

of fighting the inflation caused by shortages of consumption articles with a monetary devaluation that would have hit at the regime's internal popularity base.

The text is occasionally as contradictory as Soviet policy itself. At one point we see reference to the Kremlin's "decidedly friendly and cooperative posture" toward the United States (p. 36), and at another the reemergence of cold war "communication techniques" during the 1973 Mid-East War is emphasized (p. 119). One also wonders how the author's view that "Moscow has downgraded the importance of guerrilla activity" (p. 121) squares with Western newspaper accounts of training camps, in Odessa, Baku, Simferopol, and Tashkent, for the instruction of third-world citizens in the black arts of partisan warfare and individual terrorism.

Nevertheless, Professor Schwartz has succeeded in achieving his goal of providing college students with a foundation for further reading and whetting their appetite for more.

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DETENTE: PROMISES AND PITFALLS. By *Gerald L. Steibel*. Foreword by *Irving Kristol*. National Strategy Information Center, Strategy Paper, no. 25. New York: Crane, Russak & Company, 1975. xiv, 89 pp. \$4.95, cloth. \$2.95, paper.

The policy of détente between the United States and the USSR has spawned a host of new publications. *Detente: Promises and Pitfalls* is one of the most recent of these works. Rather than providing an analysis of the successes and failures of détente, Steibel presents a catalog of others' evaluations of the various aspects of détente. The way he presents his material, however, does imply, that he shares the doubts of those who question the relative value of détente when weighed against the costs.

After a brief discussion of past periods of "détente" in Soviet-U.S. relations, Steibel examines developments in arms control, the impact of détente on crisis management (especially in the Middle East), the growth of and limitations on U.S.-Soviet trade, and the question of the impact of détente on the evolution of the domestic Soviet political system. Although this volume adds little to the general discussion of the benefits and dangers of détente, it is useful for those seeking a brief primer that summarizes the major arguments.

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JEWES, WARS, AND COMMUNISM, vol. II: THE IMPACT OF THE 1919-20 RED SCARE ON AMERICAN JEWISH LIFE. By *Zosa Szajkowski*. New York: KTAV Publishing House, 1974. viii, 398 pp. \$20.00.

The Red Scare of 1919-20, as it related to the American Jewish community, is the focal point of Zosa Szajkowski's volume. The author deals with the raids and deportations associated with the name of Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer and the anti-Bolshevik atmosphere as it affected labor activity, immigration policy, and the general phenomenon of anti-Semitism. Szajkowski's intent, as in

his first volume, is to establish the falsity of the myth of Jewish Bolshevism.

The work provides a multifaceted picture of views on that issue, but Szajkowski's approach, which relies heavily on citations of evidence, fails to deal adequately with the background factors necessary to understand the material. The volume appears, therefore, as a cornucopia of quotes often presented with little balance or discrimination. Nevertheless, Szajkowski's research, if not orderly in presentation, reveals a wealth of material valuable to both scholar and layman. And where he carries a theme through, as in the sections relating anti-Semitism to strikes and the fear of radicals to changes in immigration policy, some good characterization emerges. The notes too are rich (over sixty pages), but reflect, as do many of the brief chapters, an essentially episodic approach to the events, with rare synthetic comment.

The student of Russia can find in this volume much material of interest on the reaction to the Revolution abroad. The student of American history will find, as Szajkowski suggests, evidence on one of the important phenomena of the twentieth century portrayed in its seminal period.

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THE EVOLUTION OF SOVIET POLITICS. By *Robert J. Osborn*. Homewood, Ill.: The Dorsey Press, 1974. xiii, 574 pp. \$10.95.

The world of Soviet politics has always assumed the crucial interdependence of political and economic demands, and the legitimacy of the rulers rests in large part on their efficacy in promoting growth or meeting crises of economic decline. The contribution of Robert Osborn's new textbook on Soviet politics lies primarily in its skillful and comprehensive integration of political and economic issues in Soviet history. He has devoted over two-fifths of his large book to detailed summaries of both economic and political facets of Soviet history, with greatest emphasis on the formative first fifteen years. It is intended that this detailed exposition will enable the student to assess Osborn's assumption that "the important decisions which shaped the Soviet political system as it exists today were made during the first 15 years of Soviet rule, that is, by the end of the First Five-Year Plan in 1932" (p. 21). Osborn argues that numerous "adjustments" but no fundamental alterations have occurred since that time. In looking at the major policy decisions of those early years, he attempts to sort out the relative impact of three criteria—ideological constraints, situational imperatives, and improvisatory moves—which, he asserts, frequently were jelled into subsequent dogma. While the weight given to each determinant cannot be exact, the very process of extracting the components from some of the most important events in recent history will be most instructive for students—who, in many cases, find their learning compartmentalized, with politics and economics segregated. In addition, the student will benefit from a twenty-five-page survey of Soviet history, political, economic, and foreign relations, and four appendixes containing texts of important documents.

Osborn's book is divided into three sections: the first details the road to command of the economy; the second summarizes Party history and methods of Party control and administration; the third discusses agencies for the reshaping of society and forces, such as social stratification and national identity, leading to