

Asia and the instances of Afghanistan's subsequent determination to expand its territory at the expense of the struggling Communist state.

Equally annoying is the standard Soviet practice of omitting the names and failing to discuss the importance of current "nonpersons," among them Fedor Raskolnikov, the first minister to Afghanistan who chose exile in 1938, as well as Stalin, Khrushchev, and Bulganin. On the other hand, the work abounds with endless quotations from the accepted "classics" and the current leaders. These shortcomings significantly detract from the value of this otherwise useful volume.

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REVOLUTION UND INTERNATIONALE POLITIK: ZUR KOMMUNISTISCHEN INTERPRETATION DER KAPITALISTISCHEN WELT, 1921–1925. By *Wolfgang Eichwede*. Beiträge zur Geschichte Osteuropas, vol. 8. Vienna and Cologne: Böhlau Verlag, 1971. viii, 246 pp. DM 36.

This book is a dissertation prepared at Tübingen under the guidance of Professor Dietrich Geyer. The work deals with a period in the history of international communism already well studied in sound English-language publications, but it offers a somewhat different perspective. Wolfgang Eichwede has examined an extensive body of material published by the leading Bolsheviks in the early 1920s and has reconstructed their attitudes toward Western political developments and toward each other during that era.

Between 1921 and 1925 the Communist International accommodated its strategy and tactics to the facts of European diplomacy; it reacted rather than assuming the initiative. The revolution that had been so confidently predicted by Lenin and his followers in 1919 and 1920 seemed a remote possibility by 1921, and the evidence of the stability of capitalism could be seen in many of the developments of the subsequent years. The rise of fascism in Italy, the implementation of the Versailles decisions, the Genoa and Lausanne Conferences, and the Dawes plan proved challenging in different ways to the theoreticians and policy-makers of the Kremlin, and owing to the interregnum caused by Lenin's illness and death, there was indecision in the international Communist leadership. Eichwede has given careful attention to the attitudes of various high-ranking Communists as they were expressed in publications such as *Pravda*, *Izvestiia*, and the Comintern publications. The articles by Radek, Zinoviev, and Trotsky receive much of the attention, since they were the men most actively involved in Comintern affairs. The material is for the most part treated topically.

We seem to have reached the point of diminishing returns in studies of the Comintern. Those familiar with the works of E. H. Carr, Werner Angress, and Warren Lerner will find much that is familiar here. The scholarly work is thorough, but the era will continue to appear as a period of indecision and adjustment in the history of international communism.

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