

# Soviet Studies in English and Linguistics I

Professor Smirnitsky -the man and his work-

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It is well known that, 'A symposium to develop and make recommendation concerning a international program for systematic evaluation, possible abstracting and or translation, reproduction, dissemination of Russian and Eastern European linguistic literature for the use of the American scholarly community' was held under the auspices of the Indiana University Research Center in Anthropology, Folklore, Linguistics on December 2-3 1960, under a grant from the National Science Foundation, but the corresponding efforts on the part of Japanese scholars for the use of the Japanese scholarly community have not been done partly because many Japanese scholars cannot read Russian and because of the political condition which still seems to separate the two nations. To remedy the situation I have done what little I could do in the past years to bring Soviet studies in English and English linguistics to the attention of the scholars of Anglicists and linguistics of this country.

This paper is another attempt at my assimilation toward the Soviet studies in English linguistics, but in this paper I will confine myself to the linguistic scene in question with special emphasis on the founder and maker of Soviet English studies, that is, on late Professor Smirnitsky, and his work, and his successor Professor Akhmanova who now heads the English Faculty at the Moscow State University.

## 1. Professor Smirnitsky - the man and his work

Smirnitsky was born in Moscow on the 6th of August in 1903. All the boys of the Smirnitsky's were engineers. Smirnitsky's father and uncle were also engineers. So Smirnitsky wanted to become an engine-driver or headmaster of a station, and his another dream in his boyhood was stars. How eagerly he with his brother looked through a telescope on stars in the sky ! Ships fascinated the boy and in his school dormitory he cut the ship out of cardboard, and later out of tin he would make anything he wanted; indeed he could make anything out of can and pieces of tin scraps. The boy spent many hours on end in drawing and he was very good at painting.

When he was ten Yuron the artist took him to his school and later Smirnitsky learned at Arkhnov. 'He will make an painter', thought the boy's mother, Maria

Nikolaevna Smirnitsky, who happened to be village teacher in her youth and then she devoted herself to be a mother to her children. She infused the boy with interest in language and literature.

This interest in literature became so strong in him that the boy went to the Romano-Germanic Department of the Philological Faculty at the Moscow State University, but he did not and could not forget his other passions. He kept his interest in technology all his life and he kept studying higher mathematics and read a vast amount of books on ship-building, and he actually built a ship and fixed a screw to it for himself.

But as Greek poet Menander puts it, 'Those whom God love die young.' Professor Smirnitsky, like Edward Sapir and Bloomfield, was cut off in his prime. It was only in his fifty-first years when he died.

In 1924 A. I. Smirnitsky graduated from Moscow University where he took the courses in latin, Greek, Gothic, German, Sweden, English, Historical Grammar of Indo-European and, and Germanic Languages along with seminar courses in individual authors.

From 1926 to 1929 Smirnitsky continues his study in English and old Icelandic as a Ph. D. candidate at the institute of Language and Literature in Russian Association for Scientific Research Institute for Social Sciences. After taking his Ph. D. Smirnitsky remained in the same institute as a research scholar and at the same time he began his teaching, which he did not drop until his death for 25 years. In spite of serious malaises which often have confined him to his bed, he would not give up his task of teaching.

To enumerate some of teachings which he did in his short life, he conducted courses in History of the English Language, Introduction to Germanic Philology and Gothic Language, Theory of Present-day English, and many others in Moscow State University, Moscow Institute of Philosophy, Literature and History at the Moscow State University and in Moscow State Pedagogical Institute of Foreign Languages, and at Moscow Lenin School for Workers. He was very busy with guiding Ph. D. candidates, leading the faculty of these institutions frequent travels to Goriki, Minsk, Harikov.

In 1940 BAK BKBSH invited Smirnitsky as professor to the Faculty of English Philology, when the war broke out, Smirnitsky became one of the leading figures in the Moscow State Pedagogical Institute of Foreign Languages. And from 1942 he was made professor at the Faculty of Romano-Germanic Philology at the Moscow State University, and from 1946 he was head of this Faculty. At the same time he began his work as a member of Institute of Language and Literature at Soviet Science Academy. He was head of Germanic Section of this Institute while guiding Ph. D. candidates at the Moscow State University.

