Werk

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Autor: Peach, G. C. K.

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Kontakt/Contact

Digizeitschriften e.V.
SUB Göttingen
Platz der Göttinger Sieben 1
37073 Göttingen

info@digizeitschriften.de

Neue Literatur

Allgemeines

Harald Uhlig & Cay Lienau (Hrsg.): Erstes Deutsch-Englisches Symposium zur Angewandten Geographie Gießen-Würzburg-München 1973. (First German-English Symposium on Applied Geography Gießen-Würzburg-München 1973). (Zahlreiche Abb. und Tab.). Gießen: Lenz 1975. 254 pp. Gießener Geographische Schriften. **35.** DM 42,60.

German Geography, the writings of German geographers, is *terra incognita* to most British geographers. The literature in English produced in Britain, the U. S. A. and elsewhere is so vast and active that most of what appears in other languages is ignored unless translated. Many of the articles that appear in Swedish or Dutch journals are in English. A special journal exists to translate Russian geographical literature into English. French literature is accessible — French is the most widely taught modern language in British schools: German comes second by a long way. However, even though the Vidalian tradition was one of the foundations of 20th century British geography, very little of the innovative thrust comes from France now. French geography, seen from Britain, seems quiet and tradition bound. German geography, however, is *terra incognita*. The reviews of German geographic literature in the British academic journals are given on the whole to critics who understand the language rather than to critics who are experts in the topic discussed. — Thus the holding of a symposium, the bringing together of German and British workers, the opening of doors into the literature, is wholly to be commended. — The first German-English symposium on applied Geography was held in Gießen, Würzburg and Munich in April 1973. It established a platform for British and German geographers to report on matters from various fields where geography meets with practical questions and problems ranging from drainage and water conservation or air pollution to administrative boundary reorganization, rural planning, slum clearance and tourism. This volume reproduces papers in both English and German, delivered at the symposium, together with the introductions to the field excursions. German abstracts of English articles and English abstracts of German articles are given. Professor HARALD UHLIG provides an introduction in both languages. — Given the number and variety of the papers, it is impossible to do justice to each piece individually. It is best therefore to give a general classification of the contributions and to single out only a few for detailed comment. Although the chapters are not arranged under headings, one can discern five unequally represented themes: (a) Administrative boundary reform, (b) Regional Policy, (c) Urban Social Geography, (d) Applied Physical Studies of water storage, drainage and heat budgets, and air pollution, (e) Excursion guides for the conference. — Professor WILLIAM KIRK and Professor TOM ELKINS both contribute papers on the recent administrative reforms in Britain. While UTZ INGO KÜPPER discusses geographical research and local government reform in the Federal Republic of Germany; HEINRICH LAMPING discusses similar problems in relation to five different areas in the Federal Republic of Germany. — The largest number of papers can perhaps best be attributed to a general title of Regional Policy. M. BATEMAN, D. BURTENSHAW and A. DUFFETT discuss the rehousing of office workers whose offices have moved from London under the British metropolitan dispersal policies. Professor JOHN HOUSE discusses the role of the geographers in policy making in the British uplands. D. UTHOFF discusses the problems of the Harz mountains. Professor WINIFRED MOEWES contributes two papers — the first dealing with the application of systems analysis to regional planning and the second, a very brief introduction to the excursion into Mid Hesse, the area discussed in the first paper. Professor R. W. H. MELLOR dicusses the planning problems of Highland Scotland. B. J. WOODRUFF reviews the policies applied to rural settlement planning in post-war Britain. Professor CONZEN