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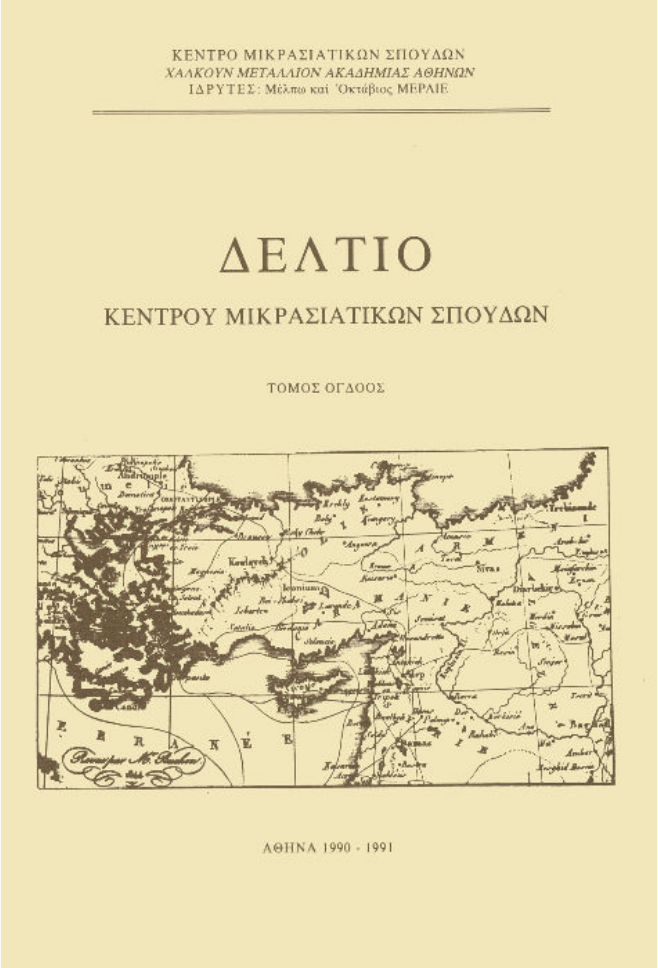

Contributions to Balkan bibliography: World bibliographical series, vol.59: Romania, compiled by Andrea and Dennis Delatant. Vol.94: Albania, compiled by William B.Bland. Vol.107: Bulgaria, compiled by Richard J.Crampton. Vol.1: Yugoslavia

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ΒΙΒΛΙΟΚΡΙΣΙΕΣ

REVIEW ESSAY

CONTRIBUTIONS TO BALKAN BIBLIOGRAPHY

World Bibliographical Series, Vol. 59: *Romania,* compiled by Andrea and Dennis Deletant. Oxford and Santa Barbara: Clio Press, 1985. Pp. xviii + 236 and map.

———, Vol. 94: *Albania,* compiled by William B. Bland. Oxford and Santa Barbara: Clio Press, 1988. Pp. xxxvi + 290 and map.

———, Vol. 107: *Bulgaria,* compiled by Richard J. Crampton. Oxford and Santa Barbara, Clio Press, 1989.

———, Vol. 1: *Yugoslavia.* Revised Edition, compiled by John J. Horton. Oxford and Santa Barbara: Clio Press, 1990. Pp. xxi + 279 and map.

The *World Bibliographical Series* was inaugurated in 1977 with a volume on Yugoslavia. Since then the *Series* has grown into an imposing data-base comprising at the moment well over one hundred volumes, that form an indispensable part of the basic reference collection in any serious library in the English-speaking world —and beyond. Each volume presents a profile of an individual country and thus the *Series* is literally a bibliographical survey of the world, supplying fundamental information for a serious, if initial acquaintance with a particular state, its society, history, natural environment and culture. The general statement of editorial policy included in each volume describes quite aptly the character of *World Bibliographical Series:* «Each volume seeks to achieve, by use of careful selectivity and critical assessment of the literature, an expression of the country and an appreciation of its nature and national aspirations, to guide the reader towards an understanding of its importance.» Individual volumes attempt to promote this shared objective of the *Series* by means of a standard format in the organization of contents, with appropriate variations from volume to volume reflecting the peculiarities of individual national societies. As a rule, each volume, after a general introduction to the country, opens with a listing of surveys, handbooks and general descriptions, grouped together under the heading «The country and its people». This section, along with the closing one on bibliographies, is to be found uniformly in all volumes. In-between we are presented with a panorama of each country: travel

