Dr. George L. Cross, University president, on February 3 announced the award of a $3,500 fellowship to complete a Russian historical study by Dr. Stuart R. Tompkins, professor of history.

It was the second similar grant to be won by Dr. Tompkins, from funds awarded the University by the Rockefeller Foundation.

The professor began a leave of absence to speed his research for the first volume of a History of the Russian Intelligentsia. He will return to class work next September.

Russian revolutionary movements have their foundation in the writing and thinking of 18th and 19th century literary and philosophical circles, Dr. Tompkins says.

Dr. Tompkins' work, which he initiated about two years ago, will trace the main trends of Russian thought to its culmination in Lenin, the father of the present-day Communist. Important among these ideas are, first, that the true function of literature is to help promote desirable political or social ends and, second, that Russian and Western European cultures are irreconcilable.

The present volume will cover the period from Peter the Great's reign until 1850. A later one will continue the study through Lenin.

Many of the references for Dr. Tompkins' investigations will come from the University of Oklahoma library and from his own collection, purchased in 1937 when he worked in the archives in Moscow, Leningrad and Petrograd. He expects also to spend about two months in the Library of Congress and the New York Public Library.

Under a previous University grant the professor wrote "Alaska: Pomonshelamik and Sourdough," which was published in 1945 by the University of Oklahoma Press. He also is author of "Russia Through the Ages" and a long list of articles on Russia and Alaska.

The professor's interest in Russia originated with his service in World War I. While with Canadian forces in Europe, he began studying the Russian language, then spent seven months with troops in Siberia.

Born in Canada, he holds a B.A. from the University of Toronto, an M.A. from the University of Alberta, and a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. He has taught at the University of Oklahoma and the University of Missouri. He returned February 7 for Columbia, Missouri, to supervise two University students in debate with the University of Missouri. She returned February 9.

Katherine Callie Bennett, professor of physical education for women, left February 21 to attend the convention of the Southern District of the American Association of Health, Physical Education and Recreation in Asheville, North Carolina. She returned February 27.

Robert A. Ortenburger, special assistant professor of zoology, is leaving April 6, 1949 for Chapel Hill, North Carolina to attend the Groves 12th Annual Conference on Conservation of Marriage and Family. She will give a report on "Areas of Interest Shown by Students in a Marriage Course." She will return April 10.

Professor E. J. Ottman, Department of Education, will attend the regional conference of the American Association of School Administrators in St. Louis February 26 to March 2, 1949.

R. L. Huntington, 17ba, chairman, School of Chemical Engineering, attended a lecture series on oil and gas reservoir engineering at the University of Texas, Austin, from February 7 to 11. This lecture series was given by Dr. Munkate of the Gulf Oil Corporation at the University of Texas.

Dr. Louis Alvin Turley, 17ba, 35ma, dean of the Teachers College of Connecticut, has recently been appointed dean of the College of Education at the University. His appointment becomes effective on or before July 1, 1949.

Dr. A. E. Loyd, who resigned to become president of California State College, Fresno, Chicago and Cleveland, in Chicago, he attended a meeting of the Executive Board of College and University Personnel Association, and, in Cleveland, he was the guest of the Standard Oil Company. He returned to the University February 2.

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