

I do not fault the heterogeneity of approach in the case studies. At this point in our research on Soviet technology it is probably better to explore many approaches and to utilize whatever information is available than to worry about conforming to some standard pattern. Indeed, one of the major values of this book is the richness and variety of the questions asked and the information it contains. There are illuminating capsule histories of innovations in given technologies, numerous asides about motivations, rationales, procedures, biases, and utilization of a great variety of sources (including the results of a British consumer testing organization's tests of the quality of Soviet passenger automobiles). I imagine that the book will be an important stimulus for other scholars to apply some of its approaches to other cases, and thus expand the *range* of knowledge about the comparative level of Soviet technology. We will then be in a much better position to develop the kind of generalizable conclusions that the authors of this book have found somewhat elusive.

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COPYRIGHT LAW IN THE SOVIET UNION. By *Michael A. Newcity*. New York and London: Praeger Publishers, 1978. x, 213 pp.

SOVIET BOOK PUBLISHING POLICY. By *Gregory Walker*. New York and London: Cambridge University Press, 1978. xvi, 164 pp. \$15.95.

Although the Soviet Union is the world's largest producer and consumer of books, as the authors of the two books under review point out, attention in the West has focused upon censorship and *samizdat*, and little has been written about publishing policy until very recently. These two books, together with articles appearing in *Publishers Weekly* in the past few years, help to fill the gap.

Michael A. Newcity, a member of the New York bar, has produced a substantial study of copyright law in the Soviet Union. He begins with a historical survey, from the domestic copyright law of 1828 (the by-product of a censorship decree) to 1973, when the USSR joined the Universal Copyright Convention. One of his interesting contributions is the account of how the Soviet Union joined. A U.S. tax made Soviet patents and licenses too expensive to be competitive in the American market. The Soviet Union wanted patent and technology-licensing agreements. American negotiators linked the copyright issue to the agreements and held out the inducement of a waiver of the tax. They added the argument that the USSR would benefit commercially from international copyright and would gain in Western public esteem. The bulk of Newcity's work consists of an exposition of the resultant Soviet copyright law and its application. A concluding section reviews developments since accession to the copyright convention.

Paradoxically, after years of American publishers' insistence upon this step, the Soviet action met with a wave of criticism in the West. Fears were voiced that the new copyright law would be used as an additional weapon against dissidents, that unregulated reprinting of Western scientific and technical journals would continue, and that Soviet newspapers would abuse their claim to free use of copyrighted material. These fears have subsided, yet progress in U.S.-Soviet publishing relations remains slow. Soviet publishers protest the imbalance between their extensive translation of American works and the small number of Soviet titles issued in the United States. American publishers protest against Soviet censorship and the treatment of dissidents. Several American publishers and editorial writers opposed the successful Moscow book fair of 1977 because of these issues.

Newcity concludes that political considerations will continue to becloud publishing relations. It seems to this reviewer that he overlooks another important factor—

whether Soviet literary output will hold attraction for American readers. In a few areas, such as in science fiction, it is beginning to get a toehold in the American market.

Newcity's work should be read in conjunction with *Soviet Book Publishing Policy* by Gregory Walker, head of the Slavonic section of the Bodleian Library, Oxford. Walker gives an overview of Soviet publishing, going beyond organizational description into detailed reporting of practices. The book contains fresh and valuable information on many aspects, including pricing, authors' fee scales, editorial procedures, management problems, and the book trade. Walker makes clear that Soviet publishing is much more complex than is assumed in the common view of it as just a tool of political and ideological influence.

Both of these books are important to anyone studying the contemporary Soviet publishing scene.

LEO GRULIOW

Current Digest of the Soviet Press (Editor Emeritus)

SOVIET SOCIOLOGY, 1964-75: A BIBLIOGRAPHY. By *Mervyn Matthews*, in collaboration with *T. Anthony Jones*. New York and London: Praeger Publishers, 1978. xvi, 269 pp.

The rebirth and development of Soviet sociology during the past two decades constitutes one of the more interesting chapters of Soviet intellectual history. The Soviet Sociological Association was founded in 1958, and, despite the protests of ideologists arguing that sociological questions could be answered on the basis of Marxist-Leninist theory, within ten years sociologists had gained their own niche in the Academy of Sciences. To date, sociological works numbering in the thousands have been published, primarily on matters of obvious practical concern to the Soviet regime.

Although these works have already considerably enhanced the research of Sovietologists, mainstream Western sociology has been slow to take advantage of them. Unfortunately, in the international arena, Soviet sociologists usually give the impression that their work is uninteresting. For example, several sociologists who have written excellent dissertations can usually be found reading extraordinarily banal papers at the meetings of the International Sociological Association. Evidently, they are occasionally required to do so. For example, while visiting the Institute of Social Research in Moscow, I once noticed an announcement enumerating sociologists whose contributions to an upcoming international conference needed "to be brought into line."

Another factor hindering sociologists and area specialists alike has been the inadequacy of Soviet catalogs of sociological works (written before 1975). It is here that Professor Matthews's book (compiled in collaboration with T. Anthony Jones) makes a substantial contribution. It provides a bibliography (unannotated) of some twenty-five hundred sociological books, collections, articles, and *avtoreferati* published between 1964 and 1975 (in Russian, and occasionally in Ukrainian). The largest sections in the bibliography pertain to social structure and mobility and to sociology as a discipline. There are also sizable sections on labor and on education. Other topics include youth, marriage and the family, religion, mass communications, culture and the arts, and time budgets. Brief sections on medicine, public opinion, national minorities, law, deviance, the status of women, management science, and the armed forces are also provided.

The bibliography is introduced by a twenty-four-page essay, part of which outlines the history of sociology in the USSR. The essay does not pretend to be definitive, but it does serve as a useful backdrop against which to view the products of socio-