

evidence on individual behavior make it speculative and unsubstantiated.

Art and literature are adequately represented in the chapter which summarizes the accomplishment of the Croats in folklore, literature and music. The bibliographical entries are the most valuable part of the book, especially the references to non-English sources.

The book is certainly a useful addition to the meager literature on the Balkans in English, but must be used with caution. Those who reject the idea of Great Croatia will nevertheless find portions of the book valuable and will await future volumes, which could fill certain gaps in the first book, with interest. It is hoped that the editors in future will use their authority with greater skill and determination.

A few small errors should be mentioned. The editors overlooked certain contradictory statements, such as those regarding the *Pacta conventa* (p. 103 and p. 134), the reign of Heraclios (p. 82 and p. 131), Domagoj's destruction of the Venetian fleet (in the year 887 on p. 89, but 877 on p. 133; 876 A.D. is usually given in historical sources), and minor errors such as N. Zupančić for Niko Zupanić (p. 77), Pio and Pina Mlakar, rather than Pia and Pino Mlakar (p. 289).

The maps which accompany the text are largely based on the Stanojević *Istoriski Atlas* of 1940 and the *Historija narodna Jugoslavije* of 1953-59; some details unfortunately were omitted.

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JOSEPH VELIKONJA

Hermann Schreiber, *Teuton and Slav: The Struggle for Central Europe*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1965. Pp. 392.

This survey of the two-thousand-year confrontation between Germans and Slavs has been written for the general reader, not the specialist. To be sure, this is a field which Western historians have largely neglected, while both German and Slavic writers have often distorted the truth in order to place the best possible interpretation on the policies, attitudes, and activities of the nations involved. Schreiber discusses the nationalist idea propagated during the nineteenth century by historians such as Hegel, Ranke, and Treischke, that culture and civilization always advanced from West to East, and that therefore the German *Drang nach dem Osten* was the justified expression of a higher cultural mission. This idea, sanctioned in Wilhelminian Germany, became

transmuted into the Hitlerian concept of the German superman and the Slav *Untermensch* and reached its tragic culmination during World War II.

The confrontation is by no means over; the Oder-Neisse boundary is by no means accepted, and the author finds many of the old concepts still lingering in academic and political circles in Germany. Schreiber would like to correct these misconceptions: "Misrepresentation, however palatable," he writes in the preface to the first German edition, "can never convince or be of use to anyone. No reconstruction founded on patriotic myth can ever last." The hope is certainly overoptimistic, for the myth of German superiority was well established even in the Middle Ages and still is, judging by the controversy roused in Germany by the author's attempts at realism.

His intentions then are certainly good, but the question of fulfilling them is another matter. Unfortunately, the book falls short in this respect. Schreiber has authored a number of readable and successful novels and historical works, of which the best known, *Vanished Cities* (written with his brother), appeared in the United States in 1957. *Teuton and Slav*, however, is not as readable, and covers the material unsystematically. Fourteen chapters are devoted to the Middle Ages, and from the seventeenth to early nineteenth centuries. There is no coverage for the later nineteenth century and no reference to the Pan-German League and its policies in the Poznan area of German Poland. The struggle for Silesia just after World War I is also ignored; in general, the book is highly selective. It is of course a historian's prerogative to select evidence to prove his thesis, but the selection here runs counter to the author's stated purpose.

The last two chapters, dealing with Hitler's *Ostpolitik*, are perhaps of greater interest. Here, however, the author does not escape the temptation to treat Hitler and his minions as solely responsible for the tragic culmination of Germany's Eastern policies. Though he has devoted much of the book to showing that Hitler's policies had their antecedents in the Middle Ages and the Second Reich, he nonetheless seems to feel that Nazi behavior constituted a radical departure from established practice. This can of course be argued and one may indeed concede that Himmler's infamous statement that there were thirty million Slavs too many was unprecedented, but excessive emphasis on Nazi radicalism certainly does not help to validate Schreiber's central thesis.

Finally, the author believes that to all intents and purposes Germany has lost the territories east of the Oder-Neisse line and that a sound

future adjustment of German-Slav relations will require unconditional recognition of this fact. This statement has of course led to the most bitter attacks in Germany.

Overall, the book is not without merit. The author is open minded, his conclusions generally fair, and his ideas stimulating, though not original. Even so, the book is rather thin, and tells in essence what was already known to those scholars not blinded by patriotic or racial prejudice. The bibliography is skimpy and contains only about a dozen German, as well as some English, titles. The book may be valuable in counter-acting prejudice and nationalist passions, but is is not a scholarly work in the true sense of the term.

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GUNTHER ROTHENBERG

H. C. Darby, et. al., *A Short History of Yugoslavia: From Early Times to 1966*. London: Cambridge University Press, 1966. Pp. VIII + 280.

This book, the latest in a recent series which have also included brief histories of France, Germany, Italy and Greece, is based on a handbook on Yugoslavia compiled during World War II for the British Admiralty; material from recent monographs and other sources was added subsequently. As such, it is a model of succinct and clear exposition, quite satisfactory for the undergraduate and general reader, and not to be despised even by the specialist in search of a name, date, or boundary line (there are 41 excellent maps, although some overlap in coverage). And though fully five authors were involved, there are no abrupt changes in style or outlook; the individual chapters mesh smoothly and the result is both graceful and coherent.

A short introduction containing general observations on the character and direction of the social structure and history of Yugoslavia is followed by twelve chapters and a very brief, English-language bibliography. H. C. Darby has written the first eight of these and collaborated on the ninth, thus authoring about 60% of the book. After a few words on the impact of the Romans and early Slavs, he presents separate chapters on each province (Dalmatia thus gains individual attention; the Kosmet and Voivodina do not, but are considered in the chapters on neighboring regions), treating them from their historical advent in the medieval period down to 1914. A certain imbalance is