early Chinese newspapers in Singapore, [1927–1930]) (Singapore: Educational Publications Bureau, 1980), and Guo Huifen, *Zhongguo nanlai zuozhe yu xima huawen wenxue* (1919–1949) (Writers from the mainland and Chinese literature in Singapore and Malaya, [1919–1949]) (Xiamen: Xiamen University Press, 1999). There are also some errors in Chinese transliterations: Chuan Wumen (p. 91) should be Fu Wumen; *Hu Wenhu Juan* (pp. 103, 208) should be *Hu Wenhu Zhuan*; Yan Jinghuan (p. 207) should be Yan Qinghuan. More importantly, it is not clear why Kenley chooses *fuzhang* instead of *fukan* which was much more commonly used in both the prewar period and its aftermath.

These shortcomings aside, *New Culture in a New World* is well documented and written, and it has put forth several important theses that need to be pondered seriously. Readers interested in the impact of the New Culture Movement and the intellectual articulation of Chinese diasporic consciousness in its early phase will find this book informative and helpful.

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For those who are familiar with developments in China’s telecommunications market during the last two decades, what China has achieved is truly dramatic. I was born in a rural village in Jiangsu Province, one of the most developed regions in China. I still remember in the 1980s that the whole village shared one telephone, and manual transfer was needed to make a local call from one village to another. Long-distance calls were expensive and very difficult to make. Even in major cities such as Nanjing in the late 1980s, one had to go to the telecommunications office and wait in line for a long time in order to make a long-distance call. Even after paying the expensive installation fee, it took a few months if not a year to install a phone at home. In the early 1990s, a 10-percent phone penetration rate by the end of the 1990s was unthinkable. Not only was it very expensive to install a phone, having a phone at home was considered a luxury available only to a few people. However, things changed very rapidly in the late 1990s. Many families had phones at home and cellular phones became common.

In the book under review, Ding Lu and Chee Kong Wong have provided a comprehensive and systematic documentation of the changes in China’s
telecommunications sector from the late 1970s to 2003. The book is organized into six chapters. Chapter one, “A Great Leap Forward to the Information Age,” documents the extraordinary growth of China’s telecommunications industry in the last two decades. Particularly the authors reveal that China is an overachiever in the telecommunications industry: it outperforms most other developing countries as well as its own ambitious plans. The authors explain the fast growth of China’s telecommunications industry. The second chapter, “Behind the Hyper Growth,” summarizes the primary forces: the fast-growing economy on the demand side, the institutional and organization reforms, and the various preferential policies by the state government. The third chapter discusses the opening of China’s telecommunications markets in equipment and services. As pointed out, the equipment market opened earlier than the services market, and the former was already fairly competitive in the 1980s, while the latter did not see competition until the late 1990s due to the entry of powerful players and the restructuring of the regulatory regime. The fourth chapter summarizes the major changes and reforms in China’s telecommunications regulatory framework. Particularly, the authors discuss the conflicts between the Ministry of Information Technology and other regulatory agencies and the dilemma it faced on the one hand as “the caretaker of the state-owned telecom carriers” and “a market umpire to ensure fair play and consumer welfare” on the other hand. In chapter five, the authors briefly discuss the implications of China’s entry to WTO on the telecommunications market and how the state government has responded to this challenge. As demonstrated, the Chinese government has so far been quite successful in pursuing its strategy to preempt foreign entrants, to protect its domestic business interests, and to ensure state control over basic telecommunications business and network development. In the final chapter, the authors review some of the many new developments in China’s telecommunications markets: the second divestiture of China Telecom and entry of new players. As such, China’s telecommunications industry has entered an era of “warring states” in the telecoms market with six major players, including China Telecom, China Mobile, China Unicom, China Satcom, China Netcom, and China Railcom. Finally, the authors present their assessment of the prospects of China’s telecoms industry in the future.

The book offers rich information in China’s telecommunications industry during the last two decades. However, the book could have added value by including more information. First, it would have been useful if the authors...
had provided a review on related studies on China’s telecommunications industry. It is unclear what other people have done in this field and what is new in this study. Second, the book would have benefited from a theoretical framework. Third, the authors focused on the changes in the telecommunications industry, while the overall picture of China’s institutional reforms and changes did not receive much discussion. I believe a discussion of China’s reforms and changes toward a market economy is essential to understand the landscapes and changes in China’s telecoms industry. The telecoms industry may share many characteristics of other industries, while having its own unique settings. It is not clear from the study what changes the authors discussed are common to other industries, and what is unique to the telecoms industry.

With that said, I want to point out that the book is a good reference for scholars with interests in China and its telecommunications industry, as well as for foreign government officials and investors. Particularly useful are the three appendices at the end of the book: “Major Events of China’s Telecommunications Sector (1979–2003),” “Telecommunications Regulations of the People’s Republic of China,” and “Regulations on Foreign-invested Telecom Enterprises.”

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Thirty years after Margery Wolf brought “tone, colour and texture” to debates on Chinese families (p. 165), Chinese Women: Living and Working adds important complexity and depth to the timely question of whether continuity or change best characterizes contemporary Chinese women’s lives. Relying on diverse research methods, including surveys, case studies, and interviews, this volume addresses the extent to which women are, first, employed in truly new domains and, second, disadvantaged by the shift to a market economy.

The book consists of eight chapters, each of which weighs the opportunities and challenges facing different women in a variety of work arenas, from formal politics and private enterprises to households and marriages. With contributions from both established and rising China scholars, this impressive collection places Chinese women in comparative perspective, links