

vital foreign matters, including a mutual animosity for English imperialism in America—particularly in Canada. Actually, one learns more from their nineteen years of correspondence about the crucial problems of the young republic than about Poland. Kościuszko's concern about the country for whose independence he fought with distinction from 1776 until 1783 is expressed in twenty-three letters. Only eight of them are in English, the rest—after 1802—were written in French and deserve translation. This Polish-American hero of the two worlds still awaits a scholarly monograph in English. Only Jan Dihm's unfinished *Kościuszko nieznany* (*Kościuszko Unknown*), published in 1968, substantially supplemented Korzon's outdated Polish biography, which appeared in 1900.

The value of this otherwise useful collection of primary sources would be enhanced by detailed introductions of at least the major documents. Some are, however, self-explanatory like Jefferson's moving invitation of June 15, 1817: "Come to Monticello, and be one of our family . . . my dear friend, close a life of liberty in a land of liberty. Come and lay your bones with mine in the Cemetery of Monticello" [*sic*].

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HERBERT HOOVER AND POLAND: A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY OF A FRIENDSHIP. Compiled and with an introduction by *George J. Lerski*. Foreword by *Mark O. Hatfield*. Hoover Archival Documentaries. Hoover Institution Publication 174. Stanford: Hoover Institution Press, Stanford University, 1977. xvi, 128 pp. \$10.95.

The devastation suffered by Poland during the two world wars surpasses that of any of the other participant nations, including the USSR. Professor Lerski's short account describes the efforts of Herbert Hoover to aid the Polish people. In the introductory essay, Hoover is presented in his role as director of the American Relief Administration during the First World War. Lerski briefly describes Hoover's relations with Poland throughout his presidency and concludes with a discussion of Hoover's actions as honorary chairman of the Commission for Relief in Poland, created a few weeks after the Nazi invasion. Of particular interest is Lerski's contention that Hoover, supported by Woodrow Wilson, convinced Piłsudski to appoint Ignacy Paderewski as prime minister in 1919 by making American aid conditional upon the appointment (this is from Hoover's *Memoirs*, a note adds the caveat that documentary proof is unavailable). Equally interesting is the Wilsonian idealism epitomized in Hoover's attitude which emerges from the essay—a sense of humanitarianism and a concern for Polish economic strength and national self-determination, coupled with a suspicion of foreign political institutions and ideologies. Thirty-seven documents accompany the text.

In sum, this work provides some valuable insights into the motives of a statesman who played an important role in Polish-American relations.

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POLAND IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY. By *M. K. Dziewanowski*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1977. xvi, 309 pp. + 16 pp. photographs. \$14.95.

This is a thorough and well-written study which will be of interest to general readers as well as to specialists in the area. It will undoubtedly become a standard college text on Polish politics.

Professor Dziewanowski analyzes the dramatic and revolutionary events of twentieth-century Poland: the successful national struggle for statehood after more than a hundred years of foreign domination by the three partitioning powers, the difficult process of reconstruction in the interwar period and the international instability which marked the beginning and the end of the Second Polish Republic, and the destructive, tragic war years which were only to be followed by the Communist take-over and the Soviet Union's hegemonic control over the People's Republic of Poland. Despite Dziewanowski's obvious empathy with the Poles' frustrations in their "role of vassals in a vassal state," his account of over thirty years of Communist rule is not entirely negative. He points out that Poland in the mid-1970s is a "more viable state than before the war, with better shaped frontiers and a more balanced social and ethnic structure." He provides detailed examples and statistics which demonstrate impressive post-1945 economic, educational, and cultural achievements. In addition, Dziewanowski argues that, despite the authoritarian political order, the Communists have had to come to terms with the traditional national characteristics of the Polish people: their pervasive sense of history and patriotism, closely linked with Roman Catholicism; their identification with Western traditions and historical suspicion of and antipathy to the East; their individualism in opposition to the "collectivist and totalitarian Communist system." Contemporary Poland is, therefore, unique in the Communist world, both because of the powerful role that the Roman Catholic Church exerts in the life of the nation and the predominantly private ownership in the agricultural sector. Moreover, as the 1975 constitutional crisis demonstrated, Edward Gierek, like his predecessor, Wladyslaw Gomulka, must accommodate the fiercely nationalistic sentiments of the population without incurring Soviet intervention into Polish affairs.

Throughout his study, Dziewanowski stresses the geopolitical circumstances which have influenced Poland from the tenth century until the present time. He also outlines weaknesses in the country's national character that have made it vulnerable to foreign domination. Yet, in his analysis of the Poles' excessive individualism, messianic romanticism, and idealism, and in the comparisons he makes between the Polish national character and that of the Irish and Spanish, these "faults" appear as "virtues." The result is that the Poles are depicted as a heroic people, but the question posed by Dziewanowski is left unanswered: "Will the Poles be able to adjust themselves to the role with which World War II and the Western policy of *détente* has saddled them without having their distinct historic identity eroded?"

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FRANTIŠEK A. ZACH. By *Václav Žáček*. Prague: Melantrich, 1977. 324 pp. Plates. Kčs. 30.

František A. Zach had a remarkable career, and he deserves this first-rate biography by the eminent Czech historian, *Václav Žáček*. Zach was born in Olomouc in 1807 and died in Brno in 1892. A strong Czech patriot and revolutionary, Zach was dissuaded from taking part in the Greek revolution by his father. Later, however, he participated in the Polish revolt of 1831, as a result of which he was forced to flee to Paris, where he came to know Prince Adam Czartoryski and learned of his plans for Eastern Europe. Eventually, Zach became Czartoryski's emissary and confidant in Belgrade. Zach's goal was to persuade the Serbian government to adopt an anti-Russian and anti-Austrian policy, which Czartoryski hoped would help Poland regain her independence sometime in the future. Zach gained the confidence of Serbian officials, in particular Ilija Garašanin, the foreign minister. In order to implement Czartoryski's policies, Zach drafted a plan in 1844 and presented it to Garašanin,