An international conference on "New Perspectives in Understanding East Central Europe" met in the new Kellogg Conference Center at the School of International Affairs, Columbia University, New York, on December 3-5, 1971. Present were 55 speakers and commentators and 221 other participants from the United States, Canada, Germany, Great Britain, France, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Israel and other countries.

Hugh Seton-Watson of the University of London delivered the keynote address on the changing notions of East Central Europe, and Harrison Salisbury spoke about the critical importance of the area on the current international scene. The eight working sessions were devoted to selected major problems in various disciplines of the social sciences: "The Power Politics of States, National Self-Determination and the Social Question" (George Stadtmüller, Munich), "Fascism in Interwar Eastern Europe: The Dichotomy of Power and Influence" (Peter Sugar, University of Washington), "Elements in the Institutional Evolution of Eastern Europe" (R. V. Burks, Wayne State University), "The Problem of the Legitimacy of Power in East Central Europe" (Alfred Meyer, University of Michigan), "The Politics of Soviet War Aims: The Role of Central Europe, 1943" (Vojtech Mastny, Columbia University), "The Impact of the National Question on the Political Systems of Eastern Europe" (Paul Shoup, University of Virginia), "Leadership Attributes in Eastern Europe: The Effect of Country and Time" (Carl Beck, University of Pittsburgh), "Toward a 'Socialist Economic Integration' in Eastern Europe" (Heinrich Machowski, Berlin). The main papers were followed by statements by several commentators and a lively discussion on the part of the audience. Graduate students participated actively as both commentators and members of the audience.

Two round-table discussions concerned contemporary problems: "Normalization of Relations between the Federal Republic of Germany and Eastern Europe" and "The Role of the German Democratic Republic within Eastern Europe." The discussants included both academic experts and diplomats from East and West.

The final plenary session dealt with the present state and future development of East Central European studies. Peter C. Ludz (University of Bielefeld) spoke about "The Role of the Social Sciences," George W. Hoffman, (University of Texas) about "Research Opportunities," and John P. C. Mathews (IREX) about "Academic Organization."

Sponsored by Columbia’s Institute on East Central Europe (Istvan Deak, Director), the conference was the first interdisciplinary and international scholarly meeting devoted exclusively to the problems of the area between Germany and Russia. The papers and discussions are being prepared for publication.
THE BROWN UNIVERSITY CZECH LANGUAGE ARCHIVE

An archive of Czech language materials has been organized at Brown University by Professors Antonín Dostál and Henry Kučera. At this time it contains a computer-accessible corpus of contemporary standard Czech assembled under the direction of Professor Kučera. The corpus is a body of approximately 200,000 words of texts, coded for processing on any general purpose computer. It is divided into one hundred samples of about 2,000 words each. The samples were selected by a variety of random procedures from fourteen genre categories, covering the full range of prose styles and subject matter. Most of the texts were published in the 1950's and 1960's. The Czech corpus, being suitable for computer processing, offers a source for lexical and syntactic studies of the Czech language.

Professor Dostál has begun work on a collection of materials relating to Czech as spoken (and written) in the U.S. and Canada. The collection is set up to comprise the following materials: (a) tape recordings of speakers of Czech in the U.S.; (b) programmed questionnaires filled in by Czechs living in the U.S.; (c) recordings and transcripts of Czech folklore in the U.S.; (d) bibliographic material relating to Czech language texts printed in the U.S.; (e) addresses of Czech organizations, schools and universities which teach Czech, Czech newspapers, and other bodies interested in the Czech language. The purpose of this collection is to allow future studies on the development of Czech through various levels of linguistic assimilation and under conditions of varying interference of English (or in Canada: French).

Slavic departments or individual scholars interested in further information regarding this project, and who would like to be put on a mailing list in case of further developments are asked to write to Professors Dostál or Kučera, Department of Slavic Languages, Brown University, Providence, R. I. 02912.

Professors Dostál and Kučera would also appreciate hearing from organizations or individuals now in possession of Czech language materials (other than printed books) in the U.S. and Canada and from scholars who might be interested in either using materials available here, or in contributing to the Brown archive.

BALKAN STUDIES

BALKAN STUDIES, a scholarly journal devoted to the affairs of Southeastern Europe and now in its twelfth year, is published twice a year under the auspices of the Institute for Balkan Studies, 2 Vas. Sophias, Thessaloniki, Greece.

In the United States and Canada correspondence concerning individual subscriptions, manuscripts, reviews and news of the profession should be addressed to Prof. John O. Iatrides, Political Science Department, Southern Connecticut State College, New Haven, Connecticut 06515. Library subscriptions may be ordered from F. W. Faxon Co., 15 Southwest Park, Westwood, Mass. 02090.

The annual subscription is: $8.00.