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In memoriam Peter Viktorovich Jernstedt

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Tekst jest udostępniony do wykorzystania w ramach dozwolonego użytku.

His work was highly appreciated and in 1938 he was granted a professorship and the degree of doctor of Historical Sciences. For a long time then he did not work in his field, resuming research and teaching in 1957. But being old and ill he did not start any fundamental monographs. He trained post-graduates at the Leningrad Branch of the Institute of History, students of Leningrad University, read papers and edited a number of translations from Greek and Latin.¹¹ He also resumed the edition of papyri, ostraca and mummy labels (cf. *JJP* XV p. 421; XVI–XVII p. 199–200) and published a number of papers and reviews. Special note should be made of *The Recluses in Ptolemaic Egypt* which offers a new interpretation of this term, *Miscellanea epigraphica* (cf. *JJP* XV pp. 421–423) as well as his review of *Corpus of the Bosporan Inscriptions* containing few, unfortunately very few, of his onomastic observations (cf. *JJP* XVI–XVII p. 199).

In the last years of his life his health was too poor to enable him to work actively and to study in the libraries, but until the last day of his life he took great interest in whatever was concerned with ancient history. Science lost in O. O. Krüger an excellent reader and interpreter of papyrological and epigraphical texts as well as a versatile student of antiquity.

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I. F. Fikhman

IN MEMORIAM PETER VIKTOROVICH JERNSTEDT

P. V. Jernstedt, the outstanding Soviet linguist, papyrologist and coptologist, a corresponding member of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences, died in Leningrad on December 25, 1966.

P. V. Jernstedt was born on June 21, 1890, in the town of Gatchina (the Leningrad district) in the family of Academician V. K. Jernstedt, the well-known hellenist and palaeographer, the founder of Russian papyrology. Being very good at linguistics, after his graduation from the secondary school he entered in 1908 the classical department of the historical-philological faculty at St. Petersburg University. There he chose as his future field the history of Greek and in the first place Modern Greek, This compelled him to make a thorough study of Middle Greek. At the same time he studied some Oriental languages at the Oriental faculty, viz. Hebrew, Aramaic, Assyrian, Syriac, Arabic, Sanskrit, Old Persian, etc., and later Egyptian and Coptic, the latter becoming his second and later his main speciality.

¹¹ Arrian, *Pokhod Aleksandra*, M.-L., 1962 (in the same book, pp. 5–14 his paper *Arrian i yego trud "Pokhod Aleksandra"*, cf. *JJP*, XV, p. 422). Varron, *Sel'skoye khozyaistvo*, M.-L., 1963; Strabon, *Geografiya*, M.-L., 1964 Cf. *JJP*, XVI–XVII, p. 87.

After his graduation from the University in 1913, he was trained to become the professor of classical philology, and in 1914 he left for Greece to collect materials for his M.A. dissertation, the description of the Zacon dialect, but the first world war interrupted this work. His interests being more and more inclined towards linguistics, he succeeded in passing his M.A. examinations in the department of comparative linguistics and Sanskrit and later worked in the department of Sanskrit philology. Thus P. V. Jernstedt became a man of extremely versatile linguistic knowledge. He considered P. Kokovtsov, M. Vasmer, G. Zereteli and P. Shcherbatskoi as his teachers.

In 1918 P. V. Jernstedt began to work at the Asiatic Museum (later the Institute of Oriental Studies and the Institute of the Peoples of Asia of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences) where he had been working almost all his creative life till 1950 when he came to the Institute of Linguistics of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences (1950—1954). Suffering from poor health in his last years, he unfortunately failed to publish and in some cases to complete a number of valuable studies.

P. V. Jernstedt worked fruitfully and with equal competence, inspiration and skill in different fields. His works were marked by an excellent knowledge of the material, great erudition, and a special linguistic intuition that enabled him to present always correctly the linguistic facts and regularities. He set himself very high standards, never publishing anything he thought unfinished or imperfect, which earned his works the reputation of "musterhafte Gründlichkeit", according to one of his reviewers.

P. V. Jernstedt was the author of more than 70 works.¹ They are publications of texts, large grammatical studies, articles on linguistics and translations. His interest in Middle Greek brought him to the study of the sources that preserved the people's language best — to the papyri, this resulting both in editions of papyri and in papers concerned with some of his linguistic considerations on the papyri published by P. V. Jernstedt himself or others. His first papyrological studies were published before the Great October Socialist Revolution,² but almost all his scientific work belongs to the Soviet period. These are both publications of separate texts and papers on papyrology,³ the chief achievement of P. V. Jernstedt being his participation in

¹ See A. I. Jelanskaya's bibliography, *Narody Azii i Afriki*, 1967, no. 3, pp. 226–227 and J. E. Grandstrem's and V. S. Shandrovskaia's bibliography, *Vizantiiskii Vremennik*, XXVIII, 1968, pp. 320–323.