Professor Smirnitsky's teaching activity is not separable from his research

activity. He had always his students in mind and he thought carefully about his lectures and never failed to give students insight and inspiration toward the subject he discoursed on.

Smirnitsky's first published work appeared in 1930 when he contributed an article about Danish language to the first edition of Great Soviet Encyclopedia, and his paper in 1931 on Scandinavian rune inscriptions was a product of his doctoral research, which entitled 'The Problem on the origin of rune and on the meaning of pre-Scandinavian inscription as monument.'

His teaching of Russian and interest in aspects of Russian verbs produced a book entitled '*Russian Textbook: Elementary Course*. In this book part on the aspects of Russian verbs are written by A. I. Smirnitsky from his extensive study which he had done in this period of his life.

From his course in Present-day English was produced such works as 'Objectivity of language', 'On the problem of word' and 'Lexicality in word' A. I. Smirnitsky was a man of integrity. He never succumbed to the political impact in those difficult days of Soviet linguistics.

How carefully and with patience he treated people: He kept a wide and flexible thought and took interest in the works of all the colleagues of his faculty. He is ready to help them with their work and within their frame of reference he could give them a sharp and scrutinizing analysis to their works.

His examinations were remembered as a big event in their research life. He never tasked them with any stale and stock question; he explained them what remained unknown and helped them all the way with their research. Thus his examination turned out to be some discussion of problems and ways of research on linguistic phenomena. Candidates never forget such examinations of his in all their life and they were given a new perspective in their research.

Professor Smirnitsky loved meetings in which to discuss matters pertaining to linguistics and English linguistics together with other various linguistic matters. From the discussions he could acquire new thought and new directions to his work. 'Professor Smirnitsky's creative and exact analysis of linguistic features and of theoretical problems attracted to him not only his student but also scholars as well, that is, his colleagues of various major and background', said Levkovskaya. Of his passionate interest in his discipline, of logical thinking, and of philosophical turn of mind, which allowed him to follow critically all the courses of scholarly discussion of reporters, Professor Zvegintsev speaks: 'He has a rare logical turn of mind. Taking up ordinary and well known linguistic phenomena he could open a completely new and unexpected side of the matter, and present it as brand new things.'

'Not only was Smirnitsky superb in his lectures and addresses but also was he good at his short talks in which he could convincingly state his scholarly posi-

tion'. Professor Ilysh observes, 'He always made one think'. 'When I came to Moscow on an official business', said Professor Mednikova, 'I happened to listen his lecture on *Ablaut* in his Introduction to Germanics, and this one lecture gave me something to think about for a whole year'. 'For me it is very important to have him look over my work. He is a man of gigantic intellect', said Professor Bernstein.

Smirnitsky was always so generous, warm and considerate toward people that he had many faithful and devoted friends. Therefore it was natural that in 1939 when he was obliged to resign from Goriki Institute he received a letter from the head of the Institute saying 'You are a great loss to us, and students are stricken with sorrow, and to have learned from you will remain in their memory as the best of their life and study.'

On 22nd and 23rd of April of 1954 at the occasion of his death a telegram of condolences and sorrow swarmed into Moscow from Leningrad, Goriki, Elean and from all other cities where Smirnitsky's friends-his students are working.

Although he was cut off from his research and teaching in his prime, he left much scholarly legacy: out of many publications which were posthumously brought out his work on English linguistics includes such works as *Old English*, *Morphology of English*, *Syntax of English*, and *Lexicoiogy of English*. Besides these works in a book form there are many notes and drafts, summary for courses. Though some of them are to be published many thoughts, theories and insights await their development in the context of contemporary linguistic research.

Characteristics of Smirnitsky's scholarship, as his enthusiasm in mathematics shows, is his aspiration toward exact methods of research, which in the days of 'new school of linguistics' caused him mistakenly classified as formalist. Smirnitsky worked out a rigid system of demonstration for all the theories he proposed. He took all the theories in the past into consideration to build up his theories.

