

My own experience in 1966 on Mount Athos did not afflict me with the pessimism of these authors; rather the opposite, although the paucity of monks was selfevident.

Mount Athos is therefore a book of limited significance and validity. It has great value as a spiritual interpretation of the Holy Mount. For this the reader should turn to Constantine Cavarnos's *Anchored in God* (Athens, 1959) or Philip Sherrard's *Athos: The Mountain of Silence* (London, 1960).

Colgate University
Hamilton New York

JOHN F. REXINE

Toussaint Hocevar, *The Structure of the Slovenian Economy, 1848-1963*. New York: Studia Slovenica, 1965. Pp. 277.

This is one of those books whose title understates the significance of its content. A more descriptive title would read: "Ethnicity as the Generating and Intergrating Force of Economic Development: The Case of Slovenia." For Professor Hocevar's study is not only the best single account of the Slovenian economy (interesting in itself since Slovenia is the most advanced republic of Yugoslavia), but also represents a pioneering attempt to explain the emergence and development of a national economy based on the centripetal force of ethnicity.

With painstaking research from a multitude of scattered sources, Hocevar has traced the economic history of Slovenia since 1848. His work reveals an unprecedented phenomenon in modern European economic history: the development by Slovenia of a thoroughly diversified, integrated and well advanced national economy despite the absence of the leadership and power conferred by a government of her own, and despite (especially after World War II), the politically-motivated transfer of much of her income to other parts of Yugoslavia.

These massive transfers (which in 1952 amounted to over 50 per cent of Slovenia's income) were tacitly (never having been publicly accounted for) "justified" as Slovenia's "aid" to the underdeveloped regions of Yugoslavia. Although Slovenia's income is about 25 per cent of the Yugoslav total, the disparity in size of population between this republic and the others is such that even massive transfers of wealth to the south cannot really hasten the economic development of the rest of Yugoslavia. Hocevar's analysis reveals, moreover, that such have

not even substantially raised the aggregate output elsewhere in Yugoslavia. For the productivity of labor in Slovenia has been so consistently superior to that in the rest of Yugoslavia that the marginal efficiency of capital in Slovenia has remained well above that in the underdeveloped republics of Yugoslavia. Thus income transfers from Slovenia have hurt the Slovenes without benefitting Yugoslavia as a whole.

In exploring the modalities and effects of these income transfers, Hocevar offers further significant findings. While such transfers have primarily been accomplished by fiscal means (for the Yugoslav government has extracted more tax revenue from Slovenia than it has spent there) additional income has been transferred from Slovenia by artificially depressing the price of Slovenian lumber, by uniform rail freight rates based on much higher unit costs on non-Slovenian railroads, by providing insufficient depreciation allowances for Slovenian industry, and by the various other devices available to the Belgrade government.

Of the many negative effects of these income transfers from Slovenia, two should be pointed out. First, Slovenia's competitive position in international trade has been impaired thereby