

as the critical importance of the "conscious" political act in contrast to the phenomenon of "spontaneity" in revolutions.

In the search for a firmer scheme of periodization, priority was given to the origins of capitalism in Russia. From the Marxist point of view the mandate was to find the dividing line between the characteristically forced labor of feudal times and the wage labor of the newer capitalist era. From the nationalistic point of view the mandate was to find capital accumulation and capitalist forms and processes that were indigenous, and not Western imports, and to find them earlier in Russian history than heretofore. This led to a sophisticated analysis of past social structures, a search for evidence of classes and class conflicts, a look at manufactures and labor, and evaluations of the various phenomena associated with the superstructure—ideology, art, politics, the state structure. Bakanov, Bak, Druzhinin, Sidorov, Iakovlev, Smirnov, Borisov, Rubinshtein, Strumilin, and many others had their day in court. Arguments from history, economics, statistics, sociology, and logic were compounded nearly endlessly. Considerable consensus ultimately emerged that the mid-eighteenth century contained all the important elements of an incipient capitalistic *uklad*, with Druzhinin and A. Borisov favoring the 1760s. Others, such as S. G. Strumilin, argued cogently for an earlier period, at least to the era of Peter the Great.

Rosenfeldt's analysis of the arguments in the great debate and his clear delineation of criteria used by Soviet scholars in evaluating historical data provide an excellent insight into the art, science, and politics of historical studies in the USSR. It is a pity the book was not published in a more widely read West European language.

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DZIEJE ROSJI, 1533–1801. By *Zbigniew Wójcik*. Warsaw: Państwowe Wydawnictwo Naukowe, 1971. 396 pp. 85 zł.

This volume attempts to survey the history of Russia from Ivan the Terrible to Alexander I. Obviously a work of under four hundred pages encompassing two hundred sixty-eight years of turbulent events can neither be exhaustive nor abound in startling revelations. Each of the fifteen chapters (grouped into four parts), however, is well written, each has been well researched, each covers a wide range of topics dealing with foreign and domestic policies, and each contains a fair amount of useful information (factual and interpretative).

As might be expected of a work of this scope, one is bound to find both strengths and shortcomings, depending on one's knowledge and preference. The strongest feature of the volume is its clarity, especially to be noted in Wójcik's analysis of Russia's relations with Poland, in his treatment of the Cossack movement, and in his examination of the motives behind the Russian drive to the west and south. This is not surprising. Wójcik is very familiar with these complex problems, having earlier written a monograph on events leading to the Treaty of Andrusovo, another on post-Andrusovo developments, and a third on the Cossacks.

Wójcik's treatment of Russian expansion to the east is something else. This is clearly reflected in the amount of space allotted and in the literature cited. He has omitted, for example, the works by Golder, Kerner, Fisher, Lantzeff, and Gibson. This omission is regrettable because these works are considered basic; it is

puzzling because Wójcik shows considerable familiarity with the literature, and his bibliography lists not only Russian and Polish sources but a number of studies by Western scholars (German, English, and American). Still, the neglect of Siberia is inexcusable on at least two grounds: that vast region is *tozhe russkaia zemlia*, and it played a vital and many-sided role in Russian history during the years under consideration. In addition, Wójcik has overstated the revolutionary cause. This reviewer cannot agree with the contention that the eighteenth century was the century of Radishchev. Though it is the accepted view of Radishchev in Soviet historiography, and may be good politics, it has no place in sound scholarship.

Notwithstanding these and a few lesser shortcomings, Wójcik has produced for Polish students a useful summary of Russian history from Ivan the Terrible to Alexander I. He has further enhanced its usefulness by including sixty appropriate illustrations, six maps, a reasonably good bibliography, and a lengthy index.

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SYBERYJSKIE SZLAKI. By *Antoni Kuczyński*. Wrocław: Ossolineum, 1972. 471 pp. 50 zł., paper.

In the past, many a Pole came to view Siberia as a second fatherland. From the 1630s to the early twentieth century, thousands of Poles found themselves uprooted from their homeland and banished to Siberia. Now, after a half-century of Polish independence, Antoni Kuczyński seeks to remind his compatriots of the close ties that Poles of past generations maintained with Siberia. More specifically, he describes the "Siberian trailways" which many of them fashioned—their oft-forgotten but noteworthy exploratory, literary, and scholarly accomplishments.

By way of introduction the author presents a lengthy, rambling *mélange* of Siberian history, geography, and ethnography. This is followed by roughly thirty very interesting sketches of the book's "heroes and heroines": from the exiled Nicefor Czernichowski, prominent in settling the upper Amur basin in the 1660s, to Maria Antonina Czaplicka, who in 1914 left her studies in England to pursue anthropological research in Siberia. Within this framework, however, Kuczyński's chief interest, as an ethnographer and sociologist, lies in Polish commentaries on Siberian natives. With its emphasis thus on biography and ethnography, the work differs markedly from the handful of earlier studies on Poles in Siberia, which usually focus on the general problem of Polish exile.

Though Siberia afforded the major outlet for Polish exploration and research abroad until the twentieth century, there remains a lack of Western awareness of Polish achievements in this part of the world. For instance, only two of Kuczyński's protagonists, Rufin Piotrowski (who escaped exile) and Czaplicka, have had their works published in English, and only a few more of them in other non-Polish languages (chiefly Russian). Ironically, the one "Pole" perhaps best known abroad, Count Maurycy Beniowski—whose memoirs of exile, insurrection, and escape from Kamchatka in 1771 were published in three Western languages—wrote the original account in his native Hungarian. Though Beniowski's flight served to inspire restless Polish exiles for years to come, he is noticeably absent from Kuczyński's portrait gallery (despite brief mention of him as a Pole).