

Spring Meeting 1996

The next meeting will take place in the Deneke Common Room, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford on Saturday, March 16th, 1996.

Programme:

- 11.00

G.Ju.Filippovskij (Jaroslavl'): Myth and ritual in early Russian mediæval narratives

- 12.00

Ralph Cleminson: Old Slavonic isosyllabism: reality or illusion?

- 1.00

Lunch

- 2.00

Lindsey Hughes: *Slovo o bradobritii*: Muscovite views of beards and shaving.

Lunch will be available, price £9, payable on the day. Members requiring lunch are requested to inform Dr MacRobert no later than 9th March.

One way of maintaining the momentum towards collaboration in the teaching of mediæval Slavonic studies might be the establishment of a thematic network under Chapter 1, Action 1 of the EU SOCRATES programme. These networks are intended to define and develop a European dimension within the discipline and foster curriculum innovation, discussion on improvements in teaching methods and the wider application of good practice, etc. For full details see your "Guidelines for applicants - ERASMUS" booklet, pp.31-35. We shall be discussing this at the meeting; anyone who is not able to be present but wishes to make a contribution to the discussion may send it to the Secretary/Treasurer.

Publications received

- Jean Blankoff, *Les théories normaniste et antinormaniste sur les origines de la Russie*, Bruxelles, 1994
- idem, *L'art de la Russie ancienne (XIe-XVIIe s.)*, Bruxelles, 1995

On ne discute pas avec un paléographe; on le laisse parler.

- Gérard de Nerval

SLAVONIC AND EAST EUROPEAN MEDIAEVAL STUDIES GROUP

Spring Bulletin 1996

The last meeting took place in the Deneke Common Room, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford on Saturday, March 16th, 1996. Papers were read by G.Ju.Filippovskij on "Myth and ritual in early Russian mediæval narratives", Ralph Cleminson on "Old Slavonic isosyllabism: reality or illusion?" and by Lindsey Hughes on "Слово о бранобритии: Muscovite views of beards and shaving".

The possibility of establishing a thematic network for mediæval Slavonic Studies under Chapter 1, Action 1 of the EU SOCRATES programme was discussed. (These networks are intended to define and develop a European dimension within the discipline and foster curriculum innovation, discussion on improvements in teaching methods and the wider application of good practice, etc.) The idea met with general approval, but it is impossible at present for either the Chairman or the Secretary/Treasurer to co-ordinate such a network from their own departments. Would any other member be interested in exploring the possibilities? Initial expressions of interest will not be taken as binding commitments.

It is with deep regret that we record the death on 18th March 1996 of one of our honorary members, Professor Jakov Solomonovič Lur'e. We extend our sympathy to his family and colleagues.

Recent publications

Irina Lysén, *Греческо-старославянский конкорданс к древнейшим спискам славянского перевода евангелий*, Uppsala, 1995

Simon Franklin & Jonathan Shepard, *The emergence of Rus, 750-1200*, London/New York, 1996

David J. Birnbaum et al. (eds.) *Computer processing of medieval Slavic manuscripts: proceedings [of the] First International Conference, 24-28 July 1995, Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria, Sofia, 1995*

R.M. Cleminson, *Cyrillic manuscripts in Slovakia: a union catalogue*, Martin, 1996.

Forthcoming

Пигин, А.В. *Из истории русского демонологии XVII в. Повесть о бесноватой жене Соломонии: исследование и тексты*. Petrozovodsk UP is currently taking orders for this book, which, on the basis of a textological analysis of 126 MSS, studies the literary and oral sources for the *povest'* and its cultural and mythological basis, providing for the first time an edition of all extant redactions. Not surprisingly, in view of the current financial climate in Russia, the appearance of the book depends partly on the number of orders. Dr Faith Wigzell at SSEES <fwigzell@ssees.ac.uk> is prepared to act as the conveyer of orders to Petrozavodsk, but would like to receive them very soon. The book will not cost more than \$15.

One of our honorary members, Professor Andrzej Poppe, has written reminding us that *Russia Mediaevalis* invites all kinds of contributions dealing with Rus' - East Slavonic history and culture from about 800 to 1600. He asks only that these should conform to the conventions of traditional mediævalist *Werkstatt*. Information about recent publications in the field is also requested for the bibliographical section of the journal; this should be sent to Simon Franklin at Clare College or Jonathan Shepard at the Faculty of History, West Road, Cambridge. Other communications and orders for the journal (of which vol.VIII,1 has just been published at the price of DM58) should be sent to Dr Hermann Beyer-Thoma, Osteuropa-Institut München, Historische Abteilung, Scheinerstraße 11, D-81679 München <u9511aj@sunmail.lrz-muenchen.de>.

The Department of History of Babeş-Bolyai University is organising the third conference on Ethnicity and Religion in Central and Eastern Europe in June 1977. The three main subject areas for the conference will be: The Church as an institution; The rôle of the Church in shaping religious identity; The development of popular piety and devotional patterns. Intending participants are asked to confirm the title of their paper by October. All enquiries to Maria Crăciun and Ovidiu Ghitta, Dept. of Mediæval History, Babeş-Bolyai University, Str. Kogălniceanu, nr.1, 3400 Cluj-Napoca, Romania (fax. 40-64-19 19 06).

A panel has been proposed for the next BASEES conference (11th-13th April 1997) on "What's New in Old Russian Studies". A round-table format is envisaged, with people giving short reports on their area -- for the edification of non-medievalists. Anyone interested should contact Lindsey Hughes.

The next meeting of SEEMSG will be held on Saturday 16th November at the Francis Skaryna Belarusian Library, 37, Holden Road, Finchley, London N12. The programme will mark the four-hundredth anniversary of the Union of Brest. Papers are invited. Members of the Anglo-Belarusian Society will be invited to our meeting, as will members of SEEMSG to a ABS study day on the Brest Union to be held the following day, Sunday 17 November. It is hoped to offer accommodation arrangements for any SEEMSG members who wish to stay over.