

# CURRENT BOOKS

## FELLOWS' CHOICE

*Recent titles selected and reviewed by Fellows of the Wilson Center*

**THE SECULARIZATION  
OF THE EUROPEAN  
MIND IN THE NINE-  
TEENTH CENTURY**

by Owen Chadwick  
Cambridge, 1975  
286 pp. \$18.95  
L of C 75-16870  
ISBN 0-521-20892-0

Focusing on Britain, France, and Germany between 1860 and 1900, Cambridge's Regius Professor of Modern History disputes the conventional wisdom that urbanization and scientific discovery undermined 19th-century religious commitments. Paradoxically, secularization reflected the vitality of religion in European life. In the burgeoning cities, working-class people were mildly hostile toward churches, but not toward religion. Many churchmen as well as anticlericalists approved the decline in the churches' political influence. Socialist leaders encountered distaste for atheism: Rosa Luxemburg ultimately mounted an attack on churches precisely for being irreligious. Sober thinkers of the day discerned no inherent conflict between science and religion. In France, Ernest Renan's biography of a humanized, secularized Jesus attracted sustained readership. Overall, Chadwick perceives 19th-century secularization not as a movement against religion but as a quest for a Christianity that fulfilled the promise of personal freedom. "Liberty to attack religion rose less from the decline of religion than from the love of liberty."

—F. Gregory Campbell ('77)

**THE BOLSHEVIKS  
COME TO POWER:  
The Revolution of 1917  
in Petrograd**

by Alexander Rabinowitch  
Norton, 1976, 393 pp. \$14.95  
L of C 76-20756  
ISBN 0-393-05586-8

Five crucial months in the history of the Russian Revolution are portrayed here with a wealth of new data. The Bolsheviks, lifting themselves up from a seemingly fatal slump in their fortunes in July 1917, moved to their successful bid for power in October (Julian calendar). Quite a number of preconceptions are dispelled in this work by Rabinowitch, director of Indiana University's

Russian and East European Institute. We see the Bolsheviks in action—debating, hesitating, deeply disagreeing on policies, fiercely contesting Lenin's ideas—a far cry from the monolithic avant-garde some writers still believe the Party to have been. We see a Party whose growing mass following in Petrograd often pushed it to precipitate action, despite efforts to rein in its followers while still radicalizing them.

—*Moshe Lewin*

**DEVELOPING THE ICBM:  
A Study in Bureaucratic  
Politics**  
by Edmund Beard  
Columbia, 1976, 273 pp. \$15  
L of C 76-16037  
ISBN 0-231-04012-1

Concepts of bureaucratic politics developed by Graham Allison, Morton H. Halperin, John D. Steinbruner, and others are applied in this monograph to explain what did *not* happen in ballistic missile development before and during the critical years 1946–54. Why did the U.S. Air Force resist the ICBM? Beard's answer: a combination of technological conservatism and organizational identification with the manned bomber. Not until pushed by innovation in American nuclear weapons and Soviet bombers, reinforced by explicit directives from the Eisenhower administration, did senior Air Force officers begin to recognize the revolutionary potential of ballistic missiles. Beard calls for high-quality weapons evaluation procedures that will have both independence and political authority, but he does not specify what form these would take.

—*Samuel F. Wells, Jr.*

**ISHI IN TWO WORLDS:  
A Biography of the Last  
Wild Indian in North  
America**  
by Theodora Kroeber  
Univ. of Calif., 1976  
262 pp. \$14.95  
L of C 75-36501  
ISBN 0-520-03152-0

Ishi, last known survivor of the Yahi Indian tribe, was found starving on a ranch near Oroville, California in 1911. His story is told by the wife of one of the Berkeley anthropologists who befriended him and gave him a home for the remaining four years and seven months of his life. Ishi learned enough English to be able to teach his teachers something of the language and customs of his vanished tribe. This account of how he