

task. Barker's thorough research and vast knowledge of his subject, his sound judgments and his very fine—at times even humorous—writing, make this book not only extremely valuable but also very pleasant to read. The choice of illustrations is excellent and the appendixes bring an additional wealth of information and solutions of many controversial problems.

There is no doubt whatsoever that, with John Barker's book—in spite of his modesty in stating that his book is not “intended to be an all-embracing and definitive study” (p. ix)—we have obtained a work which becomes a basic tool for any future discussion of Byzantine, Balkanic, Ottoman, and even West European history at the time of Manuel II Palaeologus.

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THE TSARDOM OF MOSCOW, 1547–1682, in 2 vols. By *George Vernadsky*. A History of Russia, vol. 5. New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 1969. xiii, 873 pp. \$20.00.

The appearance of this volume is the final step in Professor Vernadsky's contribution to the ten-volume History of Russia started in 1943 jointly by him and the late Professor Michael Karpovich. Professor Vernadsky's plan at the time was to cover the period from the beginning of Russian history to the end of the eighteenth century. It is greatly to be regretted that the author's advanced age (he was born in 1887) imposes severe physical limits on his undertaking and carrying to completion yet another volume; for few scholars have known the Russian eighteenth century as well as Professor Vernadsky. However, as it stands, his performance has been of staggering dimensions, displaying sterling knowledge, and one is bound to hail the last link in this remarkable chain with sincere admiration and gratitude.

Since the epoch treated by Professor Vernadsky was of crucial importance for Russian historical development, it is not surprising that it required so much space and attention, for the problems to be treated within those 135 years are both numerous and intricate: Ivan the Terrible's tumultuous reign and within it the arduous case of the Oprichnina, the Time of Troubles and the reconstruction of Muscovy, the evolution and the consolidation of serfdom, the Ukrainian wars and the union of the Ukraine with Moscow, the drama around Nikon and the church schism, the great territorial expansion into the “Eurasian space,” and the gradual penetration of Western culture. All this has been dealt with by Professor Vernadsky with a master's hand and very thoroughly. The exposition does not neglect any information provided by the sources and the pertinent scholarly literature. This use of Russian prerevolutionary and Soviet materials, as well as Ukrainian and Polish sources and monographs, has given the author's story a great degree of objectivity. And this work of Professor Vernadsky's is primarily a story, for his treatment of history is narrative, above all. It has been refreshing to plunge into this fascinating narrative and to be carried along with it, sometimes irresistibly. One must repeat that there is no more meaningful way of bringing the past to life than to give it the shape of a coherent and pertinent story.

Professor Vernadsky's book has been divided into seven chapters. Part 1 embraces four chapters, while part 2 contains the remaining three chapters and (as is usual in Professor Vernadsky's writings) an extensive bibliography, a glossary of Russian terms, and an index to the whole volume. There are five care-

fully prepared maps, two in part 1 and three in part 2. Chapter 1 is entitled "The Foundation of Russia's Eurasian Empire" and it is introduced, in its subsection 1, by a study on the relations between the Russians and the Tatars in the sixteenth and the seventeenth centuries. In this study Professor Vernadsky remains faithful to his lifelong Eurasian conception of Russian history. However, the great bulk of chapter 1 is not turned eastward, for it deals primarily and in great detail with the domestic policies of Ivan IV and, in external relations, with the Livonian war, although the Tatar factor is never forgotten. Much has been published recently in the Soviet Union on Ivan the Terrible's reforms and the Oprichnina. Professor Vernadsky has used this new material in his book with great skill and clarity, and has shown most vividly the tragic final failure of Ivan's policies, both external and domestic. The chapter ends with a long section on Boris Godunov's rule, analyzed in all its details as far as October 1604, when the First Pretender entered Muscovite territory. Starting in 1547, with Ivan's assumption of power, it carries the story to the very threshold of the Smuta.

The second chapter deals with the Time of Troubles, 1605–18. In Professor Vernadsky's treatment the Smuta does not end with the election of Michael Romanov to the throne of Muscovy, which customarily has been considered the final point of the *likholetie*. The period continues beyond this election as long as the foreign enemies had not granted peace to Muscovy, that is, until December 24, 1618 (O.S.) when warfare between Muscovy and Poland ceased. Upon more attentive consideration, Professor Vernadsky's chronology seems to be more logical. Chapter 2 is divided into six sections, each devoted to one stage of the Time of Troubles, the complicated pattern of which appears with perfect clarity in the author's exposition. Chapter 3 deals with the uphill work of "Reconstruction, 1619–54," thirty-five years during which Siberia provided weakened Russia with a new source of strength. Both the internal policies of consolidation, which led to the Code of Laws of 1649, and the external policies of Muscovy, which involved Poland, the Cossacks, and (in the background) Turkey with its Tatar vassal, are described and analyzed by the author in four successive sections. The last section of chapter 3 offers an illuminating analysis of the religious revival (1634–52), a prelude to the dramatic events within the Russian Orthodox Church in the decades that followed. Part 1 is concluded by chapter 4, "The Ukrainian Revolution and the Union of the Ukraine with Moscow, 1648–54," a thorough study in six sections of that important series of events on the basis of all available sources, taking into consideration the various existing interpretations of the Pereiaslav Union.