literature and guide-books, works on the natural environment (geology, geography, natural history), archeology, history, general and by period. The sections on history are generally the longest in each volume and this makes the whole collection particularly useful to the student of comparative history. Religion, population, language, politics and government, foreign relations, society, social change and social problems, the economy and its sectors, statistics, culture, literature and the arts are all surveyed. The closing sections of each volume comprise information on libraries and museums, the press and mass-media, directories and other sources of useful information.

The four volumes under review share all these features and are broadly comparable in character: they are all very good introductions to the four counties of the Northern Balkans, supplying essential information to anyone seeking an initial acquaintance with Albania, Bulgaria, Romania and Yugoslavia. After browsing through these four nicely produced volumes, not only the general reader or the beginning researcher, but the scholar as well will have found much to learn and to appreciate. The specialist, particularrly the specialized bibliographer, will certainly note omissions and will have disagreements at points, but within the general guidelines of *World Bibliographical Series,* which require a selective, critically annotated bibliography of sources primarily in English, the four volumes are more than adequate. They are indeed judicious, responsible and comprehensive, in a word extremely useful guides, which should be at the fingertips of the increasing numbers of those whose attention is drawn by current events, especially by the profound changes agitating since 1989 the countries of the Balkans. Journalists, diplomats and neophyte scholars, particularly international relations specialists, whose attention is being attracted by the new departures in the political history of the Balkan countries, are well advised to study the volumes under review before they start writing on these complex societies which have often defied outside, especially Western,understanding. Anybody who uses these volumes, will be well served and writing on the countries they cover will be in consequence better informed and more responsible.

II

Following the general appraisal of the usefulness of the four volumes, I should now like to turn to a more detailed consideration of each bibliography in particular in order to make some suggestions for the projected revised editions that constitute an integral part of the editorial policy of *World Bibliographical Series.* I will discuss each volume in turn in the chronological order of their appearance, beginning with *Romania,* which is volume 59 in *World Bibliographical Series.* It has been compiled by Andrea and Dennis Deletant and was published in 1985. One could hardly think of a more appropriate and reliable working team for the present task than the two compilers. Yet, with

paradigmatic scholarly integrity and modesty they request suggestions that might cover some of the lacunae that inevitably mark a selective bibliography (p. xvii). In the same spirit of scholarly dialogue the following suggestions are put forward.

A noticeable absence from the section on history and indeed from the volume as a whole concerns the work of Nicolae Iorga, undoubtedly Romania's greatest historian and one of the foremost exponents of the historical theories of Romanian nationalism in the twentieth century. The English edition of Iorga's ten-volume *History of the Romanians* (published 1936-1939), which represents the most ambitious synthesis of Romanian historiography, might have been profitably included I believe, if not for any other reason, as an eloquent statement of the self-understanding of the Romanian mind. Iorga was a prolific author. His bibliography comprises over one thousand books and about twenty three thousand articles and reviews. This ocean of intellectual production includes some gems of historical perceptiveness, in which Iorga's judgement manages to break free from the nationalist constraints on his thought and thus achieves to recover important aspects of the shared historical past of the Balkan peoples. Such works which, if included in the bibliography, would have offered a broader sense of the intellectual resources of Romanian culture are *Byzance après Byzance* (Bucharest, 1935; reprinted 1971) and the brief essay *La Révolution française et le Sud-Est de l'Europe* (Bucharest, 1934). These two works illustrate the survival of the common post-Byzantine cultural tradition in the Balkans and its eventual disruption by the impact of modern liberal and nationalist ideas. Thus Iorga's two historical essays could have formed a nice sequel to the excellent work by Dimitri Obolensky, which is very appropriately included in the bibliography (no. 85).

