

of a descriptive analysis, genuine reporting, and an undercurrent of philosophy. And what is equally meritorious is the unusual economy of language. There is no rule as to the way in which a biography should be written, especially a biography of a modern composer. Šafránek created his own method. In 126 well set pages he succeeded in telling the reader all he is anxious to know about the man and his 124 compositions to date. At a time when so much paper is often needlessly wasted on irrelevant subjects, this handling of an obviously uneasy theme is doubly gratifying. It is a piece of honest portraiture. And a very useful one.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

A NEW VENTURE in the publishing world has been started recently. For the first time in history an American publishing firm, the International University Press of New York, has undertaken the publication of works of Russian classics in Russian. So far they have published a one volume edition of the works of Pushkin and a similar one of Gogol, as well as a volume of selected works of Chekhov. In addition they have announced the publication of the following in separate volumes: 1. Gogol, *Dead Souls*; 2. Gogol, *Evenings on a Farm near Dikanka*; 3. Gogol, *Comedies*; 4. Lermontov, *Poems*; 5. Lermontov, *Hero of Our Times*; 6. Leskov, *The Enchanted Wanderer*; 7. Leskov, *The Left-handed One*; 8. Leskov, *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk*; 9. Turgenev, *Notes of a Hunter*; 10. Turgenev, *Novellettes and short stories*; 11. Turgenev, *Fathers and Sons*; 12. Turgenev, *A Nest of Gentle folk*; and 13. Chekhov, *One-Act Plays*.

While heartily welcoming such publications because of the dearth of Russian texts now available, one should point out that the print used by the publishers, although clear, is very small and therefore will constitute a handicap to any but very advanced American students of the Russian language.

L.I.S.

THE ADDITION of a Russian Summer School at Middlebury College this year brings the total of the local foreign language schools to five; others being French, German, Italian and Spanish. In addition, there are two English sessions: the Bread Loaf School of English and the Writers' Conference.

The Russian School will open on June 30 on the campus at Middlebury and run for a seven weeks' period, closing on August 16. Under the direction of Dr. Mischa H. Fayer, head of the Russian Department which has existed at Middlebury for the past two years, the Summer School will offer intensive courses for beginners as well as intermediate and advanced lecture courses in Russian.

Dr. Fayer lived in Russia for over twenty years, and has taught languages in this country for the past sixteen years. He will be assisted by Mrs. Lydia Mikhailoff-Shelly, who will direct the activities of the Russian House in addition to her teaching.

The Middlebury Language Schools stand for the thorough preparation of language teachers and for the linguistic training of those who will participate in the rehabilitation of the world after the war. Mastery of the spoken and written language and an intimate knowledge of the life, institutions, literature, history and culture of the foreign countries are stressed. Separate residence and dining halls, native instructors, and exclusive use of the language both in and out of the classroom are essential features of the instruction.

