To the Editor:

I very much appreciated Ned Keenan's warm tribute to Iakov Solomonovich Lur'e (Slavic Review, 55, no. 3). Indeed we have lost a colleague who held up to us a high standard of intellectual integrity which he maintained even in the most difficult of times. I can well remember Iakov Solomonovich's passionate engagement in the debates at the meetings of the Sector of Early Russian Literature in Pushkinskii dom, and the warm encouragement he provided me while I was just beginning to learn my way around Russian manuscript collections thirty years ago. One small correction in Professor Keenan's obituary is in order. Indeed in his last meeting with the closest of his Russian colleagues, Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Zimin, just before the latter's death in 1980, Iakov Solomonovich remarked how fortunate Zimin had been to have had students, whereas he himself had not. Yet even though he never supervised graduate students, it is not true that Lur'e never taught after the 1950s. I had the privilege of joining a small group of Russian undergraduates in the autumn of 1971 in the Department of Russian Literature at Leningrad University for a spetskurs on Russian chronicle writing that Iakov Solomonovich offered on what may have been a fairly regular basis. He had a remarkable ability to transmit enthusiasm for the subject on which he was a living link and true heir to the tradition of Mikhail D. Priselkov and Mstislav V. Shakhmatov.

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The correction below was published in Slavic Review 56/3 (1997). The error was not mine, but due to the editors' insertion of the wrong name and initial.

ERRATUM

At the conclusion to Daniel C. Waugh's letter (Slavic Review, 56, no. 1 [Spring 1997]: 186), a reference was erroneously made to Mstislav V. Shakhmatov, rather than to Aleksei A. Shakhmatov, generally considered the greatest student of Russian chronicle writing.