

The index is regrettably meager for a reference book. Obviously all authors and titles could not be included for books mentioned, because the object of the volume is a presentation of characteristic profiles rather than exhaustive bibliographies of holdings. However, more extensive indexing of the names of manuscript collections (those included are only selective) and individuals whose personal papers are mentioned in the text would benefit researchers, as would a more detailed and localized breakdown of subjects and geographic references.

Obviously, a reference volume of this broad scope and format cannot provide anything more than an overview. Mention of some of the limitations should not overshadow its significant contribution as an introductory handbook for research in the field. Most important, it should not be considered an end product. The commendable joint efforts that went into its preparation should continue and ideally result in further bibliographical and union-catalog-type aids for published books as well as descriptions of many lesser-known archival riches. America has vast resources relating to East Central and Southeast Europe. Further efforts are needed, however, to make these holdings known and more readily accessible to the research public, if study of these areas is to receive the increased attention it deserves.

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SLAVIC AND EAST EUROPEAN RESOURCES IN CANADIAN ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH LIBRARIES. By *Bohdan Budurowycz*. Research Collections in Canadian Libraries, vol. 4. Ottawa: National Library of Canada, 1976. xvi, 595 pp. Paper.

Professor Budurowycz's book represents a collective effort of Slavic and East European area specialists in Canada; it is intended as a guide to Slavic and East European resources in Canadian libraries for scholars, students, and librarians. The primary purpose of the book is to report on the extent of the existing research collections, and to draw recommendations for a well-planned and coordinated national collection policy. The survey gives a detailed descriptive analysis of Slavic and East European resources in each of the fifty academic and seventeen specialized libraries in ten Canadian provinces. It analyzes the holdings (including printed materials, microforms, and manuscripts) for all the disciplines in the humanities and social sciences in all languages originating or dealing with the following countries: Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Rumania, the USSR (including the Baltic countries), and Yugoslavia.

Both parts of the volume, the descriptive and analytical survey of each individual collection (pp. 5-480), and the comprehensive comparative evaluation, which also offers recommendations (pp. 481-523), will be of special benefit to Slavic librarians. The information presented here should enable them to concentrate more efficiently on their own collection development. Especially timely and appropriate are Professor Budurowycz's recommendations to improve collections on a selective basis rather than wasting energy and funds by simultaneously overextending resources in too many directions; to combine efforts with a "greater degree of consultation, cooperation and coordination among libraries in the same geographical area"; to select the best method of acquisitions for each library; to promote collective acquisitions of retrospective materials, journals, and microforms; to share the services of a single area specialist in the same geographical area; and to make efficient use of all existing resources in individual areas (public libraries, ethnic collections). Some major research and academic libraries in the United States have already taken concrete steps in this direction by forming consortia. The Canadian institutions will now probably welcome Professor Budurowycz's advice to do likewise.

The book has a very good technical apparatus, including appendixes, which tabulate total Slavic and East European holdings in Canadian libraries and the holdings for individual disciplines by nationalities, a list of contributors, a good bibliography, and an excellent subject index. With this survey, Professor Budurowycz and his associates add a valuable reference guide to Slavic and East European collections in North America.

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DDR HANDBUCH. Edited by *Peter Christian Ludz*, with the cooperation of *Johannes Kuppe*. Published under the auspices of the Bundesministerium für innerdeutsche Beziehungen. Cologne: Verlag Wissenschaft und Politik, 1975. xvi, 992 pp. DM 29.50, paper.

Peter Christian Ludz and his colleagues have done students of the German Democratic Republic (GDR)—and of German politics generally—a great service in compiling the *DDR Handbuch*. Essentially this volume is an updated and expanded version of *A-Z—Ein Taschen- und Nachschlagebuch über den anderen Teil Deutschlands*, published by the Ministry for Intra-German Affairs in 1969. The *DDR Handbuch* is impressive: nearly one thousand pages, more than two thousand entries, eighty subject articles, and many tables and graphs. It is clear that a great deal of work and much care went into this mini-encyclopedia on the GDR.

What does the user benefit from the *DDR Handbuch*? First of all, those not familiar with the GDR—and their numbers are legion among students of both Eastern and Western Europe—will find a splendidly organized introduction to all major aspects of the politics, economy, history, foreign policy, society, and legal system of the GDR. The entries and articles will not make one an instant expert, but do supply much useful information. Second, the *DDR Handbuch* has an excellent system of cross references. Although I am sure many would prefer an index, this internal reference system is very good and helpful—again especially for the newcomer to the GDR. The third benefit to the user is a good bibliography. Major works and reference sources are incorporated in the bibliographical section and, although these materials are not directly referenced to the entries, it is relatively easy to find what one is looking for. Finally, the perspective of *Selbstdarstellung* (self-presentation), adopted by the Ludz team, allows the user to see the GDR in its own terms. This avoids some of the cold war chill felt earlier in government-sponsored West German studies of the GDR.

It is on this point of perspective that I must enter one or two caveats. The view in the *DDR Handbuch* is quite naturally one from the Federal Republic. At the risk of sounding chauvinistic, I suggest that the West German perspective should not be accepted uncritically and that we should develop our own informed “U.S. viewpoints” concerning the GDR.

The volume is also flawed by the omission of biographical data. The recent publication of a major biographical index of the GDR was given as the reason for the missing biographies, but the general user would have been grateful for the inclusion of some of the major GDR personalities.

Any undertaking of the scope and size of the *DDR Handbuch* is a nitpicker's paradise. I shall resist the reviewer's temptation to score “points” at the expense of what is an eminently useful and reliable compendium on a (still) relatively unknown country.

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