

In his eagerness to avoid potential political pitfalls, Mr. Maryński deliberately refrains from any meaningful analysis of controversial issues such as changes in the population growth policies adopted by individual East European countries, or their varying attitudes toward legalized abortions. He also fails to deal with the important issues posed by national minorities (in Slovakia, in Rumania, and in the Soviet Union itself, for example) and by postwar population transfers. The author is obviously aware of the significance of these problems, but again, only in the case of China, whose policies on the national minorities question are firmly denounced, does he attempt any analysis or appraisal.

Reading Mr. Maryński's book is a very disappointing and, in places, a rather frustrating experience.

MICHAEL GAMARNIKOW
Munich

DOES SOCIALISM LIBERATE WOMEN?: EXPERIENCES FROM EASTERN EUROPE. By *Hilda Scott*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1974. xii, 240 pp. \$7.95.

For those who do not like to be kept in suspense, Scott's answer to the question of whether socialism liberates women is, in brief, no. Socialist ideology has made important contributions to the women's movement by generating and keeping alive ideas that are now widely accepted. But the single family persists, and there has been no transformation of private housekeeping into a social industry. Nor has any socialist country so far developed a theoretical concept or a plan of action.

The book is a rather thorough documentation of this conclusion. Chapter 1, which describes the situation in present-day Czechoslovakia serves as an introduction. Chapters 2 and 3 provide an interesting discussion of socialist ideas about women from Marx and Engels onward, which should be of particular interest to Americans who all too frequently believe that the suffragettes were the only, or certainly the first, people to be concerned with women's rights. Chapters 4 to 9 deal with the status of women as it has developed in Eastern Europe, and particularly in Czechoslovakia, since World War II. The last chapter states the author's conclusions about the relation between socialism and women's liberation.

The most impressive accomplishment of the socialist countries has been the rapid introduction of legislation assuring legal equality for women. There have also been efforts to make social services, such as universal education, health care and day care centers, available. On the other hand, children and the household continue to be regarded almost entirely as the woman's responsibility, and conditions in Eastern Europe make these tasks time and energy consuming. Furthermore, in response to the sharply diminishing birth rate, social and governmental pressures for larger families have been increasing. Thus, women are not in a position to avail themselves of the equal opportunities which the law guarantees.

In order to judge Scott's evaluation of the impact of socialism on the status of women, it would have been useful to have a more systematic presentation of relevant data for Czechoslovakia (there are no tables!), more data on other socialist countries, and a more systematic comparison with nonsocialist countries. In spite of these shortcomings, the book provides a wealth of information and a well-balanced interpretation of the impact of socialism on the status of women. It should provide food for thought both for people who believe that socialism has

brought no benefits to women and for those who believe that the abolition of capitalism will automatically solve the "woman question."

MARIANNE A. FERBER

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

THE TECHNICAL INTELLIGENTSIA AND THE EAST GERMAN ELITE: LEGITIMACY AND SOCIAL CHANGE IN MATURE COMMUNISM. By *Thomas A. Baylis*. Berkeley, Los Angeles, London: University of California Press, 1974. xx, 314 pp. \$12.50.

EAST GERMAN CIVIL-MILITARY RELATIONS: THE IMPACT OF TECHNOLOGY, 1949-72. By *Dale Roy Herspring*. Foreword by *Peter C. Ludz*. Praeger Special Studies in International Politics and Government. New York, Washington, London: Praeger Publishers, 1973. xxxvii, 217 pp. \$17.50.

The interaction between technological adaptation and political control (or, in Richard Lowenthal's brilliant formulation, the tension between "development" and "utopia") has long been a major concern of students of Communist political systems. Both volumes under review address themselves to the role of technical specialists in East Germany, which has achieved a high level of technological development without sacrificing ideological-political discipline and direction.

Professor Baylis treats the East German technical intelligentsia as a whole. The first part of his study describes the technocrats' political characteristics, their experience as a "stratum" under Communist rule, and the efforts of the East German regime to socialize its technical specialists as well as to politicize the various milieus in which they work. The second section of the book deals with technocratic recruitment into the political elite and touches upon the thorny issue of its "representation" in the highest party bodies. It includes two particularly useful chapters on "technicians and policy," the second of which covers the technicians' prominence during the initial phase of the New Economic System (1963-65) and their relative decline afterwards. Throughout the study Baylis employs the tantalizing term "technical strategic elite" without, however, fully exploring the implications of his own terminology which markedly differs from the juxtaposed categories, "strategic clique" (that is, the nontechnocratic political elite) and "institutionalized counter-elite" (those technocrats co-opted into politically relevant positions), employed by Peter C. Ludz in his seminal work, *The Changing Party Elite in East Germany* (Cambridge, Mass., 1972; German original, *Parteielite im Wandel*, Cologne and Opladen, 1968). Baylis regards Ludz's celebration of the political rise of the technocrats to have been excessive, but he also believes in the likelihood of "profound" if "undramatic" changes in basic patterns of political authority for the longer term. Whether right in this respect or not, Baylis's judicious study offers much interesting material for further speculation.

Dale R. Herspring's monograph is narrower and considerably less stimulating. In order to measure the impact of technology on East German civil-military relations, Herspring has devised seventeen "indicators of technology" and fifteen "indicators of political control," all of which are enumerated at the outset. Subsequent chapters apply both sets of indicators to five separate periods from 1949 to 1972, scoring individual indicators and correlating levels of technology with degrees of political control at each turn. Despite the claims for the study advanced