

# de Solla Price, Derek J.

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## [I should like to add...]

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Artykuł umieszczony jest w kolekcji cyfrowej Bazhum, gromadzącej zawartość polskich czasopism humanistycznych i społecznych tworzonej przez Muzeum Historii Polski w ramach prac podejmowanych na rzecz zapewnienia otwartego, powszechnego i trwałego dostępu do polskiego dorobku naukowego i kulturalnego.

Artykuł został zdigitalizowany i opracowany do udostępnienia w internecie ze środków specjalnych MNiSW dzięki Wydziałowi Historycznemu Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego.

Tekst jest udostępniony do wykorzystania w ramach dozwolonego użytku.



on atteindra aussi dans une grande mesure une large possibilité d'initiative de recherches, car c'est à travers l'information sur les sources qu'on peut former des suggestions sur la direction déterminée des recherches.

#### *D. J. de Solla Price*

I should like to add three very brief practical footnotes to the problems raised by Professor Taton in the documentation of the History of Science.

1) If the History of Science is to begin to play its new role as part of the "Science of Science", then we shall need documentation for this topic. Our prime desideratum is for some international agreement on definitions, statistics, methodology etc. for all the studies of the fairly recent history of science and technology. We must work towards an international compilation of data in our field, such as one now had for many years (from U.N. and Unesco) in Population Statistics and in Economics. We hope to arrange a small meeting next summer in Yugoslavia under the leadership of Stefan Dedijer to take preliminary steps in this direction.

2) It becomes evident that Historians of Science do not yet form a close international community. It is not too difficult to find monographs in special subjects, or even original documents and instruments in other countries. It is however most difficult to find out the ambient ideas that are part of background education of our colleagues in other lands.

To help us know each other better we must know our basic books, and I therefore suggest that at the next International Congress we should invite a special exhibition from each country of its textbooks for schools and universities — standard works as well as professional monographs. I for one would be most interested to see what sort of literature was behind the papers read to us by Soviet and Polish Historians of Science.

3) Further to this end I would like to see, perhaps under the aegis of the International Academy for the History of Science, some selection of basic books of each country (to be proposed by the country), which might well be translated and published in other countries. There might well be national and international financial support available for such desirable desiderata. It seems a pity that each country should have to discover a new paths in our field, that have long been familiar elsewhere. It is also a pity if we continue with such different backgrounds that such subjects as "Classification" and "Periodization" are trivial in some land and fundamental in others.