Part 2 covers the history of Muscovy from 1654 to 1682. Substantively, this is done in chapters 5 and 6 of the book, and the final chapter deals with "Rhythms of History and Aspects of Culture." Chapter 5, entitled "The Tsardom of All the Great, Little and White Russians, 1654–67," is mainly devoted in its sections 1–4 to Ukrainian history in all its aspects during this period; section 5 deals with Siberia, the Manchus, the Kalmyks, and the Bashkirs, while sections 6 and 7 treat in all its successive stages the relationship between Patriarch Nikon and Tsar Alexis. One reads this story with unabated interest. Chapter 6, called "Russia Between East and West, 1667–82," describes the Razin Uprising, the partition of the Ukraine, Russia, and the Middle East, the Siberian events during this period, Russo-Chinese relations, the church schism, and in the final (seventh) section, Russia's internal development. The last section is broadly conceived, and it sketches the picture of the institutional, military, economic, social, and educational evolution very clearly. Professor Vernadsky's story of the tsardom of Muscovy between 1547 and 1682

stresses in its last paragraph the economic progress achieved by Russia on the eve of Peter the Great's reforms.

The gist of the story has been fully told by the author at that point. Having dealt, however, only incidentally in his book with the purely cultural aspects of Muscovite history from 1547 to 1682, and, on the other hand, wishing to give a more general conclusion to the whole Russian history studied by him, Professor Vernadsky has added one more chapter of an interpretive character. This chapter combines a general philosophy of Russian history with, of necessity, a sketchy cultural history of the 135 years studied in the book. The presentation becomes the more thin because flashbacks far back into the Kievan period are rather frequent in this chapter. What is said is certainly interesting and instructive, and that is why one asks for more. The general philosophy of Russian history occupies the first three sections of the chapter: "Preliminary Remarks," "The Pulse of History," and (to a great extent) "The Layers of Old Russian Culture." Professor Vernadsky's Eurasian views are well known and form the basis for these sections. The remaining three sections are on architecture and painting, literature, philosophy and science, and jointly they represent sixteen pages. I have expressed my admiration for Professor Vernadsky's volume, and I consider it a remarkable scholarly endeavor, but in all conscience I would have preferred another final chapter as a coda to his book. All things considered, however, this lack is a minor flaw, against so much merit.

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MIĘDZY TRAKTATEM ANDRUSZOWSKIM A WOJNĄ TURECKĄ:
STOSUNKI POLSKO-ROSYJSKIE, 1667–1672. By *Zbigniew Wójcik*.
Warsaw: Państwowe Wydawnictwo Naukowe, 1968. 324 pp. 76 zł.

This is a new study dealing with the period of six eventful years that followed the Treaty of Andrusovo in January 1667 between Poland and Muscovy. During the period under discussion two more treaties were signed by the monarchs of these two countries, the "envoys' treaty" in December 1667, and another, after prolonged negotiations, in April 1672. The last treaty the author calls "the treaty of frustrated hopes," because it promised Poland military help against Turkey and the Ukraine and yet only provoked another war in 1672, which Poland was forced to face alone without any ally, because the Muscovite promises were only empty words.

The study consists of six chapters, five of which are concerned with international relations in Europe, mostly in Eastern Europe. Chapter 4 presents a little digression from the main topic and deals with the election campaign for a new monarch to the Polish throne, which was under way before the abdication of King John Casimir in 1668. Among the numerous candidates was the tsarevich, the son of Aleksei Mikhailovich of Muscovy. This fact contributed a great deal to Poland's favorable "envoys' treaty" in December 1667. In this chapter the author also presents a brief review of political literature dealing with the coming royal election and its candidates.

On the basis of original documents the author presents a colorful picture of the political entanglements that existed in all the countries of Eastern Europe, especially in the Ukraine, in these eventful years. His scholarly approach and the wealth of original Polish, Russian, and Ukrainian documents that he uses objectively in this