As a matter of fact N. Iorga is such a towering figure in Romanian culture that it would have been useful to include at least two of the many studies that have been devoted to his thought, both the works of English-speaking exprerts on Romania: William O. Oldson, *The Historical and Nationalist Thought of Nicolae Iorga* (Boulder, 1973) and the excellent appraisal by John C. Campbell, «Nicholas Iorga», *The Slavonic and East European Review,* no. 66 (November 1947), pp. 44-59.

Iorga's case is an outstanding but not an isolated one in Romanian culture. It is a culture marked by a strong sense of history and I think that this might have been better conveyed in the present volume if it included some entries on historical scholarship in Romania. If E. D. Tappe's useful collection on *Documents concerning Rumanian history* (no. 88) is appropriately included, the prospective student of Romania's history would be even better served if given a sense of other available printed collections of sources, even though they happen to include material in languages other than English. Thus an entry with a necessarily long annotation on the monumental volumes of Eudoxiu de Hurmuzaki's collection would have given the aspiring historian of Romania a

sense of the scale of the task before him or her. Hurmuzaki's collection *Documente privitoare la Istoria Românilor* which was edited by a remarkable group of scholars in the closing years of the nineteenth and the early part of the twentieth century, along with its supplements and modern-day sequels, forms what is perhaps the most imposing series of primary sources on the history of the Balkans and it remains an inexhaustible mine for serious scholarship. Although a work for the specialist, its presence in the bibliography with an appropriate annotation would have informed those interested in Romania of the scale of available resources.

Another historical series that might have been profitably represented with a general annotation is the *Bibliotheca Historica Romaniae,* which comprises many volumes in English or French on all aspects of Romanian history by the foremost representatives of comtemporary Romanian historical scholarship. An annotation on the series with a sprinkling of names and titles would have directed attention to this useful series of specialized monographs. A major issue of historical controversy in Balkan historiography has been the period of Phanariot rule in the principalities of Wallachia and Moldavia during the eighteenth century and up to 1821. The problem is alluded to in two of the annotations (nos. 12 and 99), but perhaps the compilers would have liked to include as well the symposium *L' époque phanariote* (Thessaloniki, 1974) which brings together the views of a remarkable gathering of Greek and Romanian scholars on the period. Many of the contributors pay special attention to the cultural aspects of the period of Phanariot rule in the principalities and in a way carry on Iorga's pioneering initiative for a reconsideration of the whole question.

As the annotations to items 89 to 124 show, Romanian history in the nineteenth century and down to the Balkan wars of 1912-1913 has been better covered in English. Upon reflection on these items one feels rather sorry that one of the most perceptive and well-informed students of nineteenth century Romanian history in America, John C. Campbell, who has given us such excellent pieces as those annotated in items 95 to 97, did not persist in the study of Romanian history and went on to the analysis of international politics. His writings in the present collection might have been supplemented by the article «The Influence of Western Political Thought in the Rumanian Principalities, 1821-1848. The Generation of 1848», *Journal of Central European Affairs,* Vol. IV, No. 3 (October 1944), pp. 262-273.

What I would characterize as a weakness of the volume under review is its coverage of Romanian intellectual history. Between the period of the Enlightenment, which is represented by three items (nos. 105, 108 and 121) and contemporary literature, the reader of the bibliography hears very little about the Romanian intellectual tradition. While this lacuna certainly reflects a paucity of material available in English, I believe that a more substantial picture might have been rendered. Two of Alexandru Duțu's monographs, both in English,

in the *Bibliotheca Historica Romaniae* (no. 55: *Romanian Humanists and European Culture,* Bucharest, 1977 and no. 64: *European Intellectual Movements and the Modernization of Romanian Culture,* Bucharest, 1981) should have been included as representative works of one of Romania's foremost contemporary intellectual historians. The period of the Enlightenment in particular could be given a fuller coverage with a more substantive annotation of item no. 105 and the inclusion of two important sources in French: D. Popivici, *La littérature roumaine à l'époque des Lumières* (Sibiu, 1944), a pathbreaking work that has opened up a whole field of research to Romanian scholarship and the special issue of *Annales Historiques de la Révolution Française,* No. 225 (July-September 1976) which is devoted to the age of Enlightenment in the Romanian lands (1770-1830).