Endowed with extraordinary talent for mathematics Professor Smirnitsky observed linguistic phenomena in mathematical frame of reference. This is shown not only in his efforts to make use of formulars and diagrams in linguistic description but in his astonishing mathematical rigidity and clarity in linguistic thinking.

With posthumous publications of his works at one's disposal we are surprised to find how great an influence he is and will be in the future of linguistic in the Soviet Union.

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In general linguistics Smirnitsky did not summarize results of the successful research in the past but gave a penetrating insight to the phenomena and took out the core content of the matter in a harmonious system with no internal contradictions, in which every proposition derives logically from the preceding ones.

He never lost sight of the wood for the trees. He had a good command of his materials and analysed them with bewildering degree of minuteness but at the same time could synthesize and generalize them.

On the problem of language and thought he brought out such monographs as 'Objective existence of language' and 'Grammaticality and lexicality in word'. These are still pivotal problems of linguistics. In these papers as in his other articles he propped up every theorizing by concrete facts of language and from them generalizations are splendidly developed. He concluded that a word is the unit of language, and that sentence is that of speech. While with Saussure he admitted that there must be clear distinction between synchronic and diachronic in the methodology of linguistic study, practically pure synchronic study, he said, is untenable. 'Language,' he said, 'is a specifically social phenomena and its realization is nowhere but in the flow of individual speakers' speech.'

'Real sound materials themselves must strictly be separated from acoustic image of them in our consciousness', said Professor Smirnitsky. 'And the inner side of language' he continues, 'that is, meaning is connected with real sound in speech as well as with acoustic images of them.' The connection between meaning and acoustic image is where language exists. This is a new insight into the aspect of meaning in language, which Saussure failed to see when he connected acoustic image of a tree directly with the tree in the real world. According to Smirnitsky the knowledge of the unit of language is necessary for the reproduction of language but this knowledge does not in its turn vouch for the objective existence of language. This can be done only when we separate meaning with its acoustic image from real sound materials in speech. But sounds in real world are no less important, since only through sounds in the extra-linguistic world can the acoustic image of them, be formed which helps realize meaning in the sense of a function of speech.

The problem of words was for Smirnitsky most inseparably connected with the problem of language and thought. So this problem was treated in detail in his 2 papers: 'The meaning of word' and 'Meaning of word and its semantica'.

Professor Smirnitsky has shown that 'sound and meaning of a word is a completely different phenomena', though 'they are in a social and historical connection one to the other.' But the arbitrariness of their connection ensures the free development of a language. 'The connection between sound and what a word means,' he said, 'is pivotal in the reflection of objects or phenomena in one's consciousness,' and he defined 'meaning' of a word as 'acoustic reflection of objects and phenomena in one's consciousness'. This is in essence analogical to images being formed by the reflection of reality of the extra-linguistic world. They go into the structure of the inner side of a word. 'That sounds of a word appears,' he said 'as a material outer cover is not only necessary to express meaning but to

communicate it to other people, and to the formation, existence and development of a word', and without this cover the working of reality on one's consciousness would not produce what is called meaning of a word.'

On some aspects of meaning, especially on distributional meaning of morpheme and on the rule for the formation of a linguistic unit he worked in early 50's and submitted the result to 9th International Congress of Linguists in 1962.

In his work *Lexicology of the English Language*, he showed that a certain complex form of a linguistic unit, such as a word, is not a sum total of its constituents of speech sounds, but it includes in itself a rule of how to combine those constituents.

In his article 'Sounds of a word and its semantica' which he contributed to *Voprosy Jazykaznanja* (1960, vo. 5), he said that semantica of a word has its constituents like its sounds, but 'if it is detached from sound' he continues, 'it is no longer a linguistic unit but only an inner side of it. Therefore a word with its meaning structuring-semantica, if given with its sounds and be related to them, can be said a full fledged word.

Smirnitsky went on to analyse semantic side of a word and said that semantica of a word are divided in two: one belongs to an individual word; and the other to the type of a word just like to a certain part of speech.

