

VVEDENIE V PROMYSHLENNUIU SOTSIOLOGIIU (SOTSIAL'NYE PROBLEMY SOTSIALISTICHESKOGO PROMYSHLENNOGO PROIZVODSTVA). By *V. G. Podmarkov*. Moscow: "Mysl'," 1973. 318 pp. 1.26 rubles.

This book is an introduction to industrial sociology, defined (p. 15) as the study of an enterprise as a social system which interrelates different individuals and departments. A merit of the work is that Podmarkov is not as concerned with criticizing American industrial sociology as he is in reporting on writing and research in the Soviet Union. Moreover, he does not hesitate to mention problems in Soviet enterprises—for example, the case of workers in Perm who expressed open dissatisfaction with their jobs.

Several introductory chapters deal with concepts of work that industrial sociologists have applied to Soviet industry. Next there are chapters covering the structure of particular enterprises and the function of their leaders. Problems of planning are discussed and, as is traditional in Soviet research, the question of leisure time. The concluding chapters deal with sociological research and methodology. An appendix of twenty-five pages describes particular jobs and their roles in the enterprise. In most chapters the author begins with a discussion of technology (that is, machines) and then proceeds to examine economic and social considerations.

In a comparison of the United States and the USSR, the book states that the average number of employees in an American enterprise is about 50, and in the Soviet Union about 560. In 1970, it is reported, 48 percent of all employees in the Soviet Union were women. One learns that the Soviet Union starts three hundred to four hundred new production units each year (p. 91). The Soviet researchers also note that it is not an infrequent occurrence for employees to bypass an immediate supervisor to complain to a top official. When employees evaluate their positions in a factory, their answers are classified as "objective" or "subjective." It appears that the subjective variables, or reports on relations between persons, are gaining greater recognition in Soviet research.

Soviet researchers are just beginning to report on certain difficulties in their industrial organization—for example, the criteria for assigning workers to their particular duties. This problem is listed as most important by Russian employees, whereas the quality of the work produced is ranked fifth by foremen in their evaluations. Since the quality of production is apparently being stressed in the Soviet Union, the foremen can be expected to change their evaluation.

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GOVERNING SOVIET CITIES: BUREAUCRATIC POLITICS AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN THE USSR. By *William Taubman*. Praeger Special Studies in International Economics and Development. New York, Washington, London: Praeger Publishers, 1973. xvii, 167 pp. \$15.00.

This slim volume, an expansion of a doctoral dissertation researched in part in the Soviet Union, focuses on Soviet city politics as bureaucratic politics, for the period 1958–69. The author draws upon the experience of a score of Soviet cities of varying size to develop the thesis, "The Soviet governmental system—in a sense a