

MYKHAILO HRUSHEVS'KYI I NAUKOVE TOVARYSTVO IM. TARASA SHEVCHENKA, 1892–1930. By *Liubomyr Vynar* [*Lubomyr Wynar*]. *Ukraïns'ke Istorychne Tovarystvo*. Munich: "Dniprova Khvyliia," 1970. 110 pp.

This slender volume, published under the auspices of the Ukrainian Historical Society, attempts the difficult task of assessing in a small space the impact of the famous Ukrainian historian Mykhailo Hrushevsky on the Shevchenko Scientific Society in L'viv. It is clear that without Hrushevsky's leadership the society would not have attained the high level it reached. From 1897 to 1913, during the presidency of Hrushevsky, the society became a remarkable scholarly enterprise, performing unofficially the role of a Ukrainian academy of sciences. Researches, publications, and a library were developed under the direct initiative of the president, who thus successfully bridged the division between the Russian and Austrian Ukraine. Vynar's account is factual and objective. It does not conceal the quarrels between Hrushevsky and some Galician scholars, and it dwells briefly on Hrushevsky's complex and authoritarian personality. The author, perhaps, leans a little too far toward Hrushevsky's side in devoting the whole final section to the rather tenuous relations between Hrushevsky and the Shevchenko Society after 1913.

The monograph points to the urgent need for a full-length book on Hrushevsky. Not only was he a remarkable historian of the Eastern Slavs, whose views are of great interest to a student of Russia and the Ukraine. He was also, as this book shows, a superb organizer of work and men, not only scholars, but in his later years of politicians too. However, it is here, in his activity in the Central Rada, that there is much to criticize in his methods. In one sense, towering above his contemporaries as he did, he failed to bring out the best in them. The breadth of his vision, the tensions of his life, and the contradictions of his personality will prove a real challenge to a future biographer.

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DIE SHITOMIRER ARNDTS: EINE FAMILIENCHRONIK AUF DEM HINTERGRUND HUNDERTFÜNFZIGJÄHRIGER GESCHICHTE DER WESTLICHEN UKRAINE. By *Nikolaus Arndt*. Würzburg: Holzner-Verlag, 1970. 151 pp. DM 36.

Although biography and genealogy, because of the present-day accent on sociology and mass movements, do not at the moment constitute a major concern of historians, this new work helps us recall their value. It has some traits of provincialism insofar as it contains, in part, family matters of a chiefly personal and private interest, but it also illustrates historically significant issues which so many works floating in the thin realms of statistical averages, generalizations, conceptualizations, and intellectualism necessarily lack. It is through details that the history of the Arndt family conveys to us a concrete understanding of many aspects of general Russian history and can correct preconceived notions.

We learn realities about "level of economic development" and effects of political pressures on everyday living; we hear why Germans like the Arndts, poor weavers at home, were attracted to Volhynia, how they adapted to their new surroundings and how the surroundings adapted to them, what contributions they made to the rise of industry and to education and culture in the regions of Łódź, Shitomir, and other places, and how they gradually gave up their occupations as artisans, rented and