In his paper mentioned above he also treated the relation of speech and language and observed that language does not exist nowhere but in speech and interacts with speech in the sense that language is being augmented and developed by the production of speech; nourished by words, word combinations and sentence 'And the existence of a word,' said Smirnitsky in the same article, 'is in the fact that it is produced regularly and recurrently with its form unchanged in all the occasions for its use in speech and writing.'

On the problem of a word Smirnitsky wrote 3 articles: 2 articles entitled 'On the problm of a word' in 1952 and 1954 respectively and 'grammaticality and lexicality in word' in *Problems of grammatical structure* (1955, Moscow) In language he sees 3 layers: 1. concrete materials for the language, words with morphemes and affixes, and a phrase; a combination of words. 2. constructing formula for the language 3. intonational units. One can easily translate them into Western structuralist terms for linguistic description but this is not a safe and sound way to assimilate Soviet studies in linguistics.

Smirnitsky distinguishd in a word grammatical elements and lexical elements. These are inextricably interwoven. Smirnitsky observed in his paper (1955) that a word appear as an indispensable unit of language both in the sphere of lexicology and grammar. For instance a word 'horse' shows its being in accusative or nominative as well as its meaning 'horse'.

On the problem of paradigm and its role in grammar Smirnitsky made a

study of conversion in English and said that paradigm is a system of grammatical forms extracted from concrete words and from concrete characteristics for the formation of these grammatical forms, which allow to group words in some grammatical groups.

He went from the conception of grammaticalness into that of word as a grammatical structure of language, and he made a distinction of an inner and outer side of grammatical meaning: the inner side of grammatical meaning is a meaning of various relation, and the outer side is the expression of these relations in the variation and combination of a word. Studying these two sides of grammatical meaning he reached the notion of grammaticalness and lexicalness of a word. For instance singularity and plurality of a noun in English is, according to Smirnitsky, grammatical phenomena, since in both cases the word can denote the same class(es) of objects or events.

Grammaticalness of a word are however integrated with its lexicality. When one talks about the category of gender in Russian adjectives they are purely of grammatical nature, while in the case of nouns in Russian they are of lexico-grammatical nature, since in nouns various words belonging to the same grammatical category matter. In the gender of adjectives in Russian what matters is the different forms of the same word.

Grammar and lexicology are closely related; so that 'grammar cites concrete words as materials and examples while lexicology draws on grammatical facts of the word in question so that they help categorize it as entering this or that class(es) of words.'

Phonology is one of the disciplines to which he devoted his considerable time and energy. He is one of the founding member of Moscow school of phonology with V. I. Sidrov, R. I. Avanesov and P. S. Kuznetsov.

In his Note on 'Morphological structure of simple verb in English' he observed that words appear as special phonemes when they are solely dependent for their distinction from other words on their position. Thus *do* and *to* make different meaning while *t* in *stone* and *t* in *tone* make allophonic variants of the same phoneme *t*.

In the words of Smirnitsky phoneme is not differentiated by meaning but only by sound. 'But,' he continues, 'sounds are so inseparably linked with meaning that we assume that meaning is the criteria with which to differentiate phonemes.'

In the field of historical phonology he was the first to bring up historical phonology in Soviet studies in English. He worked on this in his later years and threw a new insight on the problem.

He tackled with non-stressed vocalism in Old English and the development of this system, and brought it out as a proposal for a new division in his posthumous work *Old English* (Moscow, 1955) 'It is important' he said, 'to explain historical

facts of English', and some aspects of consonants in the framework of historical phonology were explained by him for the first time in the Soviet Union. He dealt with the development of palatals and velars and with fricatives, along with assimilatory change, change in consonants and mutation in vowels.

In 1946 G. O. Vinokur published an article on the division of Russian derivative stems. Smirnitsky took part in its discussion, which went into the making of his article 'Some observation of the principle of morphological analysis of stems'.

