454 Slavic Review

A KASHUBIAN IDIOLECT IN THE UNITED STATES. By Jan Louis Perkowski. Indiana University Publications, Language Science Monographs, vol. 2. Bloomington: Indiana University. The Hague: Mouton, 1969. 371 pp. \$10.00, paper.

Kashubian is a West Slavic language or a vernacular closely related to Polish or a Polish dialect, depending upon the observer's point of view. At any rate it is spoken by some two hundred thousand people in northern Poland in an area close to Gdańsk (Danzig) on the Baltic Sea. As one of Günter Grass's Kashubian characters points out in a quotation used by Perkowski as an epigraph, "We're not real Poles and we're not real Germans and if you're a Kashub, you're not good enough for the Germans or the Polacks." However, like real Germans and real Poles, the Kashubs also came to America, and so many of their small number settled in Minnesota that the small town of Winona (southeast of Minneapolis) became known as "the Kashubian capital of America" (p. 2).

Kashubian-speaking Americans are now rare in that city, so it was necessary for Perkowski to trail two former Winonans to the small town of Greenbush in northern Minnesota. There, in 1963, he recorded a sizable corpus of the speech of Steven Stanislawski, a retired farmer, supplemented by samples from the speech of Steven's brother Peter. The analysis of Steven's speech was presented in Perkowski's Harvard dissertation of 1964, and the present book is presumably an edited version of the dissertation.

In all, Perkowski has done an admirable job: he is very frank about the difficulties of disentangling the Kashubian core from layers of Polish, German, and English; he presents an abundance of material (over 150 pages are given over to an item-by-item listing of forms appearing in the corpus); his analysis is persuasive, and for the Slavist whose Kashubian is shaky (the typical Slavist) he offers in an appendix a summary of Polish and Kashubian isoglosses; his bibliography is a valuable listing of Kashubian books and articles along with their locations in United States libraries. A reviewer could dispute many points in Perkowski's work, but the disputes would represent minor caveats, hardly detracting from the overall excellence of the book. This analysis of Steven's Kashubian speech will gain additional value when, as one hopes, it becomes part of a larger mosaic of descriptions of American Kashubian and Polish idiolects. It is thus to be hoped that Perkowski's fine example will stimulate graduate students and scholars in the Slavic field to concern themselves with the rapidly disappearing New World Slavic dialects.

THOMAS F. MAGNER
The Pennsylvania State University

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF WORKS IN ENGLISH ON EARLY RUSSIAN HISTORY TO 1800. Compiled by *Peter A. Crowther*. New York: Barnes & Noble, 1969. xviii, 236 pp. \$9.50.

In this welcome bibliography 2,164 entries are organized under twenty major divisions (plus addenda through 1968): bibliography, historiography, general works, early Slavs, general history, foreign relations, law and institutions, social and economic history, archaeology, anthropology, folklore, civilization, religion, education, the arts, language and literature, military history, naval history, regional history, and contemporary accounts. Each section is rationally subdivided and