Another aspect of Romanian intellectual history which could be represenedeed in the volume given the availability of pertinent literature in English, concerns the development of geographical thought in Romania. Geographical knowledge, like historical thought, was profoundly influenced by the aspirations of Romanian nationalism and therefore it prossesses an interest for the understanding of Romania broader than its technical content. This is brought out well in the contribution on Simion Mehedinţi and the «Romanian School of Geography» in *Geographers: Bio-bibliographical Studies,* edited by T. W. Freeman, Vol. I (1977), pp. 65-72.

In the section on Religion a listing might have been included on the official bulletin of the Orthodox Church of Romania, which is published in an English-language edition as well. Item no. 274 on the excellent periodical *Eastern Churches Review* could have profited from a more substantial annotation, listing some of the more important articles dealing with church life in Romania as for instance Vol. II, No. 4 (Autumn 1969) which carries an article by the foremost contemporary Romanian Orthodox theologian father Dumitriu Staniloanu on the meaning of Orthodoxy and a fascinating piece by Antonie Plamadeala on «Monastic spirituality in Romania» (pp. 376-385). The entry in a future edition must be updated as the *Eastern Churches Review* is now incorporated in the periodical *Sobornost* published in Britain by the Fellowship of Saint Albans and Saint Sergius.

The section on higher education, listing as it does the two commemorative volumes on the centenaries of Romania's two first universities, those of Jassy (founded in 1860) and Bucharest (founded in 1864) could have been enhanced with a listing of a significant work of scholarship on the «prehistory», as it were, of organized higher education in the principalities, the imposing volume by Ariadna Camariano Cioran, *Les académies princières de Bucharest et de Jassy et leurs professeurs* (Thessaloniki, 1974). This is a major compendium not only on the history of higher education but also of cultural life in the principalities from the late seventeenth to the early nineteenth century.

The bibliography includes an excellent section on language with very useful

listings on courses, grammars and dictionaries. The section on bibliography, which among other more recent items includes the monumental compilation of early Romanian books (1508-1830) by Bianu, Hodoş and Simonescu (no. 789), is also very useful. The section on professional periodicals should have included I believe two important journals of historical scholarship, *Revue des études Sud-Est européennes* published since 1962 (and occasionally featuring articles in English) and *Revue roumaine d'histoire* (1961).

III

Albania is one of the smallest and least understood countries in Europe, but in the *World Bibliographical Series* it is represented with a very substantial volume. *Albania* is volume 94 of *World Bibliographical Series* and it is the work of the Secretary of the Albanian Society of Great Britain William B. Bland. What strikes the user of this bibliography, published in 1988, is the range of writing in Western languages on Albania. The compiler in turn manages to bring together between the two covers of his book a fair sample of this material. Two special features of the book are particularly felicitous and deserve special note: one is the inclusion of a considerable number of older works on the broader geographical region loosely characterized as Albania in European literature. Thus the bibliography includes a good selection of European travel literature of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. It also lists several of the early scholarly sources on Albania, thus giving a good sense of the development of European conceptions and European scholarship on the country and its people. This early scholarship is really European in scope and the compiler does an excellent job in bringing it together by adding sources in French, German and Italian —he even includes two works in Latin, nos. 134 and 149— besides all the classic sources in English. Some of these works of earlier scholarship are indeed so important that fuller annotations would have been warranted. Such is the case with the monumental *Albanesiche Studien* published in 1854 by J. G. von Hahn, with which very appropriately the bibliography opens (no. 1). A more detailed listing of the contents of its three volumes would have been very helpful to the reader. Other important works of earlier scholarship are listed in nos. 135, 145, 431, 729.

A second feature that adds special value to the book is the generous sprinkling throughout of works in Albanian, including important documentary collections (e.g. nos. 192, 208). Those two aspects of this particular bibliography, which distinguish it from most other volumes in *World Bibliographical Series,* including those devoted to the other three Balkan nations under review here, make this work useful not only to those seeking a general acquaintance with the country but to the specialist as well.

