

Regrettably, the author's analysis of integration suffers from many shortcomings. Semantic attacks on the meaning of various concepts of integration and related ideas advanced by East European writers, the absence of a clear-cut concept of integration in terms of which one can evaluate the progress, or lack thereof, toward integration within the CMEA countries, failure to define at least a range of *net* potential benefits which CMEA countries might derive from a greater degree of integration, the condemnation of economic planners who prefer preservation of political independence or separateness and autarkic growth strategy for their respective countries to integration, and the advocacy of forced integration by the leading member of CMEA—all detract from the usefulness of this volume.

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TECHNOLOGY IN COMECON: ACCELERATION OF TECHNOLOGICAL PROGRESS THROUGH ECONOMIC PLANNING AND THE MARKET. By J. Wilczynski. New York: Praeger Publishers, 1974. xviii, 379 pp. Tables. Diagrams. \$22.50.

Professor Wilczynski's new book is crammed with information, including fifty-nine tables and eight diagrams, about technology in countries belonging to Comecon (excluding Cuba), and seen primarily from the viewpoint of an economist rather than a technologist. (For instance, figures such as ownership of television sets, indicating the relative position of Comecon countries on a world scale, characterize levels of economic rather than technical development.) The author has read extensively in the regional literature but seems less familiar with, or interested in, Western analyses: the footnotes (there is no bibliography) do not include Granick or Sutton. The twelve chapters focus on particular sectors of economy or technology, international cooperation, and ideological-technological aspects, and there is an attempt to equalize the space devoted to the various countries.

The book will be useful mainly for reference, and possibly as a textbook for a not readily identifiable course. Methodologically, it effects no advance—in a field which especially needs methodological advances. The factual details, not all of which are particularly relevant, provide background against which the capability of planning, or the market, to accelerate technological progress may be considered, but the question of which system has the greater capability is not resolved. Indeed, chapter 10 does not demonstrate that “in most fields the Comecon countries are well below Western technological standards” (as claimed on p. 296), although that may well be a true assessment. The final five pages of the book examine how scientific and technical progress can contribute to achieving the ideals of full communism, but this ambitious attempt within so brief a space is inevitably a failure. Although a properly critical approach is always applied to the material, as if in compensation, generalizing passages occasionally seem to be lifted from standard socialist texts (for example, p. 349, lines 18–21), or are somewhat sweeping. Inaccuracies are very few, but the USSR is given sixteen republics (p. 145), while an increase of 300 percent would correspond to a multiplication of *four* times (pp. 24 and 28).

Despite these shortcomings, this is a valuable and timely multipurpose compilation.

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