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Translations from the Russian

In this space we recently described the highly centralized abstracting and translation arrangements in the Soviet Union [*Science* 124, 609 (5 Oct. 1956)]. The United Kingdom and the United States have a corresponding need for scientific information from the Soviet Union, a need now being met in a different, but perhaps no less effective, way.

The Department of Scientific and Industrial Research in the United Kingdom exchanges information about translations and abstracting with the several agencies of the U.S. Government that are concerned. In the United States the general pattern of operation is for government agencies to furnish financial support to private organizations, which in turn arrange for abstracting and translating foreign material. The American Institute of Physics, with the support of the National Science Foundation, translates four Soviet journals, which run to about 10,000 pages a year. In cooperation with the National Institutes of Health, NSF plans to arrange for the translation of several Soviet journals in biology by private organizations. In a similar way, NSF supports the American Mathematical Society, which thoroughly screens Soviet literature and selects papers of the greatest interest for translation. Similar arrangements will soon be worked out for geophysical information.

The U.S. Atomic Energy Commission meets its specialized needs for translation by contract with Consultants Bureau, Inc., of New York, and the National Institutes of Health are planning an extensive program of translation of Soviet journals, abstracts, and monographs in biology and medicine, partly by contract with the Consultants Bureau and partly by funds assigned to NSF and possibly other appropriate groups.

This is necessarily an incomplete picture of what is going on. Some commercial translators, including the Consultants Bureau, have been translating selected Soviet literature for some years and have made a considerable contribution. Another institute for translating is in the process of formation. I. R. Maxwell, managing director of Pergamon Press, has founded a nonprofit corporation, the Pergamon Institute of Russian Science, Technology, and Medicine, to prepare abstracts, translations, reviews, and dictionaries. The project is conceived on a large scale and will supplement, rather than compete with, other translation programs. The institute will be incorporated in both the United Kingdom and the United States. Its organization on a nonprofit basis makes it possible, and indeed probable, that it will attract support from foundations and governments on both sides of the Atlantic.

These undertakings, at first sight so diverse and uncentralized, promise to make the results of Soviet science available with dispatch and efficiency and, what is equally remarkable, without duplication of effort. The mode of operation is a good illustration of the curious Anglo-American capacity to blend governmental and private interests effectively and to keep bureaucratic control at a minimum.—G. DuS.

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Mark H. Adams, a member of the Editorial Board of *Science* and *The Scientific Monthly*. His uncompromising integrity, high standards, penetrating judgment, and sharp discrimination led us to depend on him for advice about many difficult editorial decisions. His death is a serious loss to science and a deep personal loss to us.—EDITORIAL BOARD.