

Indeed, one finds the editors consistently using words and phrases such as "prescient" (p. 195) and "remarkably accurate" (p. xiv) to describe Biddle's pronouncements. In the case of at least one observation, however, described by the editors as "brilliant" (p. 274, n. 5), in which Hitler's reluctance to attack France until Poland had been vanquished is commented upon, the credit does not belong to Biddle, but rather to his informant, the Turkish ambassador. Moreover, such geopolitical and strategic considerations regarding the crucial importance of East Central Europe for the West were nothing new to those who, in the 1930s, were familiar with the writings of Sir James Headlam-Morley, the former historical adviser to the British Foreign Office.

This well-edited work is a substantial addition to the existing primary source material on Polish foreign policy.

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THE GREAT POWERS AND THE POLISH QUESTION, 1941–45: A DOCUMENTARY STUDY IN COLD WAR ORIGINS. Edited by *Antony Polonsky*. London: The London School of Economics and Political Science, 1976. 282 pp. Maps. £5.00. Distributed by Orbis Books, 66 Kenway Road, London SW5 ORD, England.

The central role which the question of Poland's future geopolitical position played in relations among the Allies during World War II has received considerable attention from both scholars and polemicists. This collection of documentary source materials, mostly hitherto unpublished, should stimulate further discussion of the topic, while simultaneously resolving many unanswered questions and illuminating many unclear issues. The documents are well chosen, skillfully arranged, and superbly edited by Professor Polonsky, who in many cases has provided footnotes more carefully researched than some previous studies on the subject. His excellent introduction serves as a concise yet complete guide to the maze of international and domestic political considerations which determined the behavior of all parties involved.

The picture that emerges is one of confusion and division—with resulting inconsistencies—within the British, American, and Polish leadership circles over the proper approach to the Polish question. On the other hand, the Soviet leadership apparently followed a unified and consistent policy on this vital issue. All told, the book is indispensable reading for those interested in the general wartime and postwar political scene or in the policies of individual countries.

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THE SLOVAK NATIONAL AWAKENING: AN ESSAY IN THE INTELLECTUAL HISTORY OF EAST CENTRAL EUROPE. By *Peter Brock*. Toronto and Buffalo: University of Toronto Press, 1976. x, 104 pp. \$12.50.

In relatively few pages Peter Brock has made a valuable addition to the literature in English on the genesis of modern nationalism in Eastern Europe. Though less detailed than the two other studies with which his work may be compared—Ludwig Gogolák's *Beiträge zur Geschichte des slowakischen Volkes*, vol. 2 (Munich, 1969) and Jozef Butvin's *Slovenské národnosťjedenocovacie hnutie (1780–1848)* (Bratislava, 1965)—it nonetheless covers the essential facts of the evolution of Slovak linguistic and political consciousness from the latter decades of the eighteenth century to the revolution of 1848.

Brock discerns three main stages in this process. The first was inaugurated in the 1780s by Anton Bernolák and his followers who devised and promoted the use of a Slovak written language (*berňoláčina*) that was distinct from Czech. In Brock's view, their chief contribution to the emergence of Slovak nationalism lay not in the enunciation of the idea of the Slovak nation as a separate cultural entity, but in preparing the way for a Slovak rather than a Czechoslovak interpretation of that idea when it did appear. In the 1820s and 1830s came the contributions of Protestant intellectuals. Brock stresses the importance of the gradual loosening of the linguistic and cultural ties to the Czechs, which Slovak Protestants had preserved since the Reformation, and examines the thought of such scholars as Jan Kollár, who, under the influence of the German Romantics, conceived of the nation as an entity distinct from the state and defined by language. In the next decade L'udovít Štúr and his supporters took the process a step further when they renounced the Czech linguistic connection in favor of their own Slovak literary language (*štúrovčina*) and asserted the existence of a Slovak political nation outside the traditional context of the *natio Hungarica*. Brock is also aware of the effects on the Slovaks of the burgeoning Magyar national movement. Of particular interest here is his description of the language struggle between Magyar and Slovak Lutherans.

While it is certainly legitimate to trace the history of an idea, as Brock has done, a question may be raised whether the study of a complex phenomenon like national consciousness can be complete without reference to economic development and its effects upon social structure and thought. It might also have been useful to extend the present investigation through the revolution of 1848–49, which in many respects is the culmination of the movement of the preceding half-century. Based upon an exhaustive bibliography of secondary works and published documents and providing copious footnotes, which together comprise nearly half of the volume, this work is the most complete account of the subject available in English.

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THE MASARYKS: THE MAKING OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA. By *Zbyněk Zeman*. New York: Barnes & Noble, Harper & Row, 1976. viii, 230 pp. + 8 pp. photographs. \$16.50.

This "dual biography" of Czechoslovakia's first family was written, the author tells us, so as to rescue the real Thomas G. Masaryk from obscurity and explain why his name is still controversial in Eastern Europe. The ingredients of a Horatio Alger story are here: village boy works hard, develops strong moral character, resists temptations, makes good in big city; raises family which prays and plays together, beats son to enforce paternal authority; chooses self-exile during great war, leaves family, returns a hero, becomes Father of his Country. If this omits any clichés, see *The Masaryks* for the others.

Because the book is aimed at a popular market one should not be too demanding. It is clear that Jan Masaryk's career, which takes up a quarter of the book, is irrelevant to "the making of Czechoslovakia," which was largely a product of a thirty-year long elective dynasty headed by the elder Masaryk and his designated heir Eduard Beneš. Despite Zeman's plentiful anecdotes about the Masaryk family, he provides no coherent psychological understanding of the wellsprings of their outlook and behavior. True, he avoids the worshipful tone of much previous Masarykiana; in fact he is refreshingly matter-of-fact if not downright skeptical, but he carries disengagement too far. The book ends abruptly, with Jan Masaryk's death, but the reader wants the