² P. V. Jernstedt, *Hellenica Oxyrhynchia*, XI, 2, *Zhurnal Ministerstva narodnogo prosveshcheniya*, part LIV, 1914, pp. 526; id., *O tekste i yazyke pis'ma Feona*, *ibid.*, 1915, pp. 289–294; id. *Papyrusnyye pamyatniki srednegrecheskogo yazyka. Pis'mo Skholastikiya k yego materi Filostorgii*, *ibid.*, part LXXI, 1917, pp. 287–298.

³ P. V. Jernstedt, *Pamyatniki grecheskoi rechi Egipta*, *Izvestiya RAN*, ser. VI, t. XV, 1921, pp. 677–724; P. V. Jernstedt, *Ngr. ἀλέτρι* "Pflug", *zak. ératsé*, *id.*, *Prace lingwistyczne*

the edition of Greek papyri of the Soviet collections under G. Zereteli.⁴ P. V. Jernstedt himself prepared for publication the volume IV containing the papyri of the Arab period,⁵ and volumes III⁶ and V⁷ with G. Zereteli as coeditor. To these volumes belongs P. V. Jernstedt's paper in which he had combined P. Ross. Georg. III 39 with SB I 4489 and P. Ross. Georg. V 41 with BGU III 972.⁸ This publication, supplemented with excellent palaeographical and historical-philological commentaries was highly appreciated by the most authoritative papyrologists. In 1959 his Coptic papyri were edited with equal thoroughness, having been prepared for publication before the second world war.⁹ Not only do they enrich our knowledge of the material and spiritual life of Egyptian population, but also provide a better understanding of the texts edited before, since P. V. Jernstedt succeeded, in some cases, in combining fragments from different collections¹⁰ and turning membra disiecta into totum corpus, according to G. Zereteli.

Of no less significance are his linguistic studies. As far as his work on Coptic grammar is concerned, special note should be taken of his syntax studies, where P. V. Jernstedt succeeded in solving some very complicated problems. His researches in the Greek loan-words from Egyptian and Semitic languages belong to a new branch of linguistics started by P. V. Jernstedt in his book¹¹ and in some papers dealing with the same subject. Unfortunately, P. V. Jernstedt's illness interfered with the publication of some of his works which were almost ready for printing, the majority of them being Coptic studies.

ofiarowane Janowi Baudouinowi de Courtenay dla uczczenia jego działalności naukowej 1868–1921, Kraków, pp. 92–94; id., *Graeco-coptica*, *ÄZ*, LXIV, I, 1929, pp. 122–135; id., *Kritischlexikalisches, Aeg.* X, 1929, pp. 73–79; id., *Tekhnika izgotovleniya papirusa in: Ellinisticheskaya tekhnika*, M.–L., 1948, pp. 252–256; id., *Dva grecheskikh papirusa vizantiyskogo perioda iz sovetskikh sobranii*, *VDI*, 1952, no. 2, pp. 201–215; id., *Srednepersidskoye v grecheskikh i koptskikh papirusakh*, *VV*, XII, 1957, pp. 218–231 etc.

⁴ *Papyri russischer und georgischer Sammlungen* (P. Ross. Georg.) hrsgb. von G. Zereteli, I–V, Tiflis, 1925–1935.

⁵ *Die Kome-Aphrodito-Papyri der Sammlung Lichacov* bearbeitet von P. Jernstedt, Tiflis, 1927.

⁶ *Spät-römische und byzantinische Texte* bearbeitet von G. Zereteli und P. Jernstedt, Tiflis, 1930.

⁷ *Varia*, bearbeitet von G. Zereteli und P. Jernstedt, Tiflis, 1935.

⁸ P. V. Jernstedt, *Dva grecheskikh papirusa...*

⁹ P. V. Jernstedt, *Koptiskiye teksty Gosudarstvennogo Ermitazha*, M.–L., 1959; *Koptyskiye teksty Gosudarstvennogo Muzeya izobrazitel'nykh iskusstv imeni A. S. Pushkina*, M.–L., 1959.

¹⁰ See *Vizantiiskii Vremennik*, XXI, 1962, pp. 223–224 and I. F. Fikhman, *Soviet Papyrology and the Study of the Social and Economic History of Graeco-Roman Egypt, 1917–1966*, *VDI*, 1967, no. 4, pp. 102–119.

¹¹ P. V. Jernstedt, *Egipetskiye zaimstvovaniya v grecheskom yazyke*, M.–L., 1953.

The description of P. V. J e r n s t e d t's versatile creative activity would be incomplete without mentioning his fruitful work, though with some intervals, in training specialists in the Greek and Coptic languages as well as in papyrology at Leningrad University, Middle-Asian University and the Institute of Oriental Studies of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences.

His scientific merits were recognized and highly appreciated; he was granted the degree of candidate of Philological Sciences (1935) and the degree of doctor of Philological Sciences (1941) without any public defence and was elected corresponding-member of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences (1946). He was also awarded the Order "Symbol of Honour" and Medals of the U.S.S.R.

The death of P. V. J e r n s t e d t, the scholar who played such a prominent part in the development of the Soviet papyrology and coptology is a great loss for our science.

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