In historical and comparative linguistics he was led to his active participation in the works by his colleagues at Russian linguistics. With success he worked on this discipline in his last years. The most fundamental problem of historical linguistics is the reconstruction of language with no written records by systematic comparison of corresponding later facts of two or more related languages.

Standing on the shoulders of Saussure Professor Smirnitsky said that the most important and necessary factor for the study in historical comparative linguistics is arbitrariness; lack of connection between sound and meaning. He stated that coincidence in certain sound similarities, more exactly, coincidence of different language units with same or similar meaning may serve to indicate genetical relationship of these units. He added to this proposition however that in language principle of motivation and conditioning are at work against principle of arbitrariness and that language develops by these two opposing principles of arbitrariness and motivation. He concluded that though they are powerful one must be on one's guard when one applies historical and comparative method to syntax because the principle of motivation are most strong in syntax.

Smirnitsky's thought on linguistic phenomena are pierced through with the understanding of language as a system.

Professor Smirnitsky put a great emphasis on the use of his native language, Russian, not only in his research but in his lecture as well. For instance he made a study of English verbs of continuous and non-continuous tense in comparison with Russian verbs of complete and incomplete aspect, and found that both English and Russian verbs under consideration are of the same nature, but their boundaries do not coincide. The sphere for the use of Russian imperfect verb are wider than those of English continuous tense verbs because of the latter's emphasis on the flow of action. On the other hand the sphere of Russian perfect verbs are narrower than that of English non-continuous verbs because Russian complete verbs stress the completion of action more than their English counterparts.

As I said earlier all the scholarly works of Smirnitsky are closely connected with his pedagogical activity. He cannot think of his theoretical studies without his students in mind. This unity of research and education is one of the temper of scholarship in the Moscow State University, which is set by late Professor Smirnitsky and is observed by the present head of English faculty at the Uni-

versity. And one of another characteristics of Smirnitsky is his capacity to see the interrelation between theory and its practical application to instruction. This integration of theory and practice runs through all the work of this great scholar.

Smirnitsky's lecture is characteristic of its consistent, logical and graphic presentation with exclusive use of charts and diagrams. He could invigorate dry facts; he took his student to his workshop and with him the students could find their way through all the complex roads to a definite and satisfactory conclusion.

In his lecture Smirnitsky taught to fight against dogmatism of science; he lead the students to creative approach to linguistic phenomena; through careful and thorough study of them he taught them to think. This is why his lecture was attended by so many undergraduate and postgraduate students, by professors of his university, scholars of Moscow and other citizens. His lecture lead many of them into the difficult but not unrewarding way to linguistic science.

Many general works which contributes to our body corporate of linguistic scholarship and on which successors could build was done by Smirnitsky in many cours of his lectures in Moscow and in Moscow State Institute of Foreign Languages.

As was mentioned earlier in those days of 'new theory of language' Smirnitsky dared to put forth his division of periods in his course in 'History of English'; he did not mind at all about the contemporary theory of language that language is a direct reflection of change in social and historical structures. He stated that the same total of vocabulary, grammatical and sound structures of a language interacts in the context of their socio-historical development.

In his 'Course in English' which resulted in his trilogy of English linguistics Smirnitsky showed how unscientific it was to say that English is a mixed language of German and French. He showed how Germanic factors especially in structure of English are immanent through the development of English. With detail analysis of Scandinavian and Anglo-Norman influences on English he concluded that present-day English still remains Germanic in character in spite of its international characteristics.

He also asserted that there is no American English and as for literary English American English is a variant of English literary language.

He worked for long on one of the most interesting theme for English; grammatical category of English, and his lecture for 1952/53 formulated for the first time in Soviet English studies a system of grammatical category in English. This study cleared the way for the study of mood in English and also for the study of the problems pertaining ot English verbs.

In his later days Smirnitsky worked a lot on the theory of the parts of sentence in English: the form and function of words and between words, and he made a specific study of predicates in English.

In the sphere of lexicology Professor Smirnitsky has done research and lecture

in compounds, productive affixes, etymological classification of English vocabulary together with the probing into the source of borrowing and into the way of assimilation of borrowed words.

