

Although this book has much to offer, we are still in need of an analysis of Bunin that will make full use of the insights and the analytic tools of modern literary criticism.

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THE WORLD OF YOUNG SHOLOKHOV: VISION OF VIOLENCE. By *Michael Klimenko*. North Quincy, Mass.: Christopher Publishing House, 1972. xiii, 287 pp. \$9.95.

For Professor Klimenko's purposes "young Sholokhov" means the author of *Tikhii Don*, which occupies by far the most attention, and of the early stories, some of which are considered as introduction to the main discussion. Even though its first volume was published in 1932, *Podniataia tselina* is deliberately excluded, because it "displayed a different concept of reality." Within such limits as these Klimenko essays definition of Sholokhov's attitude toward his characters and the events in which they feature. Some of the conclusions drawn prove highly contentious. Klimenko feels, for example, that in the stories Sholokhov "is not unduly fascinated by descriptions of cruelty" and claims an "international character" for the spirit of *Tikhii Don*. Occasionally he is led to present supposition (Sholokhov did not knowingly borrow certain elements from Tolstoy) as though it were factual. He can, moreover, be guilty of misleading exaggeration, as when stating that "Grigorii Melekhov, with a few exceptions in Parts Four and Five, appears on all the pages of the novel, from beginning to end."

Of greatest value are Klimenko's comments on the relation between the original *Donshchina* and the eventual *Tikhii Don* and on the mixture of affection and detachment in the characterization of Grigorii Melekhov. On the whole, however, Sholokhov's epic is considered too much in a vacuum, with little reference to other Soviet literature. Furthermore, there are unsupported generalizations regarding critical sources, as the author confesses disarmingly in his preface.

This volume is marred also by deficiencies in presentation. The English style too often suggests an indifferent translation; proofreading has been lax, particularly in the select bibliography (a reluctant addition, judging by a remark in the preface); and no index is supplied.

One would like to have welcomed wholeheartedly a less general study of Sholokhov than those by D. H. Stewart (whose name and works are cited incorrectly more than once) and C. G. Bearné (not mentioned at all). Yet the reservations which must be made about Klimenko's contribution to the Sholokhovian enigma rule out such response and permit only very circumscribed recommendation.

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NABOKOV: A BIBLIOGRAPHY. By *Andrew Field*. New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1973. xxvi, 249 pp. \$15.00.

This is the fourth bibliography of Nabokov's works to be published. The first, compiled by Dieter E. Zimmer, the German translator of Nabokov's English works, who worked without any knowledge of Russian beyond the alphabet, was