struggles of dedicated *narodovol'tsy* against (so it seemed to them) divisive Marxist and liberal tendencies in the movement during the 1880s and 1890s.

Lavrov, during his emigration (1870 until his death in 1900), became a kind of barometer of the changes in the revolutionary movement. The documents reveal not only his reactions to the pressures brought to bear on him, but also the reasons for his affiliation with the particular factions which sought his support after he escaped from internal exile in Russia and made his way to Europe. Aside from a twenty-five-page summary of Lavrov's career during his years of emigration, the first volume of the collection is devoted exclusively to Lavrov's correspondence with his close confidant German Lopatin. Most of the more than three hundred letters to Lopatin touch upon the history of Lavrov's journal, *Vpered!* (1873–77), and provide a valuable addition to documents already published by Sapir in the first publication of the Russian Series on Social History, *Vpered! 1873–1877*, vol. 2 (Dordrecht, 1970). The second volume of Sapir's new collection contains much previously unpublished material (including Lavrov's correspondence with S. A. Podolinskii) shedding light, once again, on the prehistory and history of *Vpered!* The second volume, however, is more in the nature of a miscellany, for it includes a variety of material: Lavrov's correspondence with Plekhanov, Akselrod, and others concerning the "Society for the Struggle with Famine" (1891–92); the correspondence of the *narodovol'tsy*—Lev Tikhomirov and M. N. Oshanina-Polonskaia—over the split with Plekhanov's group and the establishment and dissolution of *Vestnik Narodnoi voli*; Lavrov's negotiations with the executive committee of *Narodnaia volia*; his correspondence with G. Z. Eliseev and G. E. Blagosvetlov, mainly about Lavrov's articles for legal journals in Russia; Lavrov's correspondence with leading European socialists, including Viktor Adler and Eduard Bernstein; portions of the post-*Vpered!* correspondence with Rosaliia Idel'son and V. N. Smirnov (whose correspondence with each other during the *Vpered!* years is, aside from the Lavrov-Lopatin correspondence, the most valuable source for the history of the journal); documents relating to the "Group of Old *Narodovol'tsy*" during the 1890s; an interesting collection of documents on the circle which planned to assassinate Alexander III in 1887, the most illustrious member of which—better to say posthumously illustrious—was Alexander Ulianov, Lenin's older brother; a number of Lavrov's published and unpublished articles and letters; and finally, one of Lavrov's surviving poems written before the onset of his revolu-

tionary career, "Adel'gaida," dated November 24, 1844—an item of purely biographical interest.

The Lavrov-Lopatin correspondence is certainly the most valuable body of materials in the entire collection. Aside from providing information about Lavrov's designs, hopes, victories, and defeats, the letters reveal—almost in the form of a journal at times—the trials of the group which published *Vpered!* This collection marks the first appearance in print of the Lavrov-Lopatin letters in their entirety, and the correspondence can be compared with Lavrov's contemporaneous letters to Elena Shtakensneider (which were published in *Golos minuvshago* in 1916), as well as with V. N. Smirnov's letters to Idel'son and others (published by Sapir in 1970) concerning the same events. Taken together, the Lavrov correspondence and the Smirnov correspondence enable historians to reconstruct both Lavrov's life during the *Vpered!* years, and the history of Lavrov and Smirnov's joint enterprise.

This is certainly one of the two most distinguished collections of documents on Russian revolutionary émigrés to appear outside the Soviet Union—Arthur Lehning's multivolume *Archives Bakounine* is the other. Sapir has now published, in four volumes of carefully edited and annotated documents, virtually all of the Lavrov materials preserved in the International Institute for Social History. Unfortunately, not all of the documents are valuable, and one wonders why Sapir chose to reprint some materials rather than others. Some of Lavrov's correspondence with Marx and Engels, for example, might easily have been included. Although rigorous selectivity is lacking, historians interested mainly in the émigré world of revolutionaries will find riches here, and students of the movement as a whole will encounter interesting additional information about well-known episodes (such as the Degaev affair) in the Russian revolutionary movement. Scholars will be delighted not only with Sapir's annotations, but with a voluminous index of names and periodicals included in the second volume.

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THE SOVIETS: THE RUSSIAN WORKERS, PEASANTS, AND SOLDIERS COUNCILS, 1905–1921. By *Oskar Anweiler*. Translated from the German by *Ruth Hein*. New York: Pantheon Books, a division of Random House, 1974 [Leiden: E. J. Brill, 1958, under the title *Die Rätebewegung in Russland 1905–1921*; Paris: Éditions Gallimard, 1972, under the title *Les Soviets en Russie 1905–1921*]. xx, 339 pp. \$15.00.

It is a pleasure to welcome the first English edition of Anweiler's pioneer work on the soviets, which has been required reading for students of the Russian revolutionary period since it first appeared in 1958. The continuing importance of his study emerges with particular clarity in his treatment of the impact of Western political traditions upon Russian socialists attempting to formulate a policy toward the soviets. Anweiler suggests that in 1905 and 1917, the Mensheviks insisted that even the best soviets had to give way to democratic institutions, which would represent both the bourgeoisie and the more exploited elements of the population. Their position is contrasted to that of the Bolsheviks, who argued that the soviet's permanent survival depended upon its policies as well as on the classes and parties