He paid special attention to the relationship between preposition and adverbs and pushed his study on to that of full verbs and auxiliary verbs.

In 1949 two years before his death Professor Smirnitsky collaborated in the editorial staff of the journal *Foreign language in school*, where he had published many articles. The most famous article of his contributions to this journal is 'Linguistic foundation of foreign language teaching' with a subtitle of 'Problem of learning new language system in reference to the question on the identity of language with thought'. In this article central problems of linguistics are beautifully integrated with pedagogical practice, which anticipated a new direction in teaching foreign languages only to take a firm hold in the temper of the past few years.

In 1954 in the year of his death Professor Smirnitsky emerged out of his theoretical research on language and thought, and turned his eyes to the application of his theory to practical problem of language learning. He stressed the necessity of the development of habit in oral reproduction and took his stand sharply against the then governing method of 'receptive learning of languages'. In his article 'On the linguistic base for learning languages' he proposed a solution which as mentioned just now stressed a productive side of language learning. From his proposal were developed programs for teaching foreign languages and new materials for the purpose, which correspond in many points with those of Fries, which he produced to the section of the 8th International Congress of Linguists.

As early as in his pre-doctoral days in RAIION Smirnitsky made a report on the meeting of Romano-Germanic Section on Scandinavian rune inscription and on the basis of this report he produced his first scholarly work on 'The problem of origin of rune and on the meaning of pre-Scandinavian script as a monument of language'. All through his life he took keen interest in the problems pertaining to runic inscriptions and in 1939 appeared his 2nd article on this problem entitled 'Scandinavian runic inscription in the time of Viking' and in 1947 this was followed by 'On the problem of Northern runic inscriptions' and in the same year he wrote many articles in the pages of *Great Soviet Encyclopedia* and *Literature Encyclopedia*.

In these articles, along with his sharp criticisms levelled against such eminent runologists as Vimmer, Rugge and von Friesen, he treated the problems like history of the study of runic inscriptions, the problem on the origin of runic alphabet, the problem of the origin and meaning of individual symbols, the problem of relationship between 24 known older Runic group and 16 known later Runic

group and others. He gave us an exact scheme for the relation between fundamental types of runes. And in his work Smirnitsky developed a new standard of scholarship for Soviet runology. He said in the first of his article (1931) that 'linguists in their research for evidences of runic inscription must take stock of the characters of each inscription and should know how those characters really look like on the things on which runes are written.'

In the field of Scandinavian languages he did research on phonological system of old Scandinavian language, on synchronic description of old Scandinavian phonological system and on detailed explication of its historical origin.

He left notes on the syntax of Old Icelandic and a plan for reconstruction of Old Germanic language on the materials offered and interpreted Old Icelandic.

In his work Professor Smirnitsky often observes that the study of older language is closely connected with the results obtained in the historical study of Germanic language.

He testifies to this proposition in his *Old English*. He paid his attention to present-day Scandinavian (Swedish, Danish and Norwegian) and toward the end of 1940 he opened the courses in 'Introduction to Scandinavian' and 'Comparative Grammar of New Germanic languages'. This course inspired younger generation to take interest in Scandinavian languages.

In 1948 appeared the first edition of *Russian-English Dictionary* with his editorship, and in about 20 years this dictionary has been reprinted several times. In 1967 we saw its 6th edition published. For the making of this *Russian-English Dictionary* Smirnitsky has spent a long and arduous years in the form of lexicological research work on dictionary making. In his preface to the first edition of this dictionary he said that he followed in many points the principle laid down by professor Šchelva's *Russian-English Dictionary*. But in his *Dicsionary* he put forth several principles and devices of his own: one of them is that he placed great emphasis on the phnological and grmmatical aspects of words. All the deviations from common paradigms were subject to specific analysis, and his study of Russian verbs in this connection found its way into the presentation of verbs in the *Dictionary*.

In the preface to the 2nd edition Smirnitsky wrote: 'complete and incomplet aspects of Russian verbs are in many ways considered as variants for one and the same verb and the forms of various aspectral verbs are entered in a grop...'

