

Soviet apparatus at that time. It is sufficient to say here that it was Skrypnyk who served as the first chairman of the Soviet Ukrainian People's Secretariat, thus becoming a cofounder of the first Soviet government in the Ukraine. As a member of the Central Committee of both the All-Union and Ukrainian Communist parties, Skrypnyk was also chairman of the Ukrainian delegation to the Comintern and served as a permanent member of its executive committee. After he assumed responsibility for the educational network in the Ukraine, Skrypnyk became the chief architect of the policy of Ukrainization of the Soviet apparatus in the Ukraine. Although initially successful, this policy brought him into direct conflict with Stalin and ultimately led to Skrypnyk's suicide on July 7, 1933.

Despite Skrypnyk's official rehabilitation after de-Stalinization, very little has been written about him in the Soviet press, apart from a few occasional articles and a slim and rather biased biography by Babko and Bilokobyl's'kyi, published in Kiev in 1967. Skrypnyk's life is more fully described by Mr. Koszeliwec in his work *Mykola Skrypnyk* ("Suchasnist'," 1972), and this sequel, containing Skrypnyk's speeches and writings, provides a well-balanced selection of thirty articles dealing primarily with the nationality question. Hopefully, this is only a beginning, and others will follow Koszeliwec's lead in preparing a more comprehensive study of this colorful figure of Ukrainian Marxism. A great deal remains to be done in deepening our political and historical understanding of the Skrypnyk years within the broader dimensions of Soviet history and politics.

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THE UKRAINIAN HERALD, ISSUE 7-8 (SPRING 1974), AN UNDERGROUND JOURNAL FROM SOVIET UKRAINE: ETHNOCIDE OF UKRAINIANS IN THE U.S.S.R. Compiled by *Maksym Sahaydak*. Introduction by *Robert Conquest*. Translated and edited by *Olena Saciuk* and *Bohdan Yasen*. Baltimore: Smoloskyp Publishers, 1976. iv, 209 pp. \$6.95, cloth. \$3.95, paper.

This is a competent and faithful English translation of combined issue 7 and 8 of the Soviet Ukrainian *samvydav* journal *Ukrains'kyi visnyk* (*The Ukrainian Herald*). All other issues, except no. 5 (which never reached the West), have been published by Smoloskyp in Ukrainian. The present issue, along with no. 6, has been translated into English.

Modeled on the Moscow-based *Chronicle of Current Events*, the first six issues of *Ukrains'kyi visnyk* had a strong human rights and nationalist orientation, and, probably because of the editorship of Viacheslav Chornovil, provided a relatively dispassionate chronicle of arrests and extrajudicial persecutions, as well as memoirs and analytic essays on Russification, nationality policy, and civil rights.

Issue 7-8 appeared after the 1972 wave of KGB arrests of intellectuals and dissidents, thought to have been aimed at silencing the *Visnyk*. The issue differs dramatically in terms of style and content from all pre-1972 Ukrainian *samvydav* literature: instead of objective reporting of events, petitions, and appeals to Soviet authorities to observe their own legal norms, this issue shows a virulent separatism that is reminiscent of an earlier era of Ukrainian nationalism. The first article, written by the issue's editor, Maksym Sahaydak (presumably a pseudonym), chides the West for its naïveté, warns of the dangers of détente in terms evocative of Solzhenitsyn, and forthrightly labels the Soviet Union a "fascist empire" (p. 21). The major article in the issue, which provides the title, consists of two parts. The first part is a convoluted statistical

analysis of the denationalization (“ethnocide”) of the Ukrainian population, largely, though not wholly, through linguistic Russification. The second and more interesting part consists of an impressive discussion of the purge of Ukrainian party cadres and intelligentsia during the early 1970s and of the repression of Ukrainian language, culture, and religion under the Brezhnev regime. Appended are a number of poems by “Sahaydak.”

Doubts about the authenticity of this unusual document have been expressed in various forums, and there are some anomalies that require explanation before this issue of *Visnyk* is accepted, without reservation, as having originated in Soviet Ukraine. For example, the Ukrainian original employs language (the words *sovetskii*, KGB, *v Ukraine*, references to Russian “colonialism,” and so forth) that are more characteristic of émigré than of Soviet Ukrainian writing. In addition, the Moscow-based *Chronicle of Current Events* has published reviews of all issues of the *Visnyk* except this one. At our most sanguine, we must conclude that the document is far outside the mainstream of Ukrainian underground writing.

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PŘÍSPĚVKY K DĚJINÁM ČESKO-RUSKÝCH KULTURNÍCH STYKŮ/3.
Prague: Lidové nakladatelství, 1976. 171 pp. Kčs. 19.

NÁSTIN VZTAHŮ MEZI ČESKOSLOVENSKOU A SOVĚTSKOU VĚDOU:
ZÁKLADNÍ RYSY VZTAHŮ V RÁMCI AKADEMIÍ OD 18. STOLETÍ
DO SOUČASNOSTI. By *K. Herman* et al. Prague: Academia, 1975. 114 pp.
Kčs. 11, paper.

ČESKOSLOVENSKO-SOVĚTSKÉ VZTAHY JAKO FAKTOR MEZINÁ-
RODNÍ POLITIKY, 1917–1970. Compiled and edited by *František Hejl*. Prague:
Academia, 1975. 310 pp. Kčs. 38.

The three volumes under review are symposia consisting of contributions by a number of Czech, Slovak, and Soviet authors. The volume edited by Hejl is written in Czech and Slovak, and the other two provide summaries in Czech of papers in Russian and vice versa.

Příspěvky is a miscellany of readings, of varying lengths, on rather unrelated topics, such as a four-page reminiscence about the sojourn of Peter the Great in Karlsbad in 1711 and 1712, a review of Czech themes in nineteenth-century Russian poetry, an article on how a Czech nineteenth-century composer wrote music for one of Pushkin’s poems, and a brief account about the Slavic library in Prague. Almost half of the volume, however, has little to do with Czech-Russian cultural relations (supposedly the subject of the book); instead, it is devoted to a critical evaluation of memoirs about the October Revolution and the Russian civil war written by Czechoslovak legionnaires in 1919–38.

Nástin is actually a sort of Festschrift published to commemorate the two-hundred-fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the first Russian Academy of Sciences (Petersburg Imperial Academy of Sciences), which was subsequently converted into the Academy of Sciences of the USSR. Although the book traces the development and the activities of the academy, the volume’s primary concern is the contacts that developed between the academy and Czech and Slovak scientists, writers, and cultural and scientific institutions, including the Czech Academy of Sciences (founded in 1890). The authors’ treatment of the subject for the period prior to 1917 appears to be devoid