Field Notes

Field Note #1

PAGES FROM HISTORY
Norman Saul

--In early November 1933, William Allen White had just returned from the Soviet Union to write several articles in the national press to support President Franklin Roosevelt’s initiative to open diplomatic relations with that country after a long period of non-recognition following the November 1917 Bolshevik revolution. This would result in the signing of the “recognition treaty” in Washington on November 9, 1933, a major step in Roosevelt’s new foreign policy.

Dean L. N. Flint of the School of Journalism at the University of Kansas asked White if he would come and discuss this subject with some high school students, resulting in the following exchange of letters in the William Allen White Papers at the Library of Congress (C203).

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November 4, 1933

My Dear Flint,

I have your note and the dates and hours you suggested are all right. The only thing is I don’t like your audience. It would expect too formal and serious an address. What I would like to do is to talk to a group of fifty or one hundred students and faculty people quite informally and let them ask questions for an hour after a short talk. And this high school group isn’t up to intelligent questions and would want to get away and get down to the Fraternity and Sorority houses and wouldn’t be interested in me and what I had to say. This is not a flat turn down. It is just a suggestion that some other time and some other group would be a lot happier for us all.

Sincerely Yours,

WAW
Reply:
November 7, 1933
Mr W. A. White
Emporia, Kansas

Dear Mr. White:

We have a plan that I think will work to everybody’s satisfaction: Let us put you on the program for a brief talk before the High School Conference about 11:30 Friday, November 17. W. A. Bailey of the Kansas City Kansan is to speak at one of the sessions and we can use him for the lead-off at the 11:00 o’clock hour.

At noon we will have a luncheon at the Union Building to which only our own students, member of our faculty and perhaps twenty-five other faculty members to whom we pass the word, and the high school teachers, will be admitted. We will keep it down under 100. After this luncheon, we can hold a question and answer session.

This set-up has the advantage that it gives the high school student delegates a chance to see you. Believe it or not, they really want to see you and hear you speak. They will never forget it. It also takes care of the heart to heart session all of us are so eager to have you. . . .

If this plan doesn’t work O. K., don’t hesitate to upset the whole thing. We will construct something better. But I ought to know by Friday when preliminary program announcements must be sent out.

Sincerely Yours,
L. N. Flint

Field Note #2

This year the Harriman Institute, which is the oldest and leading U.S. academic institution in Russian, Eurasian and East European Studies, is celebrating its 75th anniversary.

First is the exhibition that opened in September at Harriman. It will be available virtually after 15 September. It is called People, Books, and Archives in Pictures, 1903 - 1921: Resources for Russian/Soviet, East European and Eurasian Studies on the Heights

Curated by Edward Kasinec and & Robert H. Davis, Jr., with Erica Stefano
https://harriman.columbia.edu/event/exhibit-harriman-institute-at-75/

Exhibit Information
Columbia University Libraries has collected Slavic and East European language materials since at least 1903. This exhibition and its companion publication of essays in the journal Slavic & East European Information Resources (forthcoming in December) provide an overview of the developmental
history of collecting on Morningside Heights through vignettes of historical personalities and print and archival collecting milestones over the past 115 years.

Field Note #3
Association of Slavic, Eurasian, and East European Studies (ASEEES) Annual Convention in New Orleans, LA on November 18-21, 2021 and virtually on December 1-3, 2021. Program highlights related to Russian-American relations:

In-person, in New Orleans, November 18-21, 2021:

November 18:
Soviet Music on the World Stage
https://tinyurl.com/yed4qkc3
Thu, November 18, 2:30 to 4:15pm CST (2:30 to 4:15pm CST), Hilton New Orleans Riverside, Floor: 1st Floor, Grand Salon 7

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Revolt, Diplomacy, and Religion: Russian-American Relations in the 19th and 20th Centuries
https://tinyurl.com/ydofcqcm
Thu, November 18, 5:00 to 6:45pm CST (5:00 to 6:45pm CST), Hilton New Orleans Riverside, Floor: 1st Floor, Grand Salon 22

