

deal in depth with applied climatology and climatic change." I feel that he has accomplished his goal.

Approximately half of the book consists of maps and charts which cover a diverse range of subjects from the general locations of weather fronts to mean annual scattered radiation on a horizontal surface. Where possible, Dr. Lydolph has presented variability and chance of occurrence of phenomena to give a depth of understanding that the average values cannot give by themselves. These charts and maps contain nearly all the information that readers familiar with the subject need to know. Most of the figures are collected from a large number of Soviet sources, some of which are not widely circulated. The collection and organization of the figures themselves make the book worthwhile, not only to climatologists but to economists, political scientists, and agronomists who deal with events controlled by and related to climate.

The first half of the book consists of detailed descriptions of regional synoptic climatology. Dr. Lydolph has divided the Soviet Union into five broad regions: European USSR and Western Siberia, Eastern Siberia, the Far East, Central Asia, and the Caucasus. These chapters suffer at times from tedious descriptions of data already presented in charts and maps. Although the generalized descriptions, which are most useful to readers who are unfamiliar with the subject matter, are presented clearly and concisely in these same chapters, they are not separated from the more detailed descriptions. The result is that this portion of the book is sometimes difficult to follow.

The second half of the book describes major climatic factors for the entire Soviet Union. Heat, moisture, and wind, as well as climate description and classification schemes, are treated separately. In these chapters the text complements the many excellent figures and provides one of the best overviews of the factors influencing Soviet climate that I have seen.

Monthly climate data for 126 Soviet stations are included as an appendix. The spatial coverage of these stations is excellent, providing a small, homogeneous data base that can be used by the reader who requires analysis in greater depth.

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CORDON SANITAIRE OR BARRIÈRE DE L'EST?: THE EMERGENCE OF THE NEW FRENCH EASTERN EUROPEAN ALLIANCE POLICY 1917-1919. By *Kalervo Hovi*. Turun Yliopiston Julkaisuja, Annales Universitatis Turkuensis, series B, vol. 135. Turku, Finland: Turun Yliopisto, 1975. 244 pp. Paper.

One of the outstanding merits of this monograph by historian Kalervo Hovi is its utilization of many previously unavailable archival documents. The author collected data for the volume in the archives of more than ten countries. The material from the French archives is especially significant, because it only recently was made accessible to researchers. In addition to his archival research, the author takes into account the literature on the subject to date. This enables him to give a more complex and more diversified picture than those authors who have relied chiefly on English and American sources when writing about the new federal policy of France. Hovi's book is the first historical work to so widely describe France's Eastern policy. It analyzes the objectives of the policy and summarizes its changes and the reasons for the changes.

In the introduction the author notes the importance of the subject, summarizes the findings of previous researchers, and refers to the limitations imposed on them by the inaccessibility of the French sources. This lack of original source material generally caused historical works on the Eastern policy of France to follow one of the two traditional interpretations: the "barrière de l'est" or the "cordon sanitaire." Hovi refers to the origins of these concepts, analyzes their meanings, and discusses their

use in several works in various periods. The author points out that earlier researchers tended to use the "barrière de l'est" concept—meaning a defensive policy toward Germany—to describe the essence of France's Eastern policy. Later, especially during the Cold War period, the idea of a "cordon sanitaire" came to dominate in historiography, for the essence of France's Eastern policy was seen as the fight against bolshevism. Both concepts, but less clearly distinguished, were used to describe the international situation of Eastern European countries in the interwar period.

What is Kalervo Hovi's own position? His view is that France's Eastern policy was, on the whole, aimed at establishing a barrier toward the east. During the First World War this barrier was planned against Germany. After the cease-fire and the establishment of Soviet Russia, this clear, unambiguous concept changed slightly to include also the idea of a "cordon sanitaire." The latter element, however, was subordinate to the former and of short duration. The author presents facts in support of his position, but his interpretation and his conclusions are not always well-founded.

The second chapter, dealing with the building of the "barrière de l'est," is especially outstanding. It describes France's first contacts with the Eastern national minorities, Poland's importance to the French foreign policy, France's war aims in the Danube basin, and the crisis in the Franco-Russian alliance. The third chapter examines the situation in Russia after the 1917 October Revolution. It shows the influence of the revolution on France's Eastern federal policy, pointing out that the idea of a "barrière de l'est" came more and more to mean a "cordon sanitaire." This latter problem is only touched upon in chapter 3, but it is discussed at length in the book's final chapter.

The reviewer has a duty to note the shortcomings of even a good book. Thus, I shall mention that my own investigations, especially in the French archives, have found that France feared Bolshevik Russia much more than the author seems to think. The effect and spread of Bolshevik ideology was indeed feared in Paris. This, however, is clear even from the documents published in Hovi's book.

Cordon Sanitaire or Barrière de l'Est? will be of significant value to historians of the period in their attempts to understand this complicated subject.

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HABSBURGS AND ZAPOROZHIAN COSSACKS: THE DIARY OF ERICH LASSOTA VON STEBLAU, 1594. Edited and with an introduction by *Lubomyr R. Wynar*. Translated by *Orest Subtelny*. Published for the Ukrainian Historical Association, Inc. Littleton, Colo.: Ukrainian Academic Press, Libraries Unlimited, 1975. 144 pp. \$9.00.

The publication of the English edition of Erich Lassota's diary for the year 1594 is justified by the editor's repeated emphasis of the importance he attaches to Lassota's imperial mission to the Zaporozhian Cossacks for the history of eastern Europe. Emperor Rudolf II wanted to enlist Cossack military forces against the Turks and their allies, the Tatars. With the Cossacks joining the Holy Roman Empire against the Turks, increased tension between Poland and the Ottoman Empire would result and encourage a more friendly attitude of the Poles toward the Habsburgs. As a further extension of Rudolf's *Ostpolitik*, an alliance with the Cossacks would also strengthen the pro-Habsburg candidate for the Polish Crown should that throne become vacated. We are also told that "Lassota's account constitutes an important historical source for the early history of Ukrainian Cossacks, their mores, and their political and social institutions," and should be "considered one of the most valuable"