

restraint in editing the articles to organize them into book form. They are clearly articles published on different occasions and for different purposes. Further, some of those either originally in German or by native German speakers are in an English style which at least a publisher's editor should have corrected.

One might also question Laszlo's policy in making his selections. Granted that all major philosophical fields and even more (always with the exception of formal logic) are covered, some of the articles are really reports or books reviews, as, for example, De George's essay on ethics (although it does review a basic text) and Boeselager's on dialectical methodology. On the other hand, T. R. Payne's article on Soviet psychology is a fascinating study, although it indicates a greater knowledge of psychology than of Soviet Marxism. Together with Fritz Rapp's excellent discussion of Soviet legal theory and Wetter's and Bocheński's brilliant, more purely philosophical, essays, it gives distinction to a book which would otherwise be a useful but expensive secondary text for a course in Soviet thought.

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AMERICAN AND SOVIET SOCIETY: A READER IN COMPARATIVE SOCIOLOGY AND PERCEPTION. Edited by *Paul Hollander*. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1969. xviii, 589 pp. \$8.95.

In the introduction the editor of this reader goes to some lengths to explain that the originator of the book was a publisher who suggested he do a reader on Soviet society, an idea which he rejected; but the idea of a *comparative* reader appealed to him, and when the theme of cross-national perception was added, he accepted it.

The underlying *idea* of this book is basically sound and intellectually productive: it is to provide assessments by American and Soviet sociologists or social scientists (or what passes for them in the Soviet Union) on their own society and its characteristics and problems, and then to have comments on the other society. This gives us a fourfold classification: American views on American society, American views on Soviet society, Soviet views on American society, and Soviet views on Soviet society. These then are presented in eight major parts: social values, beliefs, and ideologies; the polity; social stratification; the family; marital and sexual relations; social problems (including crime and juvenile delinquency, discrimination against ethnic minorities, leisure, the effects of alcohol, mass culture, youth, old age, rural and urban areas, population movement and imbalances, and the decline and survival of religion); appraisals of sociology; and "Are the Two Societies Becoming Alike?"

This is a monumental program. The rub comes in filling that fourfold table, because at that point the editor is at the mercy of the available materials. The result is a hodgepodge, and a difficult (and often tedious) book to read. The availability of materials varied widely, making selections quite difficult in some instances (American views on American society) and perhaps too easy in others where the choice of materials was very limited. The most interesting and perceptive portions of this reader are the general and specific introductions the editor has written to present the book and the materials.

It is interesting to note that most American authors represented are academicians, whereas the Soviet group consists of a few academicians but mainly journalists and other writers. The difference reflects the relative development of the

social sciences in the two societies. The Soviet selections will be particularly interesting, I believe, to Western audiences because of their heavy style, the reiteration of the belief in Marxism-Leninism as the ultimate key to all questions, and the emphasis on *protivizm* ("againstism"—a compulsive need to attack capitalistic or "bourgeois" societies and institutions). The American selections run the gamut from Parsons to C. W. Mills and are relatively free of this need to assert the superiority of their own system—in fact, very often they do the opposite.

This reader might serve as collateral reading for a course on comparative modern society or a course on the Soviet Union.

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ANNUAIRE DE L'U.R.S.S.: DROIT, ÉCONOMIE, SOCIOLOGIE, POLITIQUE, CULTURE, 1968. Edited by *Pierre Lavigne*. Centre de Recherches sur l'U.R.S.S. et les Pays de l'Est. Paris: Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, 1969. 961 pp. 105 F.

In 1962 the first of a series of annual volumes on the USSR, prepared under the overall sponsorship of the French National Scientific Research Center (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique), was issued. The first two volumes (1962 and 1964—none was issued for 1963) were edited by Michel Mouskhely of the Law Faculty, University of Strasbourg. After Professor Mouskhely's death in July 1964, Pierre Lavigne, then a professor of law at the University of Strasbourg, now of the University of Paris, assumed the editorship. Under his aegis four volumes have been issued and two more are scheduled before the series is terminated with the issue for 1970. The original concept of Mouskhely was that of a compendium composed entirely of articles. Lavigne's approach has been to devote approximately two-thirds of a volume to articles and one-third to a chronology of events during the year, selected statistical materials, and a special section on miscellaneous topics. The special sections of the 1966 and 1967 volumes, for example, contain, respectively, a historical essay on economic regionalization and a "Panorama of Social Sciences in the USSR," which is a bibliographical essay on such topics as the origins of Soviet constitutional law, problems of political economy, and Marxist social psychology. The 1968 issue contains a continuation of the bibliographical essay on the origins of Soviet constitutional law, collective farm law, and the early history of Soviet sociology.

The majority of the articles in each issue are invited, although some are contributed and some are translations of important articles appearing in the Soviet press. This issue includes translations of three Soviet articles on law and two on the economy. Three original articles by members of the Faculty of Law at Poznan (Poland) deal with Soviet bilateral treaties, Comecon, and the role of the state. (At least one article from Poland and two from the Soviet Union have been included in each of these yearbooks.) Rudolf Schlesinger, now deceased, is the only non-Frenchman to have contributed to every *Annuaire*, and Kazimierz Grzybowski, of Duke University, is the only regular American contributor. Regular French participants include Basile Kerblay, Pierre Naville, Robert Triomphe, and, in the last three years, Alexandre Bourmeyster. Two research specialists at the Strasbourg Research Center on the USSR and Countries of the East, Inna Kniazeff and Zygmunt Jedryka, also contribute each year. As expected, Pierre and (his wife) Marie Lavigne have