

*Filosofija Hegelja i sovremennost'* (Hegel's Philosophy and Today), Moskva, Mysl', 1973, 430str. 1r. 64k.

The papers which make up this volume were presented at meetings in Berlin (August, 1970) and Moscow (February, 1971), in celebration of Hegel's 200th birthday. Contributors are indicated in the preface, the articles themselves remaining essentially unsigned. Noteworthy among these are: F. V. Konstantinov, M. B. Mitin, T.I. Ojzerman, E. V. Il'enkov, V. F. Asmus, M. T. Iovčuk and I. S. Narskij.

The opening paragraph is unpromising: "Georg Wilhelm Friederich Hegel (1770–1831) was a leading German thinker, the creator of dialectical logic, and the founder of the most universal and richest pre-Marxist philosophical doctrine on development, serving as one of the conceptual sources of a new and revolutionary doctrine – dialectical and historical materialism." (p. 5) – particularly since it is followed by a neurotic treatment of 'revisionists on Hegel' and a *samokritika* by Jindrich Zelený who is in his first decade as token self-criticist for the Czech Spring.

Between these two, however, one finds Orudčev's excellent article on Marx and Hegel and Ojzerman's passable treatment of Lenin and Hegel.

The highlight of the volume is Asmus talking about Hegel's views on the limits of formalism (pp. 144–160), as well as the extensive bibliography of Soviet works on Hegel.

Despite its serious shortcomings, this volume shows once more that involvement with Hegel is the best cure for the hereditary weaknesses of Soviet philosophy.

T.J.B.