

EDITORIAL FOREWORD

AFTER the sad and sudden death of Professor Samuel H. Cross, who from the start had so ably guided the *American Slavic and East European Review* as Managing Editor, a meeting of the Editorial Committee was held in New York on December 26, 1946. An Interim Executive Committee of three was appointed to take charge of the affairs of the *Review*, and it was directed to arrange for the election of as many as five new members, specialists in fields not already represented by the membership of the Editorial Committee; and it was further directed, after these new members had been duly appointed, to arrange for an election of a new Managing Editor.

The five new members of the Editorial Committee, nominated and elected by mail vote, are: Professors George B. Cressey, of Syracuse University; Oscar Halecki, of Fordham University; John N. Hazard, of Columbia University; Roman Jakobson, of Columbia University; and George R. Noyes, of the University of California.

After the Editorial Committee had been enlarged in this manner, the American Council of Learned Societies, at the request of the Interim Executive Committee, kindly consented to conduct the election of a Managing Editor. The undersigned was duly elected for a period of three years.

The new Editor, with the generous financial aid and coöperation of the American Council of Learned Societies and the Rockefeller Foundation, called a meeting of the Editorial Committee to discuss the whole future of the *Review*. The meeting was held on October 18-19, 1947, and there were present Professors George B. Cressey, of Syracuse; Harold H. Fisher, of Stanford; Oscar Halecki, of Fordham; John N. Hazard, of Columbia; Roman Jakobson, of Columbia; Michael Karpovich, of Harvard; Robert J. Kerner, of California; Waclaw Lednicki, of California; Philip E. Mosely, of Columbia; Geroid T. Robinson, of Columbia; Alfred Senn, of Pennsylvania; Ernest J. Simmons, of Columbia; S. Harrison Thomson, of Colorado; and George Vernadsky, of Yale. Also present by invitation were Dr. Leonid I. Strakhovsky, of Harvard, former acting Managing Editor; Professor Arthur P. Coleman, of Columbia, former Associate Editor; Dr. David H. Stevens and Dr. Charles B. Fahs, of the Rockefeller Foundation; and Dr. Cornelius Krusé, of the American Council of Learned Societies.

In the course of two days of conferences, a great many matters of importance concerning the *Review* were fully discussed, and various decisions were taken. Some of the more significant of these actions will be of interest to contributors and subscribers.

In the light of expanding interest here and abroad in Slavic and East European studies, members of the Editorial Committee discussed the important part the *Review* could play in this development, and expressed the hope that it would become the foremost scholarly publication in the field. It was decided that in the future the *Review* would devote about two thirds of its pages to material in the social and political sciences and about one third to philology and literature. Hereafter, no translations of belles-lettres will be published, and emphasis will be placed upon original contributions of high scholarly standards. A special effort will be made to increase the usefulness of the book review section, in order to keep readers well informed of important publications, American and foreign, in the many learned specialities included in the wide scope of the *Review*.

The Editorial Committee voted to incorporate the *Review* under the name of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, Inc., and measures to this effect have been taken. The Editor submitted a tentative budget for a five-year period of operation, and he expressed the wish that some outside support would be available over this trial period until the subscription list could be built up. As some assistance in this direction, he was able to report that nine institutions, represented by members on the Editorial Committee, had each agreed to small annual subsidies. They are: Columbia University, Fordham University, Harvard University, Stanford University, Yale University, the University of California, the University of Chicago, the University of Colorado, and the University of Pennsylvania.

The Editor also pointed out at the meeting that Columbia University Press was prepared to sign a contract for the printing, promotion, and handling of subscriptions of the *Review*. This contract has now been signed, and beginning with this number, it is hoped that the *Review* will appear quarterly. Attention of future contributors of articles and reviews is drawn to the notes on the preparation of manuscripts and the transliteration table at the end of this issue.

The Editor and the Editorial Committee wish to assure subscribers that every effort will be made to improve the quality of the *Review* and to increase its usefulness in an important field of scholarly endeavor.

ERNEST J. SIMMONS
Managing Editor