Chief Dragoman submitted the petitions of the islanders to the Porte. The Dragomans of the Fleet, says Argyropoulos, “exerçèrent une activité utile aux populations...Certains furent des hommes d’une profonde érudition et d’une parfaite honnêteté. Mais Mavroyéni (the later Hospodar) nous donne une image vivante de ce que furent ces Drogmans, de la variété de leurs interventions, de leur influence, des services qu’ils rendirent à la Nation...” This subject of millet notables deserves the attention of students of the Ottoman Empire.

Regarding the economic activities of Greeks, Jews and Armenians, it would appear that though they probably played an important role in the foreign trade of the Empire this was not their role or even the most important economic activity during the many centuries of Ottoman rule. To correct the erroneous impression which the reader gets from such writings, I refer him to a comprehensive study of the economic development and activities of the Greek orthodox millet, for example, during the long period of its subjugation: Mme. A. Hadjimichali’s “Aspects de l’organisation économique des Grecs dans l’Empire ottoman” (in Le Cinq-Centième..., pp. 261-275). Based on an extensive literature, it traces the centuries-long activities of the various Greek corporations and workers associations which had originated in the Byzantine Empire and continued—with official approval—to flourish during the Ottoman rule. It may serve as a starting point for the much needed research on the economic life of the millets during the existence of the ancient Ottoman Empire.

Despite the foregoing comments, this symposium is a rich and valuable contribution to the meager literature and to the study of the Beginnings of Modernization in the Middle East in the Nineteenth Century.

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ARTHUR LEON HORNICKER


Those who labor in the social sciences have long learned that more study and closer consideration of a given topic will not necessarily provide a final answer. While most people assume every problem has a solution buried somewhere among the facts of its creation, the researcher
is more aware that increased involvement with any subject is apt to produce more doubts, the destruction of all generalizations already held, and, at best, the refinement of the original question. Easy and final solutions are left to others whose optimism has not yet had to face reality. But the refinement of a question in the form of comprehensive and balanced data brought together by careful scholarship is itself a valid end and in this task Dr. Novak has succeeded.

*Trieste, 1941-1954* offers no permanent solution to the "Trieste Question," but it does fulfill the promise of its subtitle, *The Ethnic, Political, and Ideological Struggle*, and probably will stand as one of the definitive works on this subject, as well as being an excellent casebook in Twentieth-century international relations. For while Trieste is the primary topic, the reader is haunted by an underlying theme, nationalism. Is nationalism a satisfactory rationale for political action in the present century? Has it been a primary rationale for political action in the present century? To the latter, Dr. Novak's book seems to answer yes. Based on impressive research in at least five languages (reflected in a 21 page bibliography) *Trieste* first offers a survey of the origins of this issue and then is divided into the war years, the period leading to the formation of the Free Territory of Trieste, and the era of the Free Territory, 1947-1954. Nationalism lies at the root of the matter and is seen as being caused first by the very real ethnic and cultural differences between communities that developed over the centuries and second, by the awareness of these differences, "national consciousness," that manifested in the 19th century. A third causal factor might be suggested as the exploitation of this new awareness by the Powers with the resulting frustration of heightened desires for national independence among those unfortunate enough to be forgotten. Too often, fulfilled nationalism was the destiny of the powerful and the large, while small and inconveniently placed groups were pushed to one side with no more than token consideration. A degree of unreality runs throughout this tale in that while the shifting climate of the Cold War is very much a decisive influence, the actors at the local level naively accept every indication of major power support as binding and ignore the expediency inherent in these gestures. For General Airey, Allied Commander of Zone A of the FTT, 1947-51, Italian irredentism was pro-Western and thus should be supported against the Communist claims of Yugoslavia. Anthony Eden, in *Full Circle*, admits with some discomfort, that the United Kingdom and the United States manipulated the Trieste issue to embarrass the Italian Communist Party. The original
“Iron Curtain” speech traced the line from Stettin to Trieste and in so dissecting the Free Territory ended the possibility of a viable, independent Trieste. But where is there any concern for the people of this troubled area? Even some of their leaders were more interested in political union with either Italy or Yugoslavia than with the well being of those for whom they ostensibly spoke. And throughout the events of the post-war years there is an interesting conflict between newer political ideologies and nationalism. At a time when all was supposedly motivated by the clash between Communism and the Free World, most of what took place in the Trieste region appears to have been motivated by nationalism. In 1945 there were Slovenians and Serbians who opposed Tito’s Communism but who would not cooperate with Italian anti-Communists and who would have found the latter unwilling to accept cooperation had it been offered. In 1947, Italian left-wing Socialists in Trieste joined with their Italian right-wing opponents rather than align with the local Communist Party as the latter favored a pro-Yugoslav foreign policy. Clearly ideology did have some impact as in the solidarity between Italian and Slovenian Communists before and after Tito’s break with Moscow, but there were still those Italian leaders in Trieste who could insist that Tito’s Communism was only a disguise to win support of Italian Communists and which in reality masked Slavic imperialism. Nationalism, for all its Nineteenth-Century air, is still a reality.

The reader is left with no heroes and no villains. Neither a Red Conspiracy nor Western impartiality survive this very well balanced study—the excesses of one side are always measured against those of the other. If the book has a weakness, it is the confusion of abbreviations which though necessary and convenient are still taxing. If the book has a message, it is that the present situation in Trieste is viable but not final. In Professor Novak’s concluding words, “we have also to recognize that nationalism in its worst aspect—imperialism—still persists and might again bring the Trieste question to world attention.”

Ithaca College

JOHN R. PAVIA Jr.


Appreciations of Greece continue to be published at an ever-increasing rate and not necessarily by Greek specialists. John Crow, whose