

excellence of writing. They differ, however, in their interpretations. While Kukiel's work continues prewar Polish historical writing, enriched by postwar research and publications, and is distinguished by balanced judgments, Kieniewicz's book represents Polish Marxist historiography at its best. Although this reviewer stands much closer to Kukiel than to Kieniewicz in his views on nineteenth-century Polish history, he has to recognize many excellent qualities in Kieniewicz's textbook. Its organization is clear, and the periodization, which departs a little from earlier Marxist divisions, is acceptable. The four main parts deal respectively with the period of the Napoleonic Wars and the Constitutional Congress Kingdom (1795–1831), the three decades from 1832 to 1864, the post-January insurrection period to around 1890, and the twenty-eight years including the First World War. The titles of the last three sections—"Crisis of the Feudal Regime: The Spring of Nations and the January Insurrection," "The Period of Triple Loyalty, Organic Work, and the Beginnings of the Workers' Movement," and "On the Threshold of the Imperialist Era, New Political Camps, the Year 1905, and the First World War"—reflect the author's emphasis on socioeconomic rather than strictly political problems. A welcome novelty is a separate treatment of cultural matters in four short chapters following each main division. Chronological tables at the end of the volume are definitely useful for the student. A selected bibliography is fairly satisfactory, although one would wish to see references to Perl's work on socialism, to Askenazy's *Uwagi*, and to the main memoirs or political writings by Piłsudski, Dmowski, Daszyński, Grabski, Biliński, Sokolnicki, and others.

In keeping with current trends in Polish historiography a good deal is said about the western Polish lands not included in the prepartition frontiers and much less about the eastern Lithuanian, Belorussian, and Ukrainian borderlands. But again a rather balanced approach by Kieniewicz saves the book from the obvious pitfalls. A short review does not permit polemics with the author concerning many interpretations of people and events, but judging the book in the context of contemporary Polish historiography, it has undoubted merits. It is well written and informative, and also has good maps, graphs, and illustrations and an attractive format.

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POLSKO-CZECHOSŁOWACKIE STOSUNKI DYPLOMATYCZNE W LATACH 1918–1925. By *Alina Szklarska-Lohmannowa*. Prace Komisji Nauk Historycznych, no. 19. Wrocław, Warsaw, Kraków: Ossolineum, 1967. 180 pp. 35 zł., paper.

This monograph is the most comprehensive and objective account of Polish-Czechoslovak diplomatic relations during the crucial years 1918–25 to be published in Eastern Europe. The author sketches the sad chapter of the two West Slavic states' embroilment in, and exacerbation of, the Teschen territorial question and the dispute over the small mountain areas of Spisz (Spiš), Orawa (Orava), and Javorina (Jaworzyna, in Polish) during the early interwar period.

The story of those years is familiar enough to the student of East Central Europe, and it cannot be said that Szklarska-Lohmannowa adds much strikingly new detail. But instead of another "reinterpretation," the author has written the first up-to-date synthesis of Polish-Czechoslovak relations, using the works of such

historians as P. S. Wandycz, Z. J. Gąsiorowski, D. Perman, and others, and combining their work with archival materials located in Prague and Warsaw.

Szklarska-Lohmannowa attributes the adoption by Dr. Beneš and the Czech government of an uncompromising attitude toward Warsaw in part to the precarious military situation in which Poland found itself during the Polish-Bolshevik war. This hostility was demonstrated in the Prague government's halting of arms and munition shipments destined for Poland across Czechoslovak territory. Beneš used this tactic, in the author's words, as an "instrument" of "pressure" to make Poland compliant to the Czech claims for Teschen presented at the Spa Conference.

During the early interwar period there were a number of diplomatic attempts at rapprochement, mostly from the Polish side. The Poles were willing to forego their traditional friendship with Hungary and sustain the Czech and "Little Entente" anti-Habsburg policy, in order to receive diplomatic support from Prague, but on the whole the relations between the two West Slavic peoples were strained.

Most interesting of all are the author's conclusions. She clearly points out that the two neighboring states failed to recognize their common interests and that each party considered the other a hindrance to its own national and international ambitions. Czech-Polish cooperation was not considered desirable by Prague, because the Czechs felt their state to be in a much more advantageous political position vis-à-vis Germany and Soviet Russia than was Poland with her unsettled frontiers. Unfortunately the lack of political, diplomatic, and economic collaboration between the two governments in the end not only isolated Poland (in 1925) but by 1938 also the Czechoslovak state. Appended at the end is a résumé in French.

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POLISH ROUND TABLE: YEARBOOK 1969. The Yearbook of the Polish Association of Political Science, vol. 3. Series edited by *Stanisław Ehrlich*. Wrocław: Ossolineum, 1971. 194 pp. 50 zł., paper.

This third annual volume published by the Polish Association of Political Science (PAPS) includes a compilation of thirteen articles and papers read at various conferences. They are grouped under four main headings: state and democracy, state and nation, social structure theory and research, and theory of international politics. Four reviews of works published in Poland and several brief items about PAPS activities and two conferences during 1968-69 make up the balance of the book.

Within the confines allowed for this review, only a few comments are possible. The opening essay, "Lenin on Democracy," by the late Konstanty Grzybowski (who died in June 1970), concludes that the dictatorship of the proletariat can be maintained in an environment where political parties compete and a "free conflict of views" prevails. "He [Lenin] desired to build socialism on the foundations of free men and political democracy" (p. 11). The article by editor Stanisław Ehrlich, entitled "Nation and State," merely summarizes the origins of these concepts and then touches upon the various forms of federation, the typology of nation-building processes, and the relationship between national character and political institutions. Of much greater interest is the contribution by Włodzimierz Wesołowski, "Structural Changes in Contemporary Socialism." The author provides data on the