

The Chairman's Annual Report for the Year 1967-1968

In the course of the past year the Society has continued its useful work in the cultural and also in the social field. We have encountered considerable difficulty in getting the Journal for 1966 ready for distribution, largely through unavoidable problems with the editorial and printing side. More favourable terms have been obtained from the original printers and I am glad to say that it will now be only a matter of days before the long overdue second number of the Journal finally appears. Members will be glad to hear that Mr. Arnold McMillin of the School of Slavonic and East European Studies is doing the editorial work for the third number (1967) and that considerable progress has already been made in gathering in material from contributors. The Council hopes it will be possible to go to press some time later this autumn.

The Second Annual Lecture Course was held this year in the Court Room of the Royal Scottish Corporation. The Lectures were well attended, and there were 30 persons present at the concluding Lecture given by Professor R. G. A. de Bray. It is quite clear that the Course is an essential feature of the Society's activity and that it must be maintained and extended. In the course of the coming year Lectures will be held at the British Academy, and we expect to increase the number of lecturers. Those who were unable to attend the Course this last year will be able to read several of the papers in the 1967 number of the *Journal of Byelorussian Studies*.

To mark the conclusion of the Course, Hon. and Mrs. John Jolliffe very kindly gave a reception for the friends of the Society at their home on 17th January 1968 at which our President Lord Harlech was present.

The Society hopes to be able to publish in due course a translation into English of the Diaries of Todor Ježić (1546-1604). The translation and commentary have now been virtually completed by Fr. Nadson and if the question of funds can be satisfactorily resolved, publication will not be long delayed. The Hon. Secretary has, I understand, been collecting the works of the Byelorussian patriot of the 1863 Uprising, Kastuś Kalinoŭski, for publication.

In concluding, I should like to mention that the Council sent a telegram on your behalf to Lord Harlech on the occasion of his 50th birthday to express to him our appreciation of his kind interest and support in the work of the Society.

I should also like to convey to Mrs Maurice Macmillan the warm congratulations of the Society on her election as Vice-Chairman of the Conservative Party.

AUBERON HERBERT
Chairman

10th July 1968