

logical enterprise in the USSR. The introduction also reviews the achievements of Soviet sociology on each of the topics covered by the bibliography. Unfortunately, the survey contains few references to specific outstanding works and is quite cursory. The bibliography offers little guidance for those who prefer to avoid the large number of mediocre works in the sociological literature. Nevertheless, the entries include a high proportion of the best works. The bibliography will be a welcome addition to Western sociologists' reference shelves.

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EASTERN EUROPE. By *David Turnock*. Boulder, Colo. and Folkestone, England: Westview Press and Dawson, 1978. xii, 273 pp. Illus. \$19.50.

One of a series of regional studies in industrial geography, this work is characterized by the complexity of its geographical focus. The work treats all eight Communist nations of Eastern Europe, excluding the USSR (the subject of a separate volume in the series). It must therefore deal with nations that are in different stages of economic development and industrialization. The author, David Turnock, has chosen to treat the topic in a historical context, further broadening the subject and its demands. Finally, he has found it desirable to treat separately—and at some length—ancillary topics ranging from political background to developments in transportation and power, which bear heavily on the industrial geography of Eastern Europe.

The material is organized in a framework that is traditional in studies of economic geography. A succinct and thoughtful chapter, "Political Background," is followed by a chapter entitled "Resources for Industrial Development." In the latter chapter, the discussion of physical resources is at times irrelevant, but the section on human resources contains pertinent reviews of population growth, migration, and urbanization processes. The chapter, "Industrial Development Before 1945," establishes the inaccuracy of a simple view of widespread economic backwardness in Eastern Europe prior to the imposition of communism. A lengthy chapter on transport and power reveals the author's familiarity with both historical and contemporary developments in these areas and their close linkages to industrial developments. The chapter "Post-War Economic Change," which includes references to the impact of Comecon, is both wide-ranging and thoughtful. The book culminates in two lengthy chapters, one dealing with major sectors of industry in which the metallurgy, engineering, chemical, textile, and forestry industries are discussed in some detail, and one treating industrial regions, which devotes special attention to southern Poland, central Hungary, and eastern Rumania. The final chapter, entitled "A Concluding View," includes speculation on possible future developments.

Accompanying the text are thirty-seven maps. Although useful, they do not obviate the need for frequent reference to a detailed atlas. The footnotes and bibliography are helpful without being overwhelming, as is the index, which includes references to place names as well as subject topics.

In many respects, the book represents an admirable achievement. An extraordinarily broad and difficult topic has been treated comprehensively, yet in sufficient detail to be useful to a wide range of readers. The author's knowledge of historical and contemporary circumstances and his command of both the social and technological aspects of the subject are reflected in the authoritative text. He has handled a complex and diverse literature with skill.

The work's success, however, is only partial. The chasm between broad themes on the one hand, and detailed case studies of individual industries or regions on the other, seems unbridged. Beyond the rather conventionally framed treatment of the

industrial geography of Eastern Europe lies another book waiting to be written, which would treat thematically various questions raised but incompletely dealt with in the present book—questions such as whether or not a distinctive socialist geography is being created in Eastern Europe, the attention given to equity versus efficiency in industrial location and other economic decisions, and whether the imposition of communism has actually stimulated or hindered the economic progress of Eastern Europe. A work of this nature would no doubt interest a broader audience than the one interested in industrial geography per se. I, for one, hope the author chooses to write this less orthodox book, for he is unusually qualified to do so.

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EASTERN EUROPE'S UNCERTAIN FUTURE: A SELECTION OF RADIO FREE EUROPE RESEARCH REPORTS. Edited by *Robert R. King* and *James F. Brown*. New York and London: Praeger Publishers, 1977. xxii, 360 pp. Tables.

This volume is a collection of revised Radio Free Europe background reports written originally for the RFE research series in 1976 and 1977 by the RFE Research and Analysis Department and the Department of Policy and Research. Because "the entire Research and Analysis Department of RFE contributed" to this volume (p. ix), it is a company book. The volume is a plus for RFE's public relations and rightly so: RFE research deservedly enjoys an excellent reputation, and publication of some of it in book form widens the audience. But is the volume also a plus as a book on the "uncertain future" of Eastern Europe?

The compilation consists of five parts: external influences, foreign economic relations, domestic economies, political and social developments, and church and state relations. Within each part, eighteen individual chapters conform, more or less, to the section headings. Introductions to the respective parts by the editors are supposed to integrate the chapters into the larger themes.

The result is uneven. Although the eighteen chapters range from excellent to good (I consider only three contributions mediocre), together they do not make up an integrated whole. In the well-written preface, the editors explain the volume's lack of cohesion by pointing out that the individual chapters "are not intended to give a complete picture of the individual countries, but taken together, they do provide a *mosaic* of the problems facing both Eastern Europe as a whole and the individual states in the region" (p. ix, italics added).

I beg to disagree. A mosaic is a design where small pieces form patterns or figures. The editors may have had a mosaic in mind when they started to discuss the idea of the volume. If so, they failed to execute it. A potpourri or a *mélange* would be a better description. A mosaic demands more time, thought, energy, and effort on the part of the editors, and even then, neat packaging of various research papers—the sole common frame of which is time and space—is difficult. Such editing is a major job shunned by most editors. It would be much easier to analyze the several problems in an essay based on the research papers than to reproduce the papers, however edited, separately. The editors chose the eighteen papers (I assume from a larger selection), edited them minimally, listed them under five separate headings, and, on the basis of the papers included, wrote their brief introductions. William Robinson, an employee of RFE, provided selected statistical data, and the editors put together the preface. Thus, alas, a book was produced.

The "uncertain future" part of the title is justified as long as it is understood that assessment of the future depends on assessment of the present. This is not stated