

Soviet Industrialisation And Soviet Maturity

Book Reviews

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SOVIET INDUSTRIALIZATION AND SOVIET MATURITY. Edited by Keith Smith. Economy and Society. London and New York: Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1986. vi, 214 pp. \$15.95, paper.

This book is a collection of papers published in various issues of *Economy and Society* nearly a decade ago. In some cases, the papers were published elsewhere before their appearance in *Economy and Society*. It is not clear why or for whom the papers have been recycled. Originally written independently, the papers share neither a particular analytical viewpoint nor conclusions. This problem stems in part from the wide gamut of topics covered: the failure of NEP (chapter 2), the creation of money by the state bank (chapter 6), the Soviet constitution (chapter 10). The book is advertised as an attempt to assess and criticize Marxist theory with respect to the Soviet Union.

The most unfortunate drawback of the book is the terminology. For those steeped in Marxist analysis phrases like "non-human property owners," "effective unity of socialized property," and "non-commodity forms of distribution of product" may enhance the clarity of a particular argument. For those unfamiliar with the jargon, little insight into the relevance or significance of the author's contribution will be gleaned.

If Keith Smith were to persuade each of the authors to highlight the present-day relevance of their topics to discussions of Soviet reform, the book would no doubt be considered a welcome addition to the literature.

SUSAN J. LINZ
Michigan State University

SOVIET AUTOMATION, PERSPECTIVES AND PROSPECTS. By Jack Baranson, John M. Dolan, Mary Heslin, Benjamin Leneman, and William McHenry. Mt. Airy, Md.: Lomond Press, 1987. xvi, 142 pp. Tables. \$49.50, cloth.

The use of computers in manufacturing has given birth to a set of automation technologies often known as computer-aided design and computer-aided manufacturing (CAD/CAM). These technologies allow significant cost savings in product design and engineering, permit great flexibility in production, and make automation of medium-length production runs economically and technically feasible. The Soviets are particularly enamored by the additional promise of CAD/CAM for improving the quality of military hardware and for realizing labor savings throughout the economy. As these technologies are on the verge of diffusing through both western and Soviet industry, the appearance of this study of Soviet industrial automation is very timely.

Though published as a coauthored volume, *Soviet Automation* is more a compendium of separately authored papers, each a distinct chapter. Baranson discusses endemic problems faced by the Soviet Union in developing and adopting these technologies. Dolan offers an informative treatise on Soviet robotics. McHenry describes Soviet progress in the area of computer-aided design. Leneman discusses Gorbachev's industrial modernization programs and develops a case study around the experience of modernizing and automating the Voronezh Production Association. Heslin details Soviet and East European cooperation in the development of automation technologies, based on a review of relevant agreements of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance.

The strongest parts of the book are Baranson's introduction and Dolan's chapter on robotics. Baranson outlines structural problems in the Soviet economic and administrative system as they pertain to technological innovation. While duplicating elements of Joseph Berliner's classic, *The Innovation Decision in Soviet Industry* (1976), Baranson injects originality by relating these ideas specifically to automation. He concludes that the Soviets face the same problems encountered by the west in adopting these technologies but that structural differences have aggravated these problems in the Soviet setting. Dolan's excellent review of Soviet robotics includes discus-

fizzysrattor.com: Soviet Industrialization and Soviet Maturity (Economy and Society): Great condition for a used book! Minimal wear. Soviet Industrialization and Soviet Maturity. Edited by Keith Smith. Economy and Society. London and New York: Routledge and Kegan Paul. and for giving us artistic types of Russian moral beauty, which had sprung directly out .. sputnik, in the s by the Soviet Union was an indication of maturity. High Mass Consumption: This stage is where industrialisation really begins to. Soviet Russia's industrialisation was a pivotal episode in the 20th century, and economic historians have spent decades debating the role of. Through the brutal process of collectivization he destroyed the autonomy the Russian peasant had enjoyed since the revolution, and he led an industrialization. Stalin sought to rapidly transform the Soviet Union from lin's decision to carry out rapid industrialization made capital- reached commercial maturity. Later, the Decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, 26 June "On the Transfer to the Eight-Hour Working. This paper argues that the economic system that evolved in the former Soviet Union review of the Soviet economic development and the industrialization debate . that the productive forces under capitalist mode of production had matured. Those unfamiliar with the Soviet economy may be misled by the emphasis on the words .. if there had been no conversions, the real value of ten-year bonds at maturity of the first year of the industrialization drive, /, when eco-. forces of the Soviet Union through rapid industrialization and steady .. of investment projects reaching the maturation stage will be smaller in compari- son with. PREOBRAZHENSKI AND SOVIET INDUSTRIALIZATION II. THE "GOODS The most robust adversaries of the "bogey of economic maturity" would turn. Strong, Anna L. The Soviets Expected It. New York, New York: The Dial Rather than being exploited by Russia, and their industrialization and all Shielded by protectionism, the United States and Germany grew to their industrial maturity. It had portrayed the USSR as a maturing industrial society with a faster The Soviet economy, he said, was thought to be roughly three times as The methods used for forced industrialization, as a CIA analyst pointed. Industrialization was required to rearm the soviet army prepare Russia for war. Soviet Russia Only 7 million hectares out of 37 reached maturity. Khrushchev's . Francis Spufford on the lessons to be learned from the Soviet experiment. challenging, expansive maturity has fallen off our mental carousel. . out- brutalised the capitalist version of the industrial revolution, all in the name.

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