In the general structure of the book some fields are quite satisfactorily covered. The bibliography includes a good collection of courses, grammars

and dictionaries and a very informative listing of translations of Albanian literary works into English. Some other fields however are rather poorly represented, reflecting the paucity of pertinent material. A case in point is archeology (nos. 111-119), a field that its likely to witness considerable growth in a country so richly endowed in its ancient and Medieval archeological heritage. As Albania opens up to the world her archeological and cultural patrimony will undoubtedly attract the attention of international scholarship.

There is very little one could add to this bibliography and this is an indication of the meticulousness with which the compiler has worked. All the major writings of authoritative scholarship on Albania in English are listed (e.g. works by Stuart Mann, Stavro Skendi and A. Pipa). Indeed in contrast to most other volumes in *World Bibliographical Series* to which additions could be readily profferred, the problem with *Albania* is that it includes a considerable amount of objectionable material. Several of the listings could be profitably deleted through a more critical approach to the now defunct communist regime. It is an embarassment to note that the two largest entries in the index of authors come under the names of Enver Hoxha and Ramiz Alia. The amount of openly propagandist material listed in these pages is disproportionate and this weakness is aggravated by the absence of critical comment in the annotations. Very little or no critical comment accompanies items which put forward official propaganda of the regime that ruled Albania up to 1990. This is a rather unwelcome feature of the volume, which will have to be radically revised in this respect and its pages purged of much useless material.

One symptom of the uncritical acceptance of the official line of the regime is reflected in the tendency to minimize the ethnic pluralism of Albanian society. This impression is created by some of the annotations in the section on minorities (nos. 247-157) but especially by the failure to mention that some of the most important cultural sites in Albania, such as the «museum-cities» Berat and Gjirokastra (in Greek Argyrokastro) noted in items 761 and 763, are major home bases of the Greek minority and of Greek culture in Albania.

IV

The volume on Bulgaria (no. 107 in *World Bibliographical Series),* published in 1989 is the work of a no less competent and authoritative compiler than the volume on *Romania.* One could hardly think of a more appropriate scholar for the task than Richard J. Crampton, professor of East European history at the University of Kent and author of two historical works on Bulgaria. As a result the public of *World Bibliographical Series* is presented with an extremely useful introduction to a country, which following the changes of 1989 is now in the process of rapid political and social transformation. The introduction offers a general acquaintance with the countrly. The selection, arrangement and annotation of entries is judicious and entirely reliable, within

the constraints of available bibliography primarily in English and other major Western languages. Most of the standard and important writings on Bulgaria in English are listed in the volume, including the classic contributions by Alexander Gerschenkron (no. 548) and J. F. Clarke (no. 147) although both would deserve, I believe, a fuller annotation. J. F. Clarke's collection of essays in particular which brought together in 1988 his path-breaking contributions to Bulgarian intellectual history should be given a complete listing of its contents, thus informing the user of the bibliography of such seminal texts as Clarke's study of Father Paisi and the beginnings of Bulgarian historiography. In addition J. F. Clarke's Harvard doctoral dissertation *Bible Societies, American Missionaries and the National Revival of Bulgaria* (1937), whose scope is much broader than the title suggests, should have been included especially since it became reprinted by Arno Press, in book form (New York, 1971). While on the subject of seminal works which have shaped serious Western scholarship on Bulgaria, I might note that although three of Cyril E. Black's essays on Bulgarian politics are included (nos. 102, 201 and 203), his important study, *The establishment of constitutional government in Bulgaria* (Princeton University Press, 1943) is omitted. This oversight should be rectified in a future edition of the bibliography.

Very little could be further added to the compiler's selections, although the following items might be profitably incorporated in the sections on Bulgarian history in a revised edition. To the section on Medieval Bulgaria K. M. Setton, «Bulgars in the Balkans and the occupation of Corinth in the seventh century», *Speculum,* Vol. XXV (1950), pp. 502-543, should be probably added. Two works by the dean of Bulgarian historical scholarship Nicolai Todorov would certainly enrich the section on the Ottoman period: *La ville balkanique sous les Ottomans. XV-XIXe siècles* (London: Variorum Reprints, 1977), includes valuable material on the demography, socio-economic development and ethnic composition of important Bulgarian cities such as Sofia, Vidin and Lom; the same author has brought together the findings of many years of research in a work of synthesis in English entitled, *The Balkan City, 1400-1900,* (Seattle and London: The University of Washington Press, 1983).