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“Let’s get together!” Cultural, Economic and People’s Diplomacy in the Cold War
https://tinyurl.com/yj94or9w
Thu, November 18, 5:00 to 6:45pm CST (5:00 to 6:45pm CST), Hilton New Orleans Riverside, Floor: 3rd Floor, St. James Ballroom

November 19:
Serfdom in Fact and Fiction
https://tinyurl.com/yhgqtn3a
Fri, November 19, 8:00 to 9:45am CST (8:00 to 9:45am CST), Hilton New Orleans Riverside, Floor: 1st Floor, Grand Salon 22

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Gray Zones: Central Asians as Mediators of Projections of Racial and Gender Identity
https://tinyurl.com/yj8j8y7u
Fri, November 19, 10:30am to 12:15pm CST (10:30am to 12:15pm CST), Hilton New Orleans Riverside, Floor: 1st Floor, Grand Salon 10

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Did the Carpatho-Rusyns Really Love the Russians?: The Meanings of the Russophile Movement in Carpathian Rus’
https://tinyurl.com/yzlxwjbn
Fri, November 19, 1:00 to 2:45pm CST (1:00 to 2:45pm CST), Hilton New
Orleans Riverside, Floor: 2nd Floor, Churchill B2
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Shores and Seas in Russian History
https://tinyurl.com/ydlucsqq
Fri, November 19, 1:00 to 2:45pm CST (1:00 to 2:45pm CST), Hilton New Orleans Riverside, Floor: 1st Floor, Grand Salon 22

November 20:
Creating Russian Diasporic Worlds in California
https://tinyurl.com/yf4293ha
Sat, November 20, 8:00 to 9:45am CST (8:00 to 9:45am CST), Hilton New Orleans Riverside, Floor: 1st Floor, Grand Salon 22

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Revisiting the Dead House: Late Nineteenth-Century Prison Literature
https://tinyurl.com/yjv9ga9u
Sat, November 20, 10:30am to 12:15pm CST (10:30am to 12:15pm CST), Hilton New Orleans Riverside, Floor: 3rd Floor, Parish

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Reciprocal Receptions from Homer to Navalny: Western Antiquity through Russian ‘ochi’ and Russians through Western Eyes
https://tinyurl.com/yh7k2nz5
Sat, November 20, 10:30am to 12:15pm CST (10:30am to 12:15pm CST), Hilton New Orleans Riverside, Floor: 3rd Floor, Royal

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Collective Memory as a Factor of US-Soviet/Post-Soviet Relations
https://tinyurl.com/y8g3378
Sat, November 20, 2:00 to 3:45pm CST (2:00 to 3:45pm CST), Hilton New Orleans Riverside, Floor: 1st Floor, Grand Salon 9

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Contemporary Intersection/s of Russian and US Feminisms: Transnational Feminist Projects within the Framework of a Global Critique of Authoritarianism and Traditionalism
https://tinyurl.com/ysww6fu
Sat, November 20, 2:00 to 3:45pm CST (2:00 to 3:45pm CST), Hilton New Orleans Riverside, Floor: 2nd Floor, Churchill A2

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On Both Sides of the Iron Curtain: Literature, Academia, and Politics
https://tinyurl.com/yzt08tff
Sat, November 20, 4:30 to 6:15pm CST (4:30 to 6:15pm CST), Hilton New Orleans Riverside, Floor: 3rd Floor, Commerce

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The Present and Future of Russian Higher Education
Virtual Conference, December 1-3, 2021

December 1:

Soviet Music on the World Stage
https://tinyurl.com/yj8ugpz8
Thu, November 18, 2:30 to 4:15pm CST (2:30 to 4:15pm CST), Hilton New Orleans Riverside, Floor: 1st Floor, Grand Salon 7
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Translation as Intersection II: Translating Intersectionality and Interdisciplinarity
https://tinyurl.com/yjf3sv3p
Wed, December 1, 10:00 to 11:45am CST (10:00 to 11:45am CST), Virtual Convention, VR29
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Cultural Diplomacy: Soviet Internationalism after World War II in Europe and the Developing World
https://tinyurl.com/yhkoxlzo
Wed, December 1, 10:00 to 11:45 CST (10:00 to 11:45am CST), Virtual Convention, VR 13
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Making Contact: Russian Interactions with the West in the Nineteenth Century and in the Early Soviet Period
https://tinyurl.com/yh38yvhf
Wed, December 1, 12:00 to 1:45pm CST (12:00 to 1:45pm CST), Virtual Convention, VR 8

