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Hardy Behind the Iron Curtain

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64 Colby Library Quarterly

"TORRENT" NUMBER SIXTY-SIX

N EARLY ten years have passed since we began compiling a record of the survival of copies of Edwin Arlington Robinson's *The Torrent and The Night Before* (1896), and from time to time we have been able to add a copy to the list printed in our issue for February, 1947. In February 1954 we listed Copy Number 65 (see page 220).

Mr. John S. Van E. Kohn now writes to report the arrival, in the Seven Gables Bookshop in New York City, of Copy Number 66. It was presented to "M[elville] B[est] Anderson | with compliments of E. A. Robinson | 5 December, 1896." Only two copies in our original list bore earlier dates: Burnham and Ford both received copies inscribed by the poet on December 4. The name of M. B. Anderson is also a new addition to the list of recipients published on pages 3 and 4 of our February 1947 issue.

May we repeat our earlier invitation to any owner of a copy of *The Torrent*: if your copy is *not* listed in the Colby census, please let us know about it, so that our compilation may be kept as complete and as accurate as possible.

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HARDY BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN

By Avrahm Yarmolinsky

WRITING in the issue of the COLBY LIBRARY QUARTERLY for August, 1954, on Russian translations of Hardy, Carl J. Weber notes the existence of more than one Russian version of *Tess*, and of a Russian translation of *Far from the Madding Crowd*, and adds: "We wish we were able to report on Russian editions of other novels by Hardy—on Jude, for example, *The Return of the Native*, and *A Pair of Blue Eyes*...."

As a matter of fact, a Russian translation of Jude, made by I. Mainov, was published in the monthly Severnyi vestnik (Northern Messenger) in 1897, under the title Dzhud

Colby Library Quarterly 65

Neudachnik (Jude the Ne'er-do-well). This periodical is available at the New York Public Library.

As for the Russian versions of *Tess*, the text serialized in *Russkaya Mysl'* (Russian Thought), 1893 (also available in the New York Public Library), is the work of an individual designated by the initials: V. S. A new translation of the same novel appeared under a Soviet imprint. *Tess iz roda d'Erbervill'*, Moskva-Leningrad, 1930. (*Tess of D'Urbervilles*, translated by A. V. Krivtzova; Introduction by A. V. Lunacharski, with a Sketch entitled "Thomas Hardy" by Yevgenii Lann). Yevgenii Lann is also the author of an essay on Hardy, published in the Moscow monthly *Novyi Mir* (New World), 1931. Presumably the 1937 edition of *Tess* in the Colby College Library is a reprint of the 1930 edition. The Soviet Literary Encyclopedia contains a fairly substantial article on Hardy, and he is treated briefly in the other Russian encyclopedias.

There exists also a Bulgarian translation of one novel, The Well-Beloved. It is listed in Bulletin bibliographique des livres déposés à la Bibliothèque Nationale de Sofia, Année 28-29, Sofia, 1926, p. 219, as Lubenata translated by R. Rusev, 1926. The title is given as Vūzlubenata in the monograph Pesimistichniyat mirogled v tvorchestvoto na Tomas Khardi, Ot Konst. Stefanov (The pessimistic vein in the works of Thomas Hardy, by Const. Stephanove), Sofia, 1933. An article on Hardy, by A. Kamenova, appeared in the Sofia monthly, Zlatorog, 1928. Two essays on Hardy are part of a Czech volume by Frantisek Chudoba, Pod listnatým stromem (Under the Greenwood Tree), Prague, 1932.

Below is a supplement to Mr. Weber's list of translations:

CZECH

Vessexské povídky . . . Prelozil Lad. J. Zivny, 1909. Translation of Wessex Tales.

Betsabé Everdenová. Román... Prelozil Lad. J. Zivny, Prague, 1910. Translation of Far from the Madding Crowd.

66 Colby Library Quarterly

Markétcino romanticke dobrodruzství. Prelozil Z. Mach, 1921. Translation of The Romantic Adventures of a Milkmaid.

Tess z D'Urbervillu, Cistá zena, Prel. Jos. J. David. Prague, 1927. Translation of Tess of the D'Urbervilles.

LATVIAN

Muzigã atgriesanas, Vitolds Zibelis, Riga, [1937]. Translation of The Return of the Native.

POLISH

- Latorosl wielkiego rodu, prawdziwe dzieje kobiety, wiernie po angielsku opisal . . . Gródek-Lwów, 1893. Translation of Tess of the D'Urbervilles.
- W pogoni za ukochana, by M. Dz. Warszawa-Cracow, 1894. Translation of The Well-Beloved.

Tessa d'Urberville, by Róza Czekanska-Heymanowa, Warszawa, 1954. Translation of Tess of the D'Urbervilles.

SERBIAN

Neznani Dzud, Tr. by Zivojin Simic, Belgrade, 1953. Translation of Jude the Obscure.

Here is additional bibliographical information on two titles in Mr. Weber's list: *Szafirowe oczy* was published in 1929; *Zdala od szalejacego tlumu* was published in 1930 in 2 volumes.

In fine, Mr. Weber is right when he states that people behind the Iron Curtain can read Hardy in their native tongues.

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