

VOPROSY ISTORII: SUBJECT INDEX, 1945–1975, 3 vols. Compiled by *Angelika Schmiegelow Powell*. Nendeln, West Germany: KTO Press, 1977. 1168 pp. S.fr. 432.

VOPROSY ISTORII: AUTHOR INDEX, 1945–1975. Compiled by *Angelika Schmiegelow Powell*. Nendeln, West Germany: KTO Press, 1977. x, 460 pp. S.fr. 144.

ISTORICHESKIE ZAPISKI: CUMULATIVE INDEX (AUTHOR AND SUBJECT), VOLUMES 1–90: 1937–1972. Compiled by *Angelika Schmiegelow Powell*. Nendeln, West Germany: KTO Press, 1976. viii, 103 pp. S.fr. 54.

Some years ago a colleague of mine was hospitalized and forbidden to work. Deprived of his regular research materials in medieval history, he turned to the local telephone directory and conceived a sociological analysis of Madison. This story comes back to me as I leaf through these volumes. An index can tell us much more than just where to walk for this or that.

The subject index of *Voprosy istorii*, for example, contains almost four pages devoted to items by or about Stalin, but only one dates from after 1954. Neither Khrushchev nor Brezhnev is listed, but there are several entries for J. F. Kennedy and even one listing for “Kennedy clan—history.” References to the peasantry, peasant movements, and peasant uprisings take up almost sixteen pages. Less than four pages are devoted to World War I, and almost eighteen to World War II. For workers one is referred to “Labor and laboring classes,” comprising twenty-one pages with an additional five on “Labor movements.” The index to *Istoricheskie zapiski* tells somewhat the same story, although, significantly, there is proportionately much less on Stalin and nothing on the Kennedys.

The volumes generally use the Library of Congress classification system, and one finds a topic often refined with two narrower definitions, for example, “Labor and Laboring Class—USSR—Leningrad” or “History—Soviet Historiography—Conference December 1961.” The author sections are printed in Russian, the subject sections in English. My students find the volumes most useful, and I can only express gratitude for the labor that I know must have gone into this project.

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SOVIET FOREIGN POLICY: ITS SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS.

Edited by *Egbert Jahn*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1978 [1976]. 160 pp. \$16.95.

Interpreting Soviet foreign policy is more often an exercise in examining birds' entrails than in “political science,” so difficult is it to penetrate the wall of official silence and of Soviet explanations that tell nothing of why and how decisions are made. Part of the problem, as Professor Jahn avers in the introduction to this series of essays, lies in the inadequate or mistaken approach of Western analysts, who have not worked out a well-developed theory of Soviet society whereby the international strategy of the Soviet Union can be related to its social and economic structure. Beyond outlining four approaches, however, and indicating some paths a differential analysis should pursue, Jahn does not delve much further into the subject. This task is left to the other contributors, who do not choose to follow his outline but nevertheless have something of interest to say.

Apart from a tenuously related case study of Khrushchev's decision in 1960 to reduce the armed forces, the remaining essays are remarkably similar in argumentation, although some authors are Marxist in their thinking and others are not. The contributors disagree on matters such as which phenomena in the Soviet system are