Ben. Jackson, Department of State, Bureau of Cultural Affairs: Modern Greek Literature: A Quest for Identity.

His Excellency the Ambassador of Greece in the U.S.A., Mr. Christian Xanthopoulos Palamas, honored with his presence the opening of the Symposium which was attended by a large audience of scholars, men of letters, American Philhellenes, and generally by people interested in Modern Greek literature. Among the many participants were Prof. J. E. Allatis (Georgetown University), Prof. P. Bien (Dartmouth College), Prof. O. Constantine (Wayne State University), Prof. T. Doulis (Philadelphia College of Art), Prof. M. Friedmann (University of Maryland), Prof. M. P. Gianos (Detroit Institute of Technology), Dr. A. Sakell (Department of State), Mr. C. Lagoudakis (Department of State), Mrs. E. Layton (Harvard University), Prof. R. Montano (University of Maryland), Prof. C. Murphy (University of Maryland), Pr. J. Nicolopoulos (University of New York at Albany), Prof. P. Topping (University of Cincinnati), Prof. B. C. P. Tsangadas (University of Colorado), Prof. S. Vryonis (University of California at Los Angeles) etc.

A positive result of this first Symposium was the decision for another Symposium which will be held next year at some other campus. The Symposium ended with a very important announcement. The establishment of a "Modern Greek Studies Association," which basically aims at the promotion of Modern Greek literature and culture in the U.S.A. The first executive committee of the Association consists of the following scholars: Chairman: E. Keeley. Members: J. P. Anton, P. Bien, A. G., M. Decavalles, T. Doulis, M. P. Gianos, K. Mitsakis, J. A. Nicolopoulos, P. Topping, B. C. P. Tsangadas. The MGSA has already become member of the Modern Languages Association of the U.S.A. and will meet annually at the conventions of the MLA. There will be a separate group of scholars working in the field of Modern Greek studies who will present their papers in the form of short communication followed by a general discussion among the participants in that special meeting. A detailed bibliographical bulletin on Modern Greek literature compiled by Mrs. E. Layton will appear regularly in the "Proceedings of the Modern Languages Association." It is quite possible that the MGSA soon will have its own journal.

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