

(«Mansische Dialektologie»), R. M. Batalova macht dasselbe für das Buch «Коми-пермяцкая диалектология» («Komi-permische Dialektologie»).

Das dritte neue Thema «Историческая морфология мордовских языков» («Geschichte der mordwinischen Formenlehre») zeigt das Interesse von B. A. Serebrennikov für große sprachgeschichtliche Forschungsarbeiten.

Die wichtigste unter den Arbeiten, die für die weiteren Jahre in den Arbeitsplan der Abteilung aufgenommen sind, ist ohne Zweifel «Введение в финно-угроведение» («Einleitung in die finnisch-ugrische Sprachwissenschaft») (ungefähr 40 Druckbogen, kollektive Arbeit). Somit bekommen nach einigen Jahren zwölf sowjetische Hochschulen, wo die finnisch-ugrischen

Sprachen unterrichtet werden, endlich ein Lehrbuch.

Unter der Leitung von V. I. Lytkin, K. J. Majtinskaja und A. P. Feoktistov arbeiten im Sektor auch vier Aspiranten. Drei von ihnen schreiben schon ihre Dissertationen: I. V. Salo erforscht die Einwirkung der ostseefinnischen Sprachen auf die russischen Mundarten am Weißen Meer. A. I. Sainachova schreibt eine Arbeit über die Postpositionen und Konjunktionen in den mansischen Mundarten, G. I. Jermuškin erforscht eine erzämordwinische Mundart. B. A. Serebrennikov leitet die Arbeit eines Aspiranten aus Petrozavodsk (V. T. Leskinen), der die geographischen Benennungen in Karelien untersucht.

K. J. MAJTINSKAJA (Moskau)

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TOPONYMICAL CONFERENCE IN LENINGRAD

During recent years several conferences have been held to discuss the place-names of a certain region, the principles of place-name study or the condition of teaching toponymy at higher schools. The first all-Union toponymical conference, organized by the Geographical Society of the U.S.S.R., was held in Leningrad from January 28 — February 2, 1965. The conference was attended by delegates from all the most important toponymical research centres of the Soviet Union. An idea of the wide range of questions raised at the conference can be gained already from the fact that the number of papers read and communications made at the plenary session and the six sections exceeded 110.

The principal paper read at the plenary session was that by A. Popov (Leningrad State University). In his discussion of the fundamentals of toponymical research, A. Popov underlined the importance of historical and geographical information for the linguistic analysis of place-names. On carrying out research into the place-names of a region, one should pay special attention to (1)

the vocabulary and the grammar of the languages spoken in the area and its ethnonymy and anthroponymy; (2) the earlier records of place-names in historical documents; (3) the relation between natural history and corresponding place-names. At the same time, A. Popov warned his audience against possible mistakes that may occur if one wants to make a statistical study of frequently occurring phenomena of the same type (e. g. a different origin combined with an outwardly similar formant) without a careful preliminary classification of the research material and a selection on the basis of both formal and semantic indices.

K. Celuiko (the Institute of Linguistics of the Academy of Sciences of the Ukrainian S.S.R.) dealt with the principles and methods of a regional study of toponymy. He stressed the important role of dialectal vocabulary in tracing the history of local place-names. E. Murzajev (the Geographical Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R., Moscow) gave a survey of different types of dictionaries of geographical names: (1) alphabetic lists of geographical names recorded to

unify their spelling; (2) dictionaries giving elementary information about an object and its name-forms in different periods; (3) dictionaries of geographical terminology; (4) etymological dictionaries of place-names; (5) complete geographical dictionaries comprising elements of all the above-mentioned types. S. Berg (the Geographical Society of the U.S.S.R., Leningrad) discussed the problem of obstacles to the development of toponymy in the Soviet Union. On the one hand, there is a shortage of specialists with an adequate training, a fact that is responsible for a certain deficiency both in theory and methods. On the other hand, there is the lack of a single common toponymical card-index for the Soviet Union compiled on uniform principles. In view of these shortcomings, S. Berg submitted a specimen of a catalogue card, comprising 16 points. However, in the discussion following the report the variant submitted by S. Berg was shown to be too complicated.

The plenary session also listened to an account given by N. Podolskaja of the activities of the Moscow Toponymical Commission of the All-Union Geographical Society. Another report on the work of an analogical commission in Kiev was made by A. Stryżak. L. Mitrochina (Moscow) acquainted those present with the publication: "Реферативный журнал" ("Abstracts"), Fascicle "A" of which "Теоретические вопросы физической и экономической географии" ("Theoretical Problems of Physical and Economical Geography") has been publishing a toponymical bibliography since 1963.

In the section of toponymical theory and methods the papers read by A. Dulzon (Tomsk) and A. Matvejev (Sverdlovsk) were devoted to a study of substrative toponymy. A. Matvejev suggested that the following requirements should be fulfilled in this field of toponymy: (1) only reliable historical data must be used; (2) research must begin with the study of toponymical material (and not with historical, archeological or ethnographical data); (3) the toponymy of different regions should not be compared without first making a profound study of each of them; (4) the most objective methods of study should be

employed (formal, linguistic-geographic, phonetic and only lastly the tracing of the history of a place-name); (5) all possible phonetic and morphological adaptations should be taken into consideration; (6) a possible linguistic and dialectal stratification and the occurrence of subsubstrative elements must be taken into account. In his paper A. Matvejev emphasized that research into substrative toponymy should begin with a strictly formal analysis, with the study of the phonetic structure of place-names and the establishment of topoformant regions. It is only after this that other methods of study should be applied. The report made by A. Matvejev was particularly noteworthy because he illustrated his ideas with examples taken from the Fenno-Ugric languages. He demonstrated the Karelian word *pertti* 'house' in the Russian toponymy of the region, formerly inhabited by the Karelians. In the regions inhabited by the Permian peoples no deverbal place-names can be found, etc.

Problems of the synchronic study of toponymy were treated by many delegates. A. Superanskaja (Moscow) spoke about toponymical systems and onomastic schemes. A paper read by J. Karpenko (Cernovcy) on the problem of variants in toponymy and a report made by V. Belenkaja (Moscow) were also of great interest.

The Section of the Toponymy of the European Part of the U.S.S.R. had a very packed schedule as at its five sessions 32 papers and communications were read. Among the papers there were several which presented an interest from the point of view of the Fenno-Ugric languages. V. Dambe (Riga) dealt with the relation between the literary and dialectal forms of Latvian place-names. It became clear from the report that in the former Livic area there are several place-names that have preserved a more Livic form than in literary Latvian. V. Pall (Tallinn) gave a survey of the collections of place-names and of the work carried out at the Institute of Language and Literature of the Estonian S.S.R. Academy of Sciences. The systematic collection of Estonian place-names has been continued since 1922. More than three-quarters of the territory of the Es-

tonian S.S.R. have been investigated. There are more than 237,000 well-classified cards in the collection. The collection of place-names is being continued in dialectal regions. Place-names found in archives, historical documents, etc. are also being registered. Correspondents of the Mother Tongue Society have contributed to the collection of place-names. Several articles have also been published on Estonian place-names. V. Pall reviewed the methods of collecting and classifying Estonian place-names. In a paper on place-names in the Leningrad region at the beginning of the 17th century, I. Selickaja (Leningrad) stressed the relative importance of names of Fenno-Ugric origin.

A lively discussion followed the report by F. Gordejev (Joškar-Ola). F. Gordejev refuted the Fenno-Ugric or Slavonic origin of the hydronym *Moskva*, and, without sufficient evidence, he suggested that this name was of Baltic origin. On treating the toponymy of the Murom region, V. Tagunova (Murom) cited names that proved that the area had once been inhabited by Fenno-Ugric tribes. P. Gorbunov and B. Zimin (both of Tambov) dealt with the problem of the Fenno-Ugric origin of place-names in the Tambov district.

The Section of North European, Siberian and Far-Eastern Toponymy heard a number of papers on the place-names of different Uralic peoples. J. Rombandejeva (Leningrad) dealt with the main types of the toponymy of the northern Mansi. She pointed out that the names of rivers, lakes, bogs, forests, mountains, etc. could be traced back to the economic importance of the places or animals, birds, trees, fossils, etc. involved. G. Vuono discussed Mansi place-names in the Višera basin. In his paper he showed the relation between the great number of oronyms and the nomadic life of the Mansi where mountains played an important role as a means of orientation. G. Vuono also touched upon the problem of the penetration of Mansi toponymy into Russian. L. Kalinina (Tomsk) once more dealt with the problem of the manner in which the Russian language adapted Khanti toponymy. A. Krivoščekova-Gantman (Perm)

evaluated the extent of the use of Old Permian place-names and gave their equivalents in the regions now inhabited by the Komi people. T. Tepljašina (Moscow) dealt with the place-names of the Udmurt settlements in the region of the Cepty river.

Mention should be made of papers devoted to the place-names of the Samoyeds. N. Tereščenko (Leningrad) gave a survey of Nenets place-names. Selkup place-names were dealt with by E. Becker and I. Vorobjeva (both of Tomsk). They mainly treated of the origin of Selkup names and their adaptation by Russians. T. Maradudina (Sverdlovsk) provided very interesting information about toponymical research carried out at the Sverdlovsk Ural State University. It is at this university that the study of the place-names of several other Uralic peoples is being conducted.

Besides the sections mentioned above, the conference also had a section dealing with the toponymy of the Caucasus, the Crimea, Kazakhstan, and Central Asia.

A resolution adopted by the conference considers it necessary to collect the valuable toponymical material that is rapidly falling into oblivion. It is indispensable to start the publication of an all-Union periodical devoted to toponymic studies. Attention is drawn to the training of a highly qualified staff of specialists in toponymy. Toponymical centres are to be organized at institutes and at philological faculties, dictionaries and atlases of regional toponymy are to be published. It is also considered necessary to organize conferences and seminars on regional toponymy.

In conclusion it remains to be hoped that the organizers will fulfil their promise and publish the papers and communications read at the conference. In the meanwhile, however, those interested may consult the theses of the conference which have been published under the following title: "Всесоюзная конференция по топонимике СССР, 28 января — 2 февраля 1965 года. Тезисы докладов и сообщений", Ленинград 1965, 289 pages.

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