

mine, and an excellent Nabokov scholar as well): "W. W. Rowe is one of the very best critics writing on Nabokov." Many people have found my work and critical opinions useful. I continue to consider Boyd's book a fine contribution except for its unbecoming gratuitous attack.

W. W. ROWE
George Washington University

TO THE EDITOR:

Marin Pundeff believes that his recent article, "Dimitrov at Leipzig: Was There a Deal?" (*Slavic Review*, Fall 1986, pp. 545–549) corrects or demolishes my parenthetical discussion of this issue in a book published almost three decades ago. But it seems to me that Pundeff's chronology effectively, albeit inadvertently, confirms the main thrust of my old speculation that Georgi Dimitrov's "conduct at the trial was genuinely courageous . . . [because] a deal, if any, was arranged only toward the end of the trial or after the acquittal of the three Bulgarians and Torgler on December 23, 1933" (Joseph Rothschild, *The Communist Party of Bulgaria: Origins and Development, 1883–1936* [New York: Columbia University Press, 1959], p. 293 fn. 30).

JOSEPH ROTHSCHILD
Columbia University

PROFESSOR PUNDEFF REPLIES:

It is not surprising that Joseph Rothschild hangs on to his "old speculation," but ignoring evidence is not to his credit. The existing evidence shows that Dimitrov knew the Soviet government would extricate him, as it did, and continues to do, when ranking agents are involved. More evidence lies in party archives in the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, and East Germany and can be provided by their historians. The ball is now in their court.

As to inadvertence, one should let chips of evidence fall where they may, rather than arrange them by design. To some historians at least, this is a canon of the craft.

MARIN PUNDEFF
California State University, Northridge