The growth of nationalism in the nineteenth century would be more fully covered with the inclusion of two important studies on Russian involvement in Balkan politics: Charles Jelavich, *Tsarist Russia and Balkan Nationalism: Russian Influence in the Internal Affairs of Bulgaria and Serbia, 1879-1886* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1958) and Thomas Meininger, *Ignatiev and the Establishement of the Bulgarian Exarchate, 1864-1872: A Study in Personal Diplomacy* (Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1970). Conversely, Greek reaction to Bulgarian nationalism is discussed by Evangelos Kofos, *Greece and the Eastern Crisis, 1875-1878* (Thessaloniki: Institute for Balkan Studies, 1975), whereas an important professional study in diplomatic history is devoted to a rather farsical episode in Greek-Bulgarian relations in the early

twentieth century: James Barros, *The League of Nations and the Great Powers. The Greek-Bulgarian Incident, 1925* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1970). Both of these books are the works of recognized authorities and could be profitably added to the second edition of *Bulgaria.*

Two chapters in the book I have found particlarly informative and illuminating, the one on minorities (pp. 57-65) and the other on religion (pp. 77-81). The latter might have been enriched by a more detailed listing of pertinent articles from *Eastern Churches Review,* such as M. Heppell's study of «The Hesychast Movement in Bulgaria» in Vol. VII (1975), pp. 9-20.

I will conclude with two suggestions for the chapter on the arts: Atanas Boschkov, *La peinture bulgare des origines au XIXe siècle,* with photographs by Julian Tomanov (Recklinghausen: Aurel Bongers Verlag, 1974) and Kostadinka Paskaleva, *Die Bulgarische Ikone,* (Sofia/Press 1981). The latter is a much more substantial edition than the brief exhibition catalogue listed as item 335. Of course both of these lavishly illustrated works as well as several of those listed under literature (e.g. items 644, 650, 655, 666) simply illustrate the common Byzantine cultural heritage that formed the shared patrimony of Balkan society through the nineteenth century.

V

This survey of the Balkan lands through the prism of bibliography will have to conclude with a brief word about the revised edition of *Yugoslavia.* This is volume 1 of *World Bibliographical Series* and in many ways its first appearance in 1977 set the standards and guidelines for the whole series. The new incarnation of *Yugoslavia* in the present revised edition has appeared in 1990 and it is the work of John J. Horton, one of the general editors of *World Bibliographical Series.* The new edition puts into practice one of the programmatic objectives of the *Series,* to make periodically available updated editions of individual volumes thus enhancing their utility and servicability as reference aids. The revised edition of volume one of *World Bibliographical Series* is renewed by fifty per cent through the inclusion of items published since the first edition and by a further twenty five per cent through the inclusion of material published earlier but not listed in the first edition. The second edition is thus radically renewed, although a kernel of standard and classic works on Yugoslavia in English are retained as a common denominator of bibliographic continuity.

My general impression of the new edition of *Yugoslavia* is that it will prove a useful source for easy and quick reference for those seeking an initial acquaintance with the country and its problems. At the moment of writing, in the autumn months of 1991, Yugoslavia is torn apart by internecine strife and is facing a precarious and uncertain future. The careful user of this bibliography,

although he or she will not be particularly enlightened by the very brief and rather sketchy introduction, will nevertheless find a lot in individual entries that will be of help in understanding the roots of the present conflicts (especially items 288-294 on religion, items 378-403 on nationalities and items 630-640 on language policy).

