## **Preface**

to the Enlarged, English-Language Edition

The present book was originally intended to be no more than a translation of its German predecessor Privatproduzenten in der sowietischen Landwirtschaft (Cologne, 1967). Later it was decided to enlarge the original by the present Chapters VIII, IX, and X dealing with Soviet policy toward the private sector since Stalin's death. Most of Chapters VIII and IX is based on my articles in Osteuropa (Stuttgart) and Sowjetstudien (Munich), and the first section of Chapter X on one in Problems of Communism (Washington). I am grateful to the editors of these three periodicals for consenting to use the articles here. Although the appendices of the German version were dropped to save space for the new chapters, the American edition became more voluminous; the bulk was further increased because, during the translating and editing process, material was added that deals with recent developments and incorporates new information, which became available to me only after 1967. (These emendations are documented in the footnotes and bibliographic references; to make room for them, some footnotes of the German version were dropped; the reader searching for full documentation is referred to these.)

In the end, virtually a new book emerged. If it is also a better book, most of the credit should go to the translator and the editor.

During the process of rewriting and editing, I was at times ready to give up the Sisyphian task. If I did not, thanks are due primarily to the unrelenting energy and intellectual strength of the late Professor George F. Karcz, who from the beginning believed in the book. Besides, I am greatly indebted to Professor Gregory Grossman, for his helpful interest, to Mr. Keith Bush, the translator (except for Chapter VI, translated by Karcz), and to the University of California Press. The Bundesinstitut für Ostwissenschaftliche und Internationale Studien, Cologne, has to be gratefully mentioned; the Institut had sponsored the German version, held the rights to it, and took a benevolent attitude toward translation and emendations of the work.

xviii preface

In one of the many letters we exchanged, Karcz encouraged me by citing the motto of the prewar Polish cavalry: Tuum fac, nec respice finem. I can think of no better motto for a book owing so much to this sincere friend, whose early tragic death casts a shadow on this publication.

K.-E. W.