

heim, with its mere ten thousand inhabitants. Nevertheless, no answer is supplied to the problem of what conditions bred attitudes that allowed Nazism to seize power in Gdańsk with relatively more votes in the elections of 1935 than the party gained in Germany itself in March 1933.

Relatively little space is devoted to conflicts based on nationality. The fate of the Jewish community has been chronicled by Erwin Lichtenstein, whose work (*Die Juden der Freien Stadt Danzig unter der Herrschaft des Nationalsozialismus*, Tübingen, 1973, 243 pp.) appeared almost simultaneously with Levine's study. Lichtenstein's work is both exhaustive and instructive, and the two books complement each other. But the history of the Polish community in Gdańsk still remains to be told. In Levine's work it is of marginal importance as a mere background to the Nazi excesses. In certain matters, however (the port, the post office, and the Gdańsk Polytechnic), the Poles played a disproportionately large role in relation to their numbers, and this had a direct effect on the activities of the Nazi organizations. Although Professor Levine's study undoubtedly makes available many new facts and interpretations, it would seem that there is still considerable room for research in this field.

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THE WARSAW RISING OF 1944. By *Jan M. Ciechanowski*. Soviet and East European Studies. New York and London: Cambridge University Press, 1974. xii, 332 pp. \$19.50.

This work, a revised version of the author's Polish edition (1971), is an excellent piece of research, richly informative, and timely.

The author is preoccupied with why the Polish underground Home Army took it upon itself to liberate Warsaw shortly before the Russians entered the capital, even though it was so lacking in troops and ammunition. He is also puzzled that the approaching Russians were not informed, and wonders why, on the other hand, the Red Army failed to take the Polish capital at the beginning of August 1944, as Stalin promised and as the Polish commander in chief of the Home Army, General Bor-Komorowski, anticipated.

The author examines in detail the political, diplomatic, ideological, and military background of the rising, and the events and decisions which preceded it, in the first three chapters. Then he traces Polish politics, strategy, and diplomacy during the whole of the Second World War, to show the activities of the exiled Government in London and the underground movement at home, and to reveal relations between Polish Communists and nationals, which became a crucial point, especially when after Stalingrad (1943) and the Teheran Conference it became clear that Poland would be liberated by the Russians. The crux of the matter appears in the last three chapters, with the details of the insurrectionary operations conducted by the Polish Home Army east of the city in the spring and summer of 1944, and of the attempts and various operations to influence the Poles' determination to fight for their capital.

The author attempts to be objective, although he has a tendency to side with the Russians. It would seem that he fails to see the Poles' hatred of Russians from the historical perspective, which perhaps led Polish nationals to be extremely cautious in any dealings with the Russians. All in all, the author's painstaking and

detailed account should be greatly appreciated, since it corrects several previous biased versions. His effort to base the book on primary sources and interviews with eyewitness participants, and reviews of extensive bibliographical accounts, makes it more valuable.

Since the Russian sources are inaccessible, this account relies heavily on Polish materials, but is comprehensive enough to be reliable. The book is well annotated and has a detailed index. It can be read with confidence and great benefit by general readers and students, as well as historians.

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DĚLNICKÉ HNUTÍ V ČESKÝCH ZEMÍCH DO ROKU 1918. By *Eva Myšková*. Prague: Státní pedagogické nakladatelství, 1973. 107 pp. Kčs. 8, paper.

This book, a short survey of Czech history from 1848 to 1918 with emphasis on the labor and socialist movement, presents neither new concepts nor unknown facts. The book is, however, an important document. As one of the official handbooks on Marxism, approved by the Prague Ministry of Education for Czech Universities, it indicates the possibilities and limitations of historical writing in a country occupied for five years by the Soviet army.

The book's description of a key era in modern Czech history concretely and concisely indicates the degree to which the new leadership in Czechoslovakia finds it necessary to adapt historiography to contemporary political needs. In this regard, the omission of the thesis about the causal relation between the Russian Revolution and the origin of Czechoslovakia is the first pleasant surprise. The slogan, "Without the Russian Revolution of 1917 it would never have been Czechoslovakia of 1918," coined in the public communications media in 1950, became for more than a decade a must for all textbooks and surveys of modern Czechoslovak history, and the starting point for many publications and theses.

Other omissions, however, are of a different kind. This holds true particularly of Masaryk's role in the birth of the Czechoslovak republic. The omission of the names from the bibliographical notes of all Czech historians of the labor and socialist movement who were active in Dubček's Prague Spring is typical of present-day historiography in Czechoslovakia.

The most significant flaw lies in the account of the Czech national movement, which the author has described in hackneyed phrases. The analysis of the national problems in the early phases of the Czech socialist movement is faulty. The fact that the Marxist and international orientation of J. B. Pecka's and L. Zápotocký's faction was defeated during the first Congress of the Czech Social Democrats in 1878 is completely distorted. This misrepresentation has traditionally appeared in almost all studies devoted to the history of the Czech socialist movement published in recent decades. It has sprung presumably not only from political opportunism but also from an erroneous and superficial interpretation of documents.

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