December 2:

Radio Moscow, Decolonization, and the Cold War
https://tinyurl.com/yjxas6tx
Thu, December 2, 8:00 to 9:45am CST (8:00 to 9:45am CST), Virtual Convention, VR25
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Constructing and Deconstructing the Images of Soviet and American Enemies in Cinematic Cold War
https://tinyurl.com/ygaolfz4
Thu, December 2, 8:00 to 9:45am CST (8:00 to 9:45am CST), Virtual Convention, VR 5

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Propaganda and Truth Regimes in Contested Times
https://tinyurl.com/yfxeggvg

Thu, December 2, 8:00 to 9:45am CST (8:00 to 9:45am CST), Virtual Convention, VR 8

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Transcultural Encounters in Soviet Animation II: Reception and Adaptation
https://tinyurl.com/yghcc9rv

Thu, December 2, 8:00 to 9:45am CST (8:00 to 9:45am CST), Virtual Convention, VR 22

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Inside the Publishing House: Formal Rules, Informal Connections, and Creative Agency in Late-Soviet Publishing
https://tinyurl.com/yzazpzc7

Thu, December 2, 10:00 to 11:45am CST (10:00 to 11:45am CST), Virtual Convention, VR 16

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Art Exhibitions as Weapons of the Cold War
https://tinyurl.com/ydkxatx4

Thu, December 2, 12:00 to 1:45pm CST (12:00 to 1:45pm CST), Virtual Convention, VR 4

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Great Collectors of Slavica and East Europeana along the East Coast (USA)
https://tinyurl.com/yza3tgwx

Thu, December 2, 12:00 to 1:45pm CST (12:00 to 1:45pm CST), Virtual Convention, VR 14

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Soviet Space after the Space Age: Science, Technology, and Ideology in the Long 1970s
https://tinyurl.com/yeb96vnu

Thu, December 2, 4:00 to 5:45pm CST (4:00 to 5:45pm CST), Virtual Convention, VR 24

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Inter-Medial Histories: Book, Film, Poem, Portrait
https://tinyurl.com/ygxubktz
Thu, December 2, 4:00 to 5:45pm CST (4:00 to 5:45pm CST), Virtual Convention, VR 6

December 3:

Transcultural Encounters in Soviet Animation I: Disney, the Fleischer Brothers, and the UPA
https://tinyurl.com/yfst8dal
Fri, December 3, 8:00 to 9:45am CST (8:00 to 9:45am CST), Virtual Convention, VR 13

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The Use of Russian Jewishness in American Writing
https://tinyurl.com/yefb55tt
Fri, December 3, 8:00 to 9:45am CST (8:00 to 9:45am CST), Virtual Convention, VR 16

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Soviet Languages of Internationalism
https://tinyurl.com/ye59wptq
Fri, December 3, 12:00 to 1:45pm CST (12:00 to 1:45pm CST), Virtual Convention, VR 11

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Transnational Cinematic Collaborations: Konchalovsky, Szabó, and Grlić
https://tinyurl.com/yjun6t6b
Fri, December 3, 12:00 to 1:45pm CST (12:00 to 1:45pm CST), Virtual Convention, VR 2

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Great Collectors of Slavica and East Europeana at University Libraries in Canada, California, and the Midwest (USA)
https://tinyurl.com/yz5q37tk
Fri, December 3, 2:00 to 3:45pm CST (2:00 to 3:45pm CST), Virtual Convention, VR 5

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Transfers and Intermediaries Between East and West: Transnational Agriculture, Trade, and Linguistics in the 20th Century
https://tinyurl.com/ydo4cz4y
Fri, December 3, 2:00 to 3:45pm CST (2:00 to 3:45pm CST), Virtual Convention, VR 13