In contrast to other volumes in the *Series,* such as the volumes on *Bulgaria* and *Albania* reviewed here as well, *Yugoslavia* is almost exclusively composed of generally recent items in English, applying rather narrowly the editorial guidelines of *World Bibliographical Series.* Thus some of the wealth of scholarly writing on Yugoslavia in French, German and Italian is lost and this diminishes somewhat the value of the bibliography to the professional researcher. Some important older items in English are included and these are particularly welcome (see items 28-35, 232-234) but one would wish for more, such as the important literature in French on relations between the French Revolution and Napoleon with the South Slavs and the episode of the Illurian provinces. In this connection the pertinent entries with basic bibliography in the *Historical Dictionary of Napoleonic France 1799-1815,* edited by Owen Connelly (Greenwood Press, 1985) might have been useful guides.

Some noticeable absences in the selections making up the volume that I would wish to see filled out are the following. In the section on geography Jovan Cvijić's monumental *La péninsule balkanique* (Paris, 1918) should have been included as a record of a major intellectual achievement in Yugoslav social thought in the early twentieth century. The importance of Cvijić's work is noted in item 303 and his major work should have been at least cited there. J. Cvijić's classic article in English, «The zones of civilisation in the Balkan peninsula», *Geographical Review,* Vol. 8 (1918), pp. 345-361 and 470-482 should have been included as well as two articles on his work by T. W. Freeman, «Jovan Cvijić: a reluctant political geographer», *The Geographer's Craft* (Manchester, 1967), pp. 72-100 and by M. Vasović, «Jovan Cvijić 1865-1927», *Geographers. Bio-bibliographical Studies,* Vol. 4 (1980), pp. 25-32. In the section on Yugoslav history I should have liked to have seen a fuller coverage of the work of one of the foremost writers on the subject in English, D. Djordjević. His representation in the bibliography by only a recent edited volume (no. 143) does not do justice to his significant contribution to the literature on Yugoslav and Balkan history and politics in both English and French.

Another rather unfortunate omission is the absence of any reference in the pages of this bibliography to the writings of Traian Stoianovich, who in recent decades has done more than most other scholars writing in English to make Balkan civilization and its Serbian and South Slav component comprehensible to Western readers. His two classic articles, «The Conquering Balkan Orthodox Merchant», *The Journal of Economic History,* Vol. XX, No. 2 (June 1960), pp. 234-313 and «The Pattern of Serbian Intellectual Evolution, 1830-1880»,

Comparative Studies in Society and History, Vol. 1, No. 3 (March 1959), pp. 242-272 and his interpretative essay, *A Study in Balkan Civilization* (New York, 1967) should feature in any comprehensive bibliography on Yugoslavia.

In referring to major intellectual figures who contributed significantly to make Yugoslavia and Yugoslav thought understood in the West, I would add to Jovan Cvijić and Traian Stoianovich a philosopher of the *Praxis* group, which articulated the earliest voice of dissent and criticism in post-war Yugoslavia by clamouring for a «humanized Marxism». The group and their journal are discussed in items 416-419 and I believe that the pertinent comments would have been enriched by a reference to Gajo Petrović, *Marx in the mid-twentieth century* (Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, 1967).

There is a lot one might wish to add to a bibliography on so complex a country such as Yugoslavia. I will conclude however with only two observations, one personal and the other more broadly methodological. In my own research on Balkan culture and society, besides the writings of Traian Stoianovich I have found three articles dealing with different aspects of South Slav history of special value and I would strongly recommend their inclusion in the bibliography. They are all written by well known specialists in Yugoslav history: Michael B. Petrovich, «The Rise of Modern Serbian Historiography», *Journal of Central European Affairs,* Vol. XVI, No. 1 (April 1956), pp. 1-24; Roger Paxton, «Nationalism and Revolution: A Re-examination of the Origins of the First Serbian Insurrection 1804-1807», *East European Quarterly,* Vol. VI (1972), pp. 337-362 and Carol Rogel, «The Wandering Monk and the Balkan National Awakening», *Etudes Balkaniques,* (1976)/1, pp. 114-127 (reprinted in *Nationalism in a non-National State,* ed. by W. H. Haddad and W. L. Ochsenwald, Columbus, Ohio, 1977, pp. 77-101). All of these authors are represented in the bibliography with other works. Their presence would be made more substantial with these additional references.

