

bought land, and became speculators, progressive entrepreneurs (one became a miller who early modernized his mill through the use of steam power), administrators, and politicians. We see how they adjusted to their neighbors—Ukrainians, Russians, and Jews whom they befriended, and how these people reacted to them. They were generally friendly relationships, despite a certain amount of jealousy manifested toward the capable, enterprising, industrious newcomers. Indeed, eventually the enterprising spirit of the Arndts and other German immigrants was transferred to the native peoples, just as native ways impressed themselves upon the Germans. Thus a leveling process was brought about, speeded up by the Russification of the Arndts, their intermarriages, the conversion of many to Orthodoxy, and their use of the Russian language even at home. The Revolution hit the Arndts hard, but their attachment to the country and their ability and progressive attitudes made it possible for most to adjust and for some to serve the new state with distinction (the son of close friends of theirs of German origin, Sviatoslav Richter, is the famous Soviet pianist). Only Hitler's insane policies put an end to the fruitful connection which had been established.

The author seems to have inherited much of the sympathetic and generous view of life of his ancestors as he describes them, and thus the positive side in the history of the Arndts in Russia is accentuated. He is critical of the tsarist government and its officials, and he makes interesting remarks about difficulties that arose, not so long as the Arndts remained German, but when they became integrated, and thereby distinctions disappeared and competition on an equal level resulted. It is the description of such sidelights and of the innumerable details and events in daily life that adds an important dimension to our view of a number of Russian social developments.

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MONGOLIA: A PROFILE. By *Victor P. Petrov*. Praeger Country Profiles. New York, Washington, London: Praeger Publishers, 1970. vi, 179 pp. 5 maps. 8 pp. of photographs. \$7.50.

The book under review gives general information about the nature, population, political system, economy, and history of that part of Mongolia which, since 1924, has been known as the Mongolian People's Republic, after it had been called Outer Mongolia for almost three hundred years. It can be recommended to general readers and, as an introduction to Mongolian studies, to university students. The book is, in general, good, although criticism is justified regarding the historical part (pp. 21–51). The author divides the history of Mongolia into the periods of Genghis Khan, from him to Tamerlane, and from Tamerlane to Red Mongolia. The events in Tamerlane's empire and in the Golden Horde had no influence on the history of what later became Outer Mongolia. Instead, more details should have been given with regard to the events in Ming China, the rise of the Manchus, their conquests, and their rule over Mongolia. A brief but useful bibliography is supplied to which C. R. Bawden's excellent *Modern History of Mongolia* (London and New York, 1968) and A. J. K. Sanders, *The People's Republic of Mongolia: A General Reference Guide* (London and New York, 1968) should be added. An index of place names, people, and authors concludes the book.

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