True, Mannheim should not be criticized for his lack of interest in medi-
val France. But it should be noticed that Mannheim, in a book about the
compatibility of modern Science and Christianity, seems so utterly unaware
of the fact that such compatibility has begun to be sensed by representative
writers and even, where it might have been least expected, in the dusty
stacks of philologists.

And yet, it seems that some such awakening to an outlook on History and
Progress other than a naively rectilinear one is imperative for the sincere
revitalization of our Faith, the Faith that would make us experience Our
Time in a manner more scientific, but not less mysterious, than in the days
of the Apostles.

ALFRED ADLER†

THE REAL SOVIET RUSSIA. By David J. Dallin; translated by Joseph

AMERICANS have a duty henceforth to acquaint themselves not only with
the social system of Russia, a great ally, but with a social system competing
with their own. For that reason, the present book should be obligatory read-
ing. The author, a Menshevik Russian located in this country, and a dis-
tinguished scholar, has obtained access to Russian publications which for the
most part are closed books to American citizens. The work makes authentic
and fascinating reading because it rests to a large extent on statistics which
are embroidered by great historical and social insight. Without sign of
hostility or denunciation, it exposes the weakness of the Russian social
system as few books have done. If any American believes that the United
States has much that is beneficial to learn from the system of Soviet Russia—
the so-called “dictatorship of the proletariat”—he has but to read The Real
Soviet Russia to be enlightened. Russian citizens who were accustomed to
Czarist rule might submit to the new form of regimentation. Those who
profit by it might even like it. But how any American citizen can endorse
the loss of every vestige of freedom and submit to the hardships and dangers
of the individual under the Soviet regime is a little beyond comprehension.

The author demonstrates his superiority as an historian and sociologist
by his analysis of the limits of Stalin’s realism, and by his understanding of
Trotsky’s expansionist aims. Short chapters on the religious and foreign
policy show a tolerant understanding of a doctrinaire conception. But the
author’s major contributions lie in his analysis of the new social structure:
the bureaucracy, the new “Upper Classes,” already amounting, with fami-
lies, to 28 million people who must be supported; the working class, for
whose alleged benefit the whole revolution was begun; the peasantry, who
have changed masters but remain in abject poverty; the large group dedi-

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cated to "forced labor," who seem to be treated below the human level; the Communist Party, a small group of tried and true doctrinaires, and their supporting henchmen in the self-serving Komsomol; the Red Army; and the NKVD, the secret police, numbering in excess of two million.

It is regrettable that the Soviet experiment was not permitted to proceed without obstacle. The Bolshevik government, even though of startlingly novel type, should have received recognition in 1920. The promiscuous confiscation of private property was of course shocking to the western world, but its illegalities or the resulting protest seem to have become tempered with the passage of time and with that sudden need for Soviet Russia as an ally which has led to the pouring of billions into the Soviet maw by the erstwhile victims of confiscation. It is probable that the author suspects that the magnificent performances of the Red Army are rendered in the name of Russia rather than of Communism, for Communism is but a remote hope for the future when the "state" shall have withered away. The sole present reality is state socialism. It appears clear, however, that the tight little group in the Politbureau have abandoned none of their aims and are likely to drive through to the bitter end.

That Soviet Russia is riding for an eventual fall Dr. Dallin does not doubt. Its economic miscalculations, apart from its incidental social evils, he exposes and necessarily condemns. He expects the disintegration to become evident at the end of the present war, though, politically speaking, Soviet Russia will by that time have completed the metamorphosis from the most despised to the strongest nation in Europe and Asia. What this will mean for the western world only time can tell.

EDWIN BORCHARD†


This is a thorough and a comprehensive book, and its title does not belie its content. It represents an editorial achievement of signal merit: thousands of cases, statutes, treaties and administrative rulings, often inconsistent and usually unavailable, have been collected in an organic treatment for the first time. Its twenty-three chapter headings include Federal Indian Legislation, The Scope of Tribal Self-Government, Personal Rights and Liberties of Indians, Tribal Property, and Indian Treaties—to mention only a few. A wealth of technical detail never interferes with readability; expertise is given substance by "a belief that the protection of minority rights and the substitution of reason and agreement for force and dictation represent a contribution to civilization, a belief that confusion and ignorance in fields of law are allies of despotism, . . . a belief that under-

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