My methodological caveat would caution in the case of *Yugoslavia* as well, as I did in connection with *Albania,* about the propagandist nature of some of the selections. If items such as these have to be included, the propagandist objectives behind the «official line» they express should be brought to the reader's attention. In the pages of *Yugoslavia* such is the case for instance with many of the items on Macedonia (e.g. nos. 268-277, 280 and 291). For the sake of precision the annotation of item 291 on the «Macedonian Orthodox Church», should have noted that this particular ecclesiastical structure is not recognized in the communion of Eastern Orthodox Churches and is considered uncanonical and schismatic by both the Ecumenical Patriarchate and the Serbian Patriarchate. A parallel critical discretion should be exercised in connection with the various biographies of Tito which are even grouped together in a special section (pp. 51-52). From the vantage point of the autumn of 1991 one indeed wonders how many of these books, with the exception of the biography by Phyllis Auty (no. 208), are likely to retain any substantive interest at all for the future student of Yugoslav history.

VI

This review essay has turned out much longer than I had intended it to be but before closing I still have a final point to make. Writing on the Balkans in the English language has over the years produced a few really standard works which have rightfully attained the status of classics in the field. One of the reasons for this achievement, besides the quality of research and the reliability of the judgement of the authors, has been the global vision that these works have brought forward in the consideration of Balkan society as a whole. In this way they managed to recover and to recreate the shared historical destiny and the common problems of the Balkan region, before this community was disrupted by the projection backwards of nineteenth century political frontiers imposed by the force of nationalism and by twentieth century divisions solidified by the ideology of military blocs in the decades of the Cold War. Yet despite these fractures and divisions the Balkans could still be considered as a historical unit, marked by shared features and problems. This achievement can be seen most lucidly in three works of historical scholarship that consider the Balkans as a whole at different stages in the peninsula's historical evolution, during the Middle Ages, during the early modern era and in the post-World War II period. These are classics of historical scholarship and can be ignored only at the peril of those who want to understand Balkan society or the individual national units that make it up in the contemporary world. These three works are D. Obolensky, *The Orthodox Commonwealth* (London, 1971), L. S. Stavrianos, *The Balkans since 1453* (New York, 1958) and R. L. Wolff, *The Balkans in our Time* (revised edition, Cambridge, Mass., 1974).

I must admit that I found it quite curious that these sources were not fully annotated in all four of the bibliographies under review. *Bulgaria* ignores all three of them completely. *Romania* annotates Obolensky and Wolff but does not mention any of Stavrianos's several writings on the Balkans. *Albania* annotates Stavrianos but does not mention either of the other two. Finally *Yugoslavia* mentions all three sources but annotates only Stavrianos, while the other two are cited as subsidiary references within the annotations of other works. What I found even more surprising is the absence of any note in any of these volumes except in *Albania* (item no. 213) of the splendid collection *Nationalism in Eastern Europe,* edited by P. F. Sugar and I. J. Lederer (Seattle and London, 1969), which contains extensive and authoritative chapters on all the countries discussed above. Does all this betray a certain insularity of British scholarship vis-à-vis works produced in America? I do not think that the general content of these volume would warrant such criticism. Omissions and oversights always occur and the task of constructive criticism ought to be to try to rectify them.

This review has been motivated by the belief that scholarly dialogue can always save us from avoidable and rectifiable errors. My suggestions in this

essay have been informed by the editorial guidelines of *World Bibliographical Series* and I have only recorded items which in my judgement the compilers themselves would have gladly included in their collections. Furthermore it would have been mere pedantry if I overloaded this essay with items published since the appearance of individual volumes. The compilers no doubt are keeping track of such items in view of the revised editions they will eventually produce. Having produced one of the *World Bibliographical Series* volumes myself I am fully aware of the ardours and requirements of the task, but also I have learned to appreciate all *bona fide* suggestions for improvements. If a field such as bibliography with all its technical specifications and requirements cannot always avoid the pitfalls of ideology, the traps of bias and the inescapable limits to the knowledge of even the most accomplished specialist, it is difficult to imagine how else could this as well as all other branches of the human sciences advance except by means of an open give-and-take.

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