capitals prior to her provincial sojourn, and she seems to have understood some Russian. Her descriptions of food and drink, pastimes, visitors, and especially of the very different manner of life in the winter and summer on the estate reflect a familiarity with Russian gentry provincial society. While little of this information will be new to the specialist, the prose and lively descriptions make this book an interesting read, and it does expand the collection of foreigners' accounts of the period. This book would also be useful for teaching purposes, as it introduces a number of fundamental points about pre-emancipation Russian life, such as the relationships of serfdom, attitudes of the gentry toward the state and manufacturing, together with colorful descriptions of the landscape, modes of travel, sledding, drinking and so on. Memoirs such as Aksakov's concentrate in much more detail on the internal dynamics of the family and give a real sense of the interior lives of their subjects. This memoir, while quite reserved about personal relations, illuminates the more ordinary aspects of daily life, with the added advantage (for undergraduate students) of being written for an audience unfamiliar with Russian gentry society. Though for such an audience the map on page 25 would prove inadequate, in general the book would serve the student well. At Home with the Gentry is a rich and detailed addition to our literature on pre-emancipation Russian society, illustrating the pleasures and pains of provincial estate life.

M. W. Cavender


This slender volume offers a handy statistical reference to the crimes of the Stalin era. Teachers of twentieth-century Europe will find here information about the big questions and lesser-known features of the Stalinist repressions (they might also consult Dittmar Dahlmann and Gerhard Hirschfeld, eds., Lager, Zwangsarbeit, Vertriebung und Deportation: Dimensionen der Massenvernichtung in der Sowjetunion und Deutschland [Essen: Klartext, 1999]). The author makes accessible to an English-speaking audience results of the first decade of researches in the Russian archives, including information about the number of people executed during the purges, sent to camps, deported as "kulaks" to remote frontiers, or forcibly resettled as members of the punished peoples. Seventy-six tables present the data, further elaborated in twenty-seven short textual chapters and a conclusion. A bibliography provides a starting point for further investigation.

Nevertheless, the book is seriously flawed, the texts barebones and the editing careless. Pohl criticizes the "factological" character of recent Russian work (p. 58), but did no new research himself, a shortcoming not compensated by exploitation of the secondary literature or novel explication of the sources. The reader wonders why one topic received ten pages or more ("The Soviet Germans"), but another only two ("The Baltic States and Ukraine"); why considerable information on some points is included (the Vlasovites), but others go begging (the other World War II returnees); and what the information herein reveals about Soviet history: the conclusion is a bare half page. In one sentence Pohl indicates 177,043 Polish citizens were sent into the
special settlements and in another that 391,575 were in confinement and exile in the USSR at about the same time. Can one assume that the difference consists in Polish P.O.W.s, or perhaps Polish emigres arrested during the purges of 1936-1938? And though the releases in 1941 are mentioned, why no word here about the formation of the Anders Army (which is treated in the chapter on the Soviet Germans, p. 83)?

The author and editors pile error upon error: spelling, typographical, grammatical, stylistic, and factual. The stuchki, "thingies," on pp. 16 and 165 should be stukachi, informers; the region that concerns us most is not (pp. 91, 101, and so on) the "Caucuses"; the already unhappy Balkars are called "Ballcars" on p. 108 — opposite the very chapter devoted to their deportation! The new Deputy Chief of the Gulag in 1934 was not "Naftley" Berman as on page 12, or even the correctly spelled Naftali, but rather Matvei Davydovich; the Germans captured the famous collaborator Vlasov not at the Battle of Stalingrad (p. 125), but months earlier near Leningrad. For unclear reasons the author translates some place names (the Gulag center Medvezhyegorsk, "Bear Hill," also wrong, for it should be "mountain"); and on page 50 tells us that the Russian for "motherland" is Rodina (capitalized for some reason). The author corrects addition of figures in secret police reports, but if 68 percent of the prisoners in forced-labor colonies in 1952 were serving sentences of three to ten years, 79.5 percent could not have been doing ten to twenty (p. 29); and the Gulag couldn't very well have been producing 90,000,000 cubic meters of wood products from 1941 to 1944 (p. 41) at the same time it was producing only 7,000,000 (p. 40).

Other flaws point to careless reasoning. That "the prettiest women [prisoners] usually became the concubines of the camp chiefs" (p. 30) is an unsupportable generalization, and the proposition that women were usually arrested for connections with their arrested menfolk "rather than for their own actions" (p. 30) suggests that the latter were being arrested for oppositional activity rather than to fill quotas. One can only guess why the author included the tiny appendix on special settlers rather than incorporating the numbers into the relevant chapters.

On page 80 we read that the authorities didn't intend for the deported Soviet Germans to die of exposure on the steppes, a platitude in a book documenting their resettlement as inexpensive labor. Tens of thousands died miserable deaths, a catastrophe understandably represented in emigre literature as deliberate mass murder. But hyperbole has no place in a serious reference work: the reckless handling of human masses, a remarkable indifference to human suffering, surely there were, but Moscow had no more wish to squander this chattel than other livestock; Pohl's implication on page 107, however, that the leaders and administrators were utterly indifferent to the material needs of the deportees is belied by hundreds of previously secret documents reproduced in the very anthologies the author cites (and others he doesn't) that illustrate their efforts, admittedly inadequate and incompetent, to house, supply, and employ them. Largely indifferent would correctly characterize their attitude; and one must not forget that the regime was in no position to adequately house and feed the free population either. Comparable rhetoric appears elsewhere: the treatment of the Crimean Tatars, the Chechens, and the Kalmyks, we are told, reflected a Russian racist animus (p. 91), though why then the Volga Tatars, Daghestanis, and Buriat Mongols escaped similar treatment does not enter into the account. The handling of the "punished peoples" should be recognized as a crime against humanity; it is a reflection on our sorry