

The coverage is broad, as may be seen from the topics the book treats in its eight chapters. The introductory section deals with the history of social insurance in Russia before the 1917 Revolution. Then follows an analysis of the pre-1917 program of social insurance reform considered by the Provisional Government. The program of the Soviet government in regard to social insurance is presented next and is followed by a careful treatment of the development of health, accident, and unemployment insurance before 1919. Finally, Schwarz discusses how a centralized system of "social security" was promulgated by the Bolsheviks.

The student of the particular period will find accurate and detailed information that goes beyond the problem of social insurance in Russia and casts light on the social mechanics of the Russian Revolution itself. Policy and legislative problems are raised, the literature is surveyed, and, above all, the development of Menshevik and Bolshevik thought concerning social insurance in Russia is clearly stated and analyzed. This reviewer agrees with Schwarz's interpretations and believes the book will make a considerable contribution to the understanding of social insurance in Russia.

One objection to the book is that no index or bibliography is given. Otherwise it is an informative and very useful book.

LUBOMYR M. KOWAL
University of Michigan at Flint

LABOUR DISPUTES IN SOVIET RUSSIA, 1957–1965. By *Mary McAuley*.
Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1969. viii, 269 pp. \$6.75.

This book, which is restricted to the study of disputes at the industrial enterprise, is a revised version of a doctoral thesis submitted to Oxford University, and is based primarily on the author's research of about a year and a half in the USSR, especially in Leningrad, where she spent a year studying labor law at the University of Leningrad. Despite an extensive bibliography of seven pages (more than six of which list Russian-language publications), the author regrets the unavailability of empirical data and states that the book "is more a case-study than a complete treatment; an example of what can be done with the materials at present available."

The bulk of the book—as distinct from the historical labor and economic background—is concerned with a discussion of what, by Western standards, are minor disputes between individuals and management over the legal rights of the employee; for example, an employee may claim that he was illegally discharged, that his job should be classified in a higher wage category, that he was underpaid for overtime, or that his annual vacation should be given him in the summer. Wage rates, salaries, and hours of work are set by law and are not subject to dispute. Soviet trade unions do not call strikes, and should a "wildcat" strike occur in a state enterprise it would be considered an activity hostile to the state and severely suppressed. When a trade union local has what the author calls a "policy dispute" with the management concerning wages, conditions of work, or trade union rights, the dispute is always settled by joint consultation between the higher state-management and union bodies, where Communist Party policy is decisive.

When management refuses to grant the demands of an aggrieved employee, demands which have been presented by him directly (usually with the assistance of his trade union representative), the case may be taken to the shop or factory com-

mission on labor disputes (which is composed of an equal number of representatives of the workers and of management). If the employee objects to the decision of the commission, he may appeal to the factory committee (of which the commission is a subordinate unit) and, after that, to a public court. Management can also take the case to a public court if it considers the decision of the factory committee to be illegal. Members of certain occupational groups (including management personnel) can have their disputes settled only by arbitration by the higher administrative organs.

The author found it "a frustrating and dissatisfying experience" to try to reconcile the conflicting Soviet and Western descriptions of the effectiveness of Soviet trade unions in protecting workers' rights, because of the absence of collected relevant data on Soviet practice. She states that on the one hand the general Soviet position is that there are not and cannot be opposing interests between the administration and the workers, and that on the other, "the most common Western position suggests that a dissatisfied labor force is unable to control or influence conditions of work in the absence of independent trade unions."

The fact that, following former party leader Khrushchev's promise, the Soviet trade unions have in recent years been assigned more administrative duties does not necessarily indicate that they have achieved greater independence. It would appear that the regime has decided merely to pass on gradually to the huge trade union apparatus, with its many millions of volunteer unpaid workers, certain administrative (mainly watchdog) functions, with the primary purpose of increasing production.

EDMUND NASH

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor

ENERGETICHESKIE RESURSY SSSR. Akademiia nauk SSSR. Vol. 1: GIDROENERGETICHESKIE RESURSY. Edited by *A. N. Voznesensky*. Moscow: "Nauka," 1967. 599 pp. Maps. \$8.50. Vol. 2: TOPLIVO-ENERGETICHESKIE RESURSY. Edited by *N. V. Melnikov*. Moscow: "Nauka," 1968. 632 pp. Maps. \$8.50.

This publication reflects the interest of the Soviet Union in her energy resource base and its periodical reappraisal in the light of expanding scientific and technological knowledge as well as changing economic goals. Thus as early as the 1920s a special Commission for the Study of Natural Production Forces (KEPS) examined the economic potential of the Soviet hydro resources, laying down a foundation for an Atlas of the USSR energy resources, which was published in 1933-34. Later, in 1937-38, the Academy Energy Institute published the first comprehensive two-volume report on *Energeticheskie resursy SSSR*.

After World War II the reappraisal of Soviet energy resources was renewed. By 1967 a special Editorial Committee, a prestigious group of scientists and scholars including the Academicians V. A. Kirillin (vice-president of the Academy and chairman of the State Committee on Science and Technology), N. V. Melnikov, the late V. C. Nemchinov, and others, was ready to release the first part of the work in which the foremost Soviet experts in the energy field had participated.

The first volume is devoted to an evaluation of the Soviet surface water resources and their utilization. Its editor, A. N. Voznesensky, directed the initial