remained (along with Hungary) a common-law country until partitions ended her political existence. The book consists of three groups of essays: historical ones (Szydlowski, Soroka, and Wasiutynski), those dealing with the modern law of Poland, mainly enacted between the wars (Helczynski, Chrypinski, Kos-Rabcewicz-Zubkowski, Piekalkiewicz, Wagner, and Szawlowski), and those dealing with Polish contributions to legal theory (Wagner, Langrod and Vaughan, Coleman, Haight, and Fedynskyj). The book opens with a brief introduction by the editor.

The importance of this volume for students of Poland's past and present can hardly be exaggerated. As well as being a valuable contribution to the history of Polish legal institutions, it demonstrates that despite more than a century of the forcible incorporation of Polish provinces into alien political organisms, Polish lawyers were able to rely upon a common legal tradition to reconstruct a legal system that drew from the heritage of the ages. It is also a record of names of illustrious jurists who in various walks of life contributed to the survival of the people as a separate cultural entity.

An extensive list of Polish books recommends this volume as an important bibliographical tool for scholars and librarians. The editor and authors of individual essays are to be congratulated for their efforts.

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THE RUSSIAN COLONIZATION OF KAZAKHSTAN, 1896–1916. By *George J. Demko*. Uralic and Altaic Series, vol. 99. Bloomington: Indiana University Publications. The Hague: Mouton, 1969. xxv, 271 pp. $9.50, paper.

In 208 pages of text, of which nearly half consists of maps and statistical tables, the author reviews the chief aspects of Russian settlement in Kazakhstan, and attempts incidentally to derive from it—for the comparative history of migrations—theoretical lessons. A brief historical and geographical overview is the aim of the first part, which traces the chief stages of Russian penetration. There follows in the second part the depiction of the peasant immigration properly so called, for which the author strives to draw up in the third part—the fullest and most detailed—an agricultural, economic, and human balance sheet. A brief conclusion is followed by statistical tables, notes, and a rather uneven bibliography. The work is embellished by numerous (about fifty) climatic, ethnographic, or economic maps and charts, well drawn to show the changes visible in some twenty years in the life of the natives or the composition of the population. It is in this precise, detailed, and suggestive documentation that the chief interest of the work lies.

Let us pass quickly over the rare errors which do not affect the value of the work: the emancipation of the serfs did not take place in 1864 (p. 52); the Resettlement Act dates not from 1899 (p. 58) but 1889; the scouts (*khodoki*) had ceased by the end of the century to be in the majority—if they had ever been!—professionals (p. 239), because of the advantages granted familial or semifamilial scouts since the construction of the Trans-Siberian Railway. These are minor oversights.

In general the book is less a new and original study than an honest and conscientious synthesis of data already, though far from widely, known. Even though the author chose to neglect the problem of relations between the Muslim natives, herdsmen and nomads, and the Orthodox peasants, cultivators through and through,

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it was still difficult for him to contain within a hundred or so pages an assessment of a colonization which itself constitutes only a part of a much broader movement, with which he seems only imperfectly familiar. Moreover, the work is given a form less historical and human than statistical and geographical, and sometimes leaves the reader hungry for more.

Likewise the theoretical reflections (pp. 67–74) of Mr. Demko on the "model" of migration to Kazakhstan, showing lack of sufficient familiarity with the Russian past, leave the reader skeptical. For example, could not the relative predominance of the trans-Volgan peasants in Kazakhstan, which perplexes the author, be explained—without even mentioning climatic and pedological similarities of the two regions—by the pioneer traditions of these provinces where the population was yet far from stabilized? One may also regret that the author contented himself with data, unavoidably incomplete, from the census of 1926. Is there really no more thorough sampling to be found among all the statistical surveys of the last years of tsarism? And must any comparison with the rest of Siberia as regards the place of origin of the migrants be avoided? But this would have obliged the author to extend his investigation and also his bibliography, which regrettably lacks any publication of the Siberian filial of the Imperial Academy of Geography and many articles from prerevolutionary journals, which would have permitted him to diversify his references with good results. In sum, Mr. Demko has performed a useful task, even if his work does not keep all its promises; it provides a convenient and manageable springboard for further research.

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CITIES OF THE SOVIET UNION: STUDIES IN THEIR FUNCTIONS, SIZE, DENSITY, AND GROWTH. By *Chauncy D. Harris*. Chicago: Rand McNally, 1970. xxviii, 484 pp. $9.95.

Over the last decade or so the typical Russian—previously a peasant—has become an urbanite, and the metamorphosis continues. Among other things, this process has created a significant geographical pattern, and this book is the most comprehensive and accurate analysis of that pattern yet to appear in English, probably in any language. Professor Harris was undoubtedly the man to tackle this assignment. Over a quarter-century ago he published a pioneering attempt at a functional classification of Soviet cities—previously neglected by the Soviet geographers themselves—and then spent much time in the Soviet Union making an exhaustive study of subsequent work done by Soviet and other urban geographers. The bibliography of this work, running to over a thousand items, is a major achievement in itself, and there is a very useful chapter which assesses, with considerable courtesy, postwar Soviet research on their own cities.

Harris's concern throughout is to analyze the dynamics of the urbanization process in a spatial context, focusing on such matters as the relative population size hierarchies of some twelve hundred Soviet cities, their functions (economic and administrative), accessibility, growth rates, and so on. Thus, although he goes back as far as the early nineteenth century and also considers individual cities to a degree, his basic material—largely from the censuses and other population estimates—is deliberately limited to what is amenable to statistical analysis. He applies theories developed in the West, such as Central Place Theory, and statistical

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