

efficacious intellectual endeavor and might even justify the rehearsal of the tired clichés of Russian “underdevelopment.”

Errors are not infrequent, including Jenkins for Jenkinson (p. 44), *Spasskaia vorota* for *Spasskie* (or *Spasskiiia*) *vorota* (p. 206), and the use on the same page (p. 207) of *pomest'e* as the singular form and *pomestia* as the plural. In addition, occasional laxity in giving credit to another author (e.g., to Jerome Blum for at least the passage at the bottom of page 33) is most distressing.

The appendixes and bibliographies, though a thoughtful addition, do little to redeem the work. It should never have been published in its present form. May we not with some justification expect a synthetic study to make at least a moderately exciting interpretive contribution to our historical knowledge?

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CATHERINE THE GREAT. Edited by *L. Jay Oliva*. Great Lives Observed series. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice-Hall, 1971. viii, 184 pp. \$5.95, cloth. \$2.45, paper.

CATHERINE THE GREAT: A PROFILE. Edited by *Marc Raeff*. World Profiles series. New York: Hill and Wang, 1972. xiii, 331 pp. \$6.50, cloth. \$2.45, paper.

Professor Oliva's contribution is divided into three sections, preceded by a brief introduction. The first contains a variety of documents including excerpts from Catherine's memoirs and letters and several familiar edicts. The second reproduces the observations, some of dubious historical worth, of courtiers and assorted foreigners. No attempt is made to evaluate the merits of the passages presented. Not represented at all are members of the lesser nobility (*Bolotov*, for instance) or, except for *Radishchev*, of the bureaucracy. This is unfortunate, since such works are not readily accessible to the undergraduate, for whom this compilation is presumably intended. Most disappointing is the concluding section. The flyleaf promises “analyses in retrospect by leading historians, political scientists, and other modern observers.” Offered are excerpts from *Karamzin*, “*Hertzen*,” *Kliuchevsky* (the inadequate 1931 English translation), *Pokrovsky*, *Smirnov*, *Gershoy*, and *Billington*, none of whom would consider himself a specialist on eighteenth-century Russia.

The quality of the bibliography leads one to suspect that Oliva has intentionally steered clear of Russian-language sources. After enumerating and commenting adversely on the insubstantial nature of existing English-language biographies, Oliva cites only two Russian-language ones: *Bilbasov's Istoria [sic] Ekaterina [sic] Vtoroi* (St. Petersburg, 1885 [sic]), which he describes as a twelve-volume work, although only the first two volumes ever appeared; and *Bruckner's [sic] Istoriia Ekaterina [sic] Vtoroi* (St. Petersburg, 1885), which, he might have noted, is a translation from the German (Berlin, 1883). By failing to come to grips with his Russian-language materials, Oliva has proved to this reviewer's satisfaction that there are simply not enough important sources available in Western languages alone to arrive at a balanced and meaningful portrayal of Catherine II.

Professor Raeff has made an effort to overcome the dearth of English-language scholarship on Catherine II by offering us a collection of twelve essays (ten in translation) designed to elucidate “most particularly Catherine's intellectual development and accomplishments and her influence on contemporary Russian

cultural and social life" (p. viii). This anthology is also divided into three parts of roughly equal length: part 1, concentrating on the personality of the empress, offers essays by Kizevetter, Bilbasov, Gukovsky, and Luppel; part 2, which includes writings by Miliukov (two) and McConnell, is devoted to the interaction between the empress and educated society; the final section is more heterogeneous, covering various aspects of administration and diplomacy as analyzed by Kizevetter, Lappo-Danilevsky, Bakhrushin and Skazkin, Ammann, and Raëff himself. A concluding historiographical essay neatly draws together the various threads.

The editor has performed a service by making available to the English-speaking public a compendium of such obvious historical and historiographical merit. This reviewer cannot resist the temptation to bemoan the absence of viewpoints he would have liked represented. Of the nine essays translated from the Russian, which form the core of the book, four are by late nineteenth and early twentieth-century liberals, while a fifth—Lappo-Danilevsky's—is clearly influenced by liberalism. This lends the collection something of a turn-of-the-century air; the three Soviet Marxist contributions, as well as McConnell's, also stress the hiatus between Catherine's promises and her performance, and serve to reinforce the liberal interpretation of the empress as a hypocrite, cajoling public opinion in order to mask her resistance to meaningful reform. A selection from Lappo-Danilevsky's study of Catherine's domestic policies or one of several articles on social ordering by Dietrich Geyer would have redressed the balance by making more distinct the lines of continuity running from Peter through Catherine as well as the parallel between Central European cameralism and Catherine's statist policies.

According to tradition, a translation, like a woman, is either beautiful or faithful, but not both. Raëff treads a middle road between the two extremes with considerable dexterity. The essays read smoothly, and the translations are generally accurate. Inconsistencies of transliteration inevitably creep into such anthologies, especially when more than one translator is employed. One hopes that in a second edition the editor will clean these up (as well as "Deemsdale" [p. 24], who is none other than Baron Dimsdale, the empress's private physician). This reviewer has an animus against the use of the term "class" as a translation of the eighteenth-century term *soslovie*, but is hard-pressed to come up with an entirely satisfactory alternative. Two inaccuracies might also be pointed out: the name of the historian Bilbasov is consistently misspelled; and the treaty of Kuchuk-Kainardji did *not* establish "a protectorate over the Christian populations of the Ottoman Empire" (p. 61n.), although the Russian government subsequently chose to interpret the treaty in this fashion.

These minor cavils do not detract from the immense value Raëff's volume will have for teachers and students alike. It stands as the most convenient and useful collection of scholarly essays on Catherine II available in any language.

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LA RÉVOLTE DE POUGATCHËV. By *Pierre Pascal*. Collection Archives. Paris: Julliard, 1971. 274 pp.

Copious quotations from sources and commentaries, well-selected illustrations, and two maps enrich Professor Pascal's intelligent survey of the famous revolt. Although