

Soviet Encyclopedia Is Kind to Nixon

By JAMES F. CLARITY
MOSCOW, Jan. 8—The latest volume of the Great Soviet Encyclopedia, that sometimes cloudy mirror of history, makes it perfectly clear that Richard M. Nixon is still held in higher official esteem here than such Soviet notables as Nikita S. Khrushchev, Aleksandr I. Solzhenitsyn and Rudolf Nureyev.

Like the corresponding volume of the encyclopedia's earlier edition, published in 1954, the new work has an ideological tinge. But the political hues have been softened or, in some instances, erased to produce a generally objective and serious reference work similar in tone to the previous 17 volumes of the projected new 30-volume edition.

While some prominent Russians are omitted, the new edition covers previously untouched subjects and is far less critical of life in the non-Communist West than was the edition of two decades ago.

Volume 18 of the encyclopedia, published this week, treats Mr. Nixon as if he had a rather unsensational career for a President.

The end of the Nixon entry simply says that on Aug. 9, 1974, the President "by force of internal political circumstances related to the so-called Watergate case, resigned." A cross-reference sends readers to an entry on "Watergate," to be included later on in the alphabet.

Credit Given to Nixon

The Nixon entry does not mention the former President's fervent anti-Communism as he rose to political power. Rather, Mr. Nixon is given credit for helping achieve "a positive turn" in the direction of Soviet-American relations.

The latest 632-page volume, alphabetically covering parts of "N" and "O", indicates that unmentionables still include Mr. Khrushchev, the Soviet party chief who was ousted in 1964 by the present leaders;

Heart Attack Compensation

ST. PAUL, Jan. 8 (AP)—Clint Grose, a lawyer who contends that a heart attack was a result of the "emotional and physical stress" of his profession has been awarded \$4,000 in workmen's compensation. Mr. Grose, a member of an Edina law firm, earns about \$40,000 a year. He said the heart attack he suffered Nov. 7, 1973, had reduced his weekly income by \$175.

DO NOT FORGET THE NEEDIEST!

Mr. Solzhenitsyn, one of the best-known contemporary Russian writers, and Mr. Nureyev, the ballet dancer who defected to the West.

Mr. Solzhenitsyn, who won a Nobel Prize for literature in 1970 but was unable to accept it until after he left this country last year, is not listed among the Soviet Nobel laureates. Mr. Khrushchev is among the many famous Russians buried in Moscow's Novodevichi cemetery, but the entry listing interred notables leaves him out. Alphabetically, Mr. Nureyev should appear on Page 442, but he is missing.

Curiously, a few Russians who have been officially criticized do appear. Trotsky, who was not mentioned in the previous edition's account of the important party congress in 1922, now is listed as a speaker on the Red Army, which he headed until he was purged by Stalin.

In the 1954 volume, Eugene O'Neill was described as a "decadent" American playwright. In the new one he is listed as a Nobel Prize winner. "The Ice-man Cometh" is no longer described as "a complete degrada-

tion." The encyclopedia's entry on op art is objective, refraining from the kind of attacks often aimed by Soviet critics at nonrepresentative art.

The new edition of the encyclopedia, which is being translated volume by volume into English by Macmillan, Inc., in New York, takes note of the existence of such phenomena as nymphomania and masturbation. Capitalism is still described as moribund, but there is a concession that it sometimes covers up its contradictions.

In the 1954 tome, the treatment of New York City included a photograph of a stark slum scene in Harlem. The picture is gone and Harlem is mentioned as one of the city's poorer sections.

New York City's major newspapers, sometimes attacked in the Soviet press, are given relatively gentle handling. The Daily News is said to have "a reactionary character." The Post is described as reflecting the view of "influential monopolistic circles." The Times is said to reflect "the view of rather influential liberal circles of the northeastern states."

Encyclopedia Excerpts

Special to The New York Times

MOSCOW, Jan. 8—Following are excerpts in unofficial translation from Volume 18 of the Great Soviet Encyclopedia, published this week:

GENERAL CRISIS OF CAPITALISM—Since the beginning of the nineteen sixties, some of the more acute past phenomena, such as chronic unemployment, appear with less force than before. The disappearance of some phenomena for a certain period can be considered testimony to the fact that contemporary capitalism, for the time being, is able partly to lessen the tendencies of some of its contradictions.

THE NEW DEAL—Laws profitable for important manufacturers were adopted. The labor and social legislation of the New Deal reflected a desire of the Government to blunt the class struggle, to weaken labor and the mass democratic movement. By their struggle for expansion of the framework of bourgeois democracy, the working people forced the ruling circles of the U.S.A. to take the route of reforms and concessions.

CLOTHES—Along with dwellings, clothes appeared as one of the basic means of protection from various external influences. Some bourgeois scientists view this as the utilitarian reason for the origin of clothes, but many take the idealistic position and say the basic reasons for clothes include a sense of shame and an esthetic urge.

FIRE—[According to Frederick Engels, the use of fire] "separated man from the animal kingdom. At first, fire played a considerable role in the formation of and strengthening of social relations. The maintenance of fire demanded of members of the tribe uninterrupted, agreed collective action.

NEW YORK—A city of sharp social contrasts. Alongside parts of the city with comfortable houses, there are poorly furnished, overcrowded blocks, for instance, Negro Harlem. The problem of water supplies is serious. The accumulation of a great number of automobiles, an abundance of enterprises casting noxious gases and other harmful substances into the air, unsolved problems of collecting garbage—all these lead to pollution of the atmosphere.