

Awaiting publication from this period are a monumental work on *Great English and American Writers of the Last Hundred Years* (in Polish); a treatise in English on *Poland in World Civilization* (in this will be found a full and detailed description of life under the Germans); *English Language and Life*, a manual in English; and an English version of his Russian experiences, *In Russia through the Years of Upheaval* (1915–1922).

Roman Dyboski was dearly beloved by his students, who looked upon him more as a father than as a professor. His loss to scholarship is great, but his death is a great human loss, as well.

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### George Zinobei Patrick

George Zinovei Patrick, Professor of Russian at the University of California, died at his home in Berkeley on February 24, 1946, after a long illness.

Professor Patrick was born in Nizhni Novgorod on May 19, 1883. His father and forefathers were merchants. He graduated at the Nizhni Novgorod Gymnasium in 1901, from the Historico-Philological Institute in Moscow in 1905, from the Faculté de Droit in Paris in 1911, and from the Moscow Law School in 1912. During his residence in Paris he taught French from November, 1909, to June, 1911, at the school conducted by the Association Philotechnique.

From June 1, 1916, to May 17, 1919, Professor Patrick acted as assistant to the legal department of the Russian Embassy's Division of Supplies in the United States, with offices in Washington and New York. When political events made it impossible for him either to continue work with the Russian Embassy or to return to Russia, he determined to prepare himself for a career in this country as a university teacher of French: at that time university positions in Russian were few and far between. Already conscious of weakness of the lungs, he came to California in search of a gentle climate, and in 1920 registered as a graduate student at the University of California. He received his doctor's degree in French in 1923; his dissertation, "Étude morphologique et syntaxique des verbes dans *Maître Pierre Pathelin*," was published by the University of California Press in 1924.

Meanwhile Professor Patrick had begun his work as a teacher of American students, being promptly appointed Assistant in French in January, 1920; during 1920–21 he served as Associate in French, during 1921–23 as Associate in French and Russian, and during 1923–27 as Assistant Professor of French and Russian. With the growth of the Slavic Department it became possible for him to devote his entire time to instruction in Russian, the work nearest his heart; he was made

Assistant Professor of Russian in 1927, Associate Professor of Russian in 1929, and Professor of Russian in 1940. During various years from 1928 to 1939 he was chairman of the Department of Slavic Languages. In the summer of 1934 he joined with Professor S. H. Cross in organizing the "Intensive Courses in the Russian Language" offered by the Institute of Pacific Relations at Harvard University. These courses were continued under the sole charge of Professor Patrick in the summer of 1935 at Columbia University and in the summers of 1936 and 1937 at the University of California.

Steady, grinding work with few interruptions proved too great a strain on Professor Patrick's rather frail constitution. From 1938 onward his life was one long struggle against tuberculosis; he would teach for a time, then spend months in bed in order to regain strength. He met his last classes in November, 1945; the end came three months later.

Professor Patrick was author or joint author of a long series of articles, reviews, translations, and textbooks, all concerned with Russian topics. His most notable scholarly publication is the volume, *Popular Poetry in Soviet Russia* (University of California Press, 1929: 289 pages), a study of peasant and proletarian poetry as affected by the Russian revolution, with copious illustrative translations. In a different field one may single out his collaboration with Mrs. Dorothea Prall Radin on her fine translation of Pushkin's *Eugene Onegin* (University of California Press, 1939). His series of three Russian readers (elementary, intermediate, and advanced) and his book, *Roots of the Russian Language*, have been widely used, aiding thousands of students. It is deeply to be regretted that his poor health prevented him from carrying out his plan for writing a Russian grammar to be used by speakers of English.

One must state frankly, however, that Professor Patrick's high position in the development of Russian studies in this country does not depend primarily on his scholarship, though it was sound; nor on his publications, though they are important. Up to his residence in America his own formal education had been primarily in law, not in literature or in language studies. He knew well both Russian and French literature, and he had definite, independent opinions about books and authors, but his own fundamental interests lay elsewhere than in literary criticism or in literary history. His French was excellent; his English, very halting in 1919, soon became precise and correct. In French linguistics, as his doctoral dissertation illustrates, he was well trained. But he had given little attention to comparative Slavic linguistics or to comparative grammar in general. His conscientiousness is illustrated by the fact that within the department he preferred to confine his teaching strictly to Russian topics.

On the other hand Professor Patrick had a personality that made him almost universally loved and he had exceptional skill as a teacher. As Professor Simmons has written to me: "George was a man you could

never quarrel with, for understanding and human sympathy were so instinctive with him." And indeed during more than twenty years of close association he and I never had a serious disagreement, nor was this harmony the result of any undue subservience on the part of either of us. I grew to admire his sure common sense in teaching and in the conduct of departmental affairs, despite the fact that his environment was totally different from those with which he was familiar in Russia and in France. When I was chairman of our small department I would often accept his judgment even if it was in conflict with my own. In the classroom Professor Patrick was alert and vigorous without being overbearing; he gave his students the best that was within him and the students respected and loved him. Yet knowledge of his subject, enthusiasm, kindness, and self-restraint were not his only good qualities as a teacher. He knew how to plan a complicated scheme of work and how to make his assistants co-operate with him. His organization and conduct of the "Intensive Courses" has had a distinct influence on later instruction in Russian in this country. I venture the opinion that by his combination of native knowledge, instinctive sympathy with students, and practical wisdom Professor Patrick gained the foremost place among teachers of the Russian language in the United States.

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