

belonging to various political camps, and representing both friendly and inimical views of the movement. Such, however, is not the case.

As a matter of fact, even the coverage of Russian Menshevik writings is comprehensive only up to a point. The compiler herself forewarns the user of the volume that of "the Menshevik literature published abroad in later decades, only those works which relate to the past history of the socialist movement in Russia are included." The reason for this decision is not stated. Miss Bourguina most likely desired to keep the material to manageable proportions, and this is quite understandable. Many of the Mensheviks were notoriously prolific writers; Solomon M. Schwarz, today eighty-six, still writes unabatedly. Yet this self-imposed restriction is rather regrettable. At least the inclusion of the most important pronouncements and comments on events taking place in the Soviet Union published abroad in the central organ of the party, *Sotsialisticheskii vestnik*, would have been welcome, since this would have established a concise overview of the development of Menshevik thinking from the inception of the movement up to the most recent days.

The printing of Miss Bourguina's introduction both in English and in Russian is indicative of the legitimate desire of the author and publisher to have this guide used with equal profit in the Soviet Union. Included in the volume are special listings of Menshevik periodicals; underground Social Democratic publications that appeared in Soviet Russia during the 1920s; the political organs of Plekhanov, Trotsky, and the Paris Social Democrats; the Russian-language publications of the Bund; and organs of trade unions in which Mensheviks played a leading role. These listings are found either in the second part of the bibliography or in the appendixes.

SEGIUS YAKOBSON
Library of Congress

MY LIFE (MOIA ZHIZN') [in Russian]. By *Noah Zhordania* (Noi Zhordania). Translated from the Georgian by *Ina Zhordania*. Preface by *Leopold Haimson*. Stanford: Hoover Institution, 1968. xv, 131 pp.

This slim volume of memoirs by one of the leaders of Georgian social democracy is a disappointment. Noah Zhordania's life as a student radical, labor organizer, revolutionary, nation builder, and political exile was rich and full. He could have told a great deal about the history of the Social Democratic Party both in the Caucasus and in Russia proper; he could have thrown much-needed light on the Georgian national movement; he could have added to our knowledge of the complexities of the civil war. Unfortunately, he chose to do none of these things. Instead he has given unrevealing reminiscences that only occasionally provide new and significant information. The most interesting part of the book is the section dealing with the formation of an independent Georgian state once again after an interval of more than a hundred years.

The memoirs are amazingly free of bitterness and recrimination. Though Zhordania at various times had to fight a host of domestic and foreign enemies, he managed to preserve a humane and decent attitude toward most of them. As one would expect, in his account the Bolsheviks come out the worst, not only because of their victory but also because of the methods they used to achieve it.

Professor Leopold Haimson, who directs the Columbia University Menshevik Project, deserves the thanks of all who have an interest in the history of Russia,

the Caucasus, and Social Democracy for the publication of this minor but still interesting work.

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SUOMI VIHOLLISENA JA YSTÄVÄNÄ, 1714–1967. By *V. V. Pohlebkin*.
Translated by *Natalia Pienimäki* and *Aaro Majanen*. Porvoo: Werner Söderström Osakeyhtiö, 1969. 402 pp. 26 Finnmarks.

This is a remarkable book. Its author is a leading Soviet specialist in North European affairs, but the book has been published—so far at least—only in Finnish, by the largest Finnish commercial publishing house, and one not previously known for its sympathy toward Soviet views at that. The title of the original Russian-language manuscript is *Finliandiia i vostochnyi sosed*, but the title of the Finnish-language book is “Finland as Enemy and Friend, 1714–1967.” This latter title is quite misleading, since it makes the book sound much more sensational in tone than it is. Commercial publishing considerations perhaps explain the peculiar translation of the title, and it is noteworthy that this book has been a best seller in Finland, in spite of an overwhelmingly hostile critical reaction from Finnish newspapers. It is not likely that every copy purchased has been closely read. Many parts of the book induce sleep, for which the author can fairly be blamed. It hardly seems fair, however, to blame the author for the Finnish-language title, since his knowledge of the Finnish language appears—to put it mildly indeed—minimal.

The Finnish title is also misleading in its chronological coverage. Very little of the book deals with Russo-Finnish relations before 1809, when Finland became a Grand Duchy of the Russian emperor. For all practical purposes this book is a study of Russo-Finnish relations since 1809. The chronological coverage ends with 1967, perhaps because the author conceived of the book as a kind of personal tribute to the fiftieth anniversary of Finnish independence in that year. He goes so far as to remark in passing that “the question of Finnish independence was decided” in 1917. Before too many Finns jump to the premature conclusion that continued Finnish independence is guaranteed regardless of the future course of Finnish foreign policy, they should remember 1939. At the beginning of the Winter War the Soviet Union recognized as the legitimate government of Finland the Kuusinen “government,” which was purely and simply a Soviet fiction. Pohlebkin does not even mention this crucial fact. Even if the Soviet leadership has since mended its ways, Pohlebkin’s optimism concerning the future of Finnish independence may be excessive. His book is that of a Finnophile, too much so, in fact, in many respects for this reviewer’s taste. He argues, for instance, that traditional Finnish anti-Russian sentiments originated in Sweden, and therefore were not authentically Finnish. This argument is ridiculous, even though it is undeniably useful to make this claim if one wishes to assume that good relations between Russia and Finland are the natural state of affairs. In the judgment of this reviewer, this assumption makes much more sense than has been conceded by most earlier authors writing about Russo-Finnish relations, but Pohlebkin glosses over the very real and very passionate hatred of everything Russian by many Finns. This hatred still exists, even in the age of the “Kekkonen line” in Finnish foreign policy, and it is highly probable that Finnish political leaders since 1944 have been much more rational in their attitude toward Russia than most ordinary Finns have been. Whether J. K. Paasikivi was completely successful in his attempt to restructure Finnish public