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Preface

The fifteen-year index to the *Slavic Review* that follows consists of three separate sections: an author index, subject index, and review index. The author index and review index were prepared from cards used by the *Slavic Review* office as part of the normal procedures necessary for publication of the journal. The form of the information on these cards differs slightly from that appearing in each December issue of *Slavic Review*, primarily in the choice of elements for each entry.

The subject section of this fifteen-year index represents an experiment in indexing. It tests relatively new indexing principles for interdisciplinary material and tests the user as well. In 1977, I prepared a thesaurus of subject terms as an initial step toward a project of indexing selected pre-Revolutionary Russian historical and literary periodicals. The thesaurus is composed of a prescriptive list of some three hundred terms. The subject index presented here demonstrates the feasibility of using a thesaurus to provide expanded and more detailed subject coverage of the journal than was provided in the earlier index for the years 1941 to 1964. Each article is indexed under at least one generic term (corresponding to a thesaurus term) as well as under several more specific terms. Each article can be retrieved from the index by means of about six different subject terms. This allows for general groupings of articles on broad subjects and at the same time permits retrieval for more specific subjects. The principle for selecting terms is based on literary warrant, that is, that the term was used by the author of the article. Further, the term must describe a subject that was significant in the article indexed. Any subject is considered significant if the author devotes several paragraphs to it or mentions it several times in the course of the article.

To be successful, a subject index must have user warrant as well as literary warrant, for in order to communicate, authors and users must obviously use the same language. It is part of the job of the indexer to ensure that this communication takes place. I am sure I have let both author and user down several times; my only hope is that I have succeeded more often than I have failed. A description of the author, subject, and review indexes follows.

Author index

The author index lists authors of articles, review essays, review articles, reviews, obituaries, and letters. Items with more than one author are listed under each name. Following the author's name are the article titles and citations (volume and page number), then citations for review essays, review articles, reviews, obituaries, and letters, in that order. Honorifics are excluded. The entries are arranged alphabetically, with Mc and Mac interfiled. Cross-references are provided when necessary. All Van and Von names are arbitrarily entered under the element following the Van or Von.

Subject index

The subject index enters all articles, obituaries, and selected review essays alphabetically under subjects. The citations take the following form: subject: author, citation. If one wishes to see the broader context of an article indexed here, one should consult the author index, where the title of the article should give a better idea of the article's scope. For example, in consulting the subject index, one might find the entry

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"Denunciations: Kleimola, 31:759-79." In order to determine what kind of denunciations or in what period or country they occurred without looking at the article itself, the user should turn to the author index under "Kleimola." There the title of the article, "The Duty to Denounce in Muscovite Russia," answers questions relating to time and place.

Obituaries are not designated as such, but the astute user will notice that most will not run over one or two pages. Within each entry, citations are entered in ascending order by volume. Russia and the Soviet Union are not used as subject terms because of the enormously long lists of citations they would generate. It is my experience that the number of citations in such long lists is inversely proportional to their usefulness. Articles dealing with other countries, however, do have access through the name of the country in question. In general the vernacular form of the name of a subject is preferred. If the vernacular is not readily available, the form used by the author of the article is entered. If an English term is used in an article, a cross reference is made to the vernacular equivalent. At times certain officials are identified solely by last name and official title. They are so listed in the index. Glosses will sometimes appear in parentheses following subject terms in order to qualify the terms in question, for example, Sun (literary image).

Review index

The review index is also arranged alphabetically. Books are listed under their authors, or wanting authors, under editors. Cross references are made for joint authors and joint editors where this information was available on the index cards prepared by the staff of the *Slavic Review*. Serial publications and items without authors and editors are listed under titles only. Inevitably there are items that do not fit these clean divisions. The user should therefore try to locate a needed review under various access points. Some items are not followed by a reviewer's name, but only by a citation; these are symposia items, contents of which are listed in the journal without evaluative comments.

Acknowledgments

A bibliographic work of this nature, voluminous in appearance, tedious in construction, and time-consuming in production, owes its existence to many people besides the compiler. I wish to thank James R. Millar and Birute Lanys of the *Slavic Review* for their enthusiasm and support throughout the project, my colleagues Marianna Tax Choldin, Harry Leich, Larry Miller, June Pachuta, Dmytro Shtohryn, and Mary Stuart for their advice and good humor, Lester Asheim and Ralph Graham Palmer for their encouragement, my daughter Sarah for her illegible annotations on both the manuscript and the index cards, my daughter Margaret for filing several cards in random order, and, most sincerely, my wife Ann, without whom I could never have had the audacity to begin this work nor the energy to finish it.

R. B.