

Announcement

from the Copyright Office, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20559

SOVIET UNION JOINS UNIVERSAL COPYRIGHT CONVENTION

We have been informed that on February 27, 1973, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics deposited its instrument of adherence to the Universal Copyright Convention. The effective date of adherence is May 27, 1973.

The version of the Convention to which the U. S. S. R. has adhered is that of September 6, 1952, which came into force on September 16, 1955. There are more than 60 other member countries, including the United States of America.

In accordance with the Convention and the provisions of U. S. law which implement it, works by Soviet citizens, or works first published in the Soviet Union will secure U. S. copyright protection if published on or after May 27, 1973, with a copyright notice consisting of the symbol ©, accompanied by the name of the copyright owner and the year date of first publication. Example: © John Doe 1973. The notice must be in such form and position as to give reasonable notice of the copyright claim.

Concomitantly, works by U. S. authors published on or after May 27, 1973, with the Convention form of notice will generally qualify for protection in the U. S. S. R. under the Convention. In general the application of the Convention is not retroactive, so that neither country is obligated, as a result of the adherence by the U. S. S. R. to the Convention, to protect the works of the other country that were first published before May 27, 1973.