On the phonetic side of the making of the *Dictionary* Professor Smirnitsky mde an extensive study on how to transcribe English sound and sound combinations in spcial reference to relationship of words with their stress. And he devised a fundamental principle of transliteration, which appears in a form of an indepedent article in the preface to the first edition of the *Dictionary*. He said that the difficulty a lexicographer encounters is not translation of some word combination,

but to differentiate correctly which are similar and which are dissimilar in both languages.

He observed that in the vocabulary of a language there are some word or word groups which are bundled together on their lexical and/or grammatical meanings. And he treated some particles like preposition, conjunction, interjection, numerals and verbs with prefix en bloc with the same principle; but he never fail to give special treatment of verbs such as *tsernet'* (become black), *sinet'* (become blue), *belet'* (become white) or of the treatment of such adjectives as *srepoi* (blind), *grkhoi* (dumb) and *nemoi* (deaf).

He paid special attention to the arrangement of meaning of a word in the *Dictionary* and homonyms were treated for the first time on a grammatical plane. Attention was also paid to words and word combinations. In the first edition of the *Dictionary* he said; 'To translate a text correctly it is important not only to find corresponding words but also to connect them in a required way.' In his *Dictionary* Russian verbs are illustrated with what case forms of noun they are used in that particular case. In English part of the *Dictionary* verbs are shown whether they take a direct object or indirect one or preposition therewith. The difference in use of numerals in Russian and English are considered too.

The system of vocabulary proposed and prosecuted by Professor Smirnitsky lies in the compilation of many dictionaries published by 'Great Encyclopedia'.

Professor Smirnitsky work in all the fields of linguistics and brought them into a coherent harmony of a discipline of linguistic science. His incredible ability to impart enthusiasm and to teach the very essence of his subject always attracted his students. It is quite natural that his man with his work are venerably remembered as one of the scholars who made Soviet English and linguistic studies what they are now. I hope that his man and work be known to the scholars and researchers of the world.

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Late Professor A. I. Smirnitsky's work follows. I am heavily indebted to the making of this paper and of his bibliography to E. M. Mednikova *Aleksandr Ivanovic Smirnitsky* (Moscow, 1968. 60 pp.)

#### A. Published Works

1930

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2. 'The problem on the origin of rune and on the meaning of per-Scandinavian inscriptions as mounments of the language' in *Transactions of Institute of Language and Literature at RAIION* vol.4 pp.41-66. 1933.
3. 'Swedish language' in *Great Soviet Encyclopedia* 1st Edition, vol.62. pp 41-43 1935.

4. 'Icelandic language' in *Great Soviet Encyclopedia* 1st Edition vol.29. pp.416-417.
  5. *Russian Textbook : elementary course*. Moscow : Cooperative Publishing Society of Foreign Workers in the Soviet Union 365 pp (co-authored with Sveshnikov)
  6. *Tegner E. Saga of Frit' of*. Translated from Swedish by B Yu. Aichenbal'd and A. I. Smirnitsky. & Commentary by A. I. Smirnitsky. Moscow & Leningrad 365 pp (To Smirnitsky belong translation of poems 4,8,9,10, 11, 12, 16, 21, 23 and also commentary of pp.318-361)
- 1938
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  8. *Selections of History of English from 7 to 17th century with Grammatical Tables and Etymological Glossary*. Edited by Smirnitsky. Moscow : 236 pp (Title & Preface pp. 5-10 written in English)
- 1939
9. 'Norwegian language' in *Great Soviet Encyclopedia* 1st edition, p. 42 & OGIZ edition pp. 356-357.
  10. *Selections of History of English from 7th to 17th Century*. 2nd Edition, Moscow : 236 pp.
  11. 'Swedish rune inscriptions of the days of Vikings' in *Transactions of Moscow Institute of History and Literature* vol. 5, pp. 211-249.
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  16. 'Some observations on English homonyms' in *Foreign Language in School*. Nr. 5, pp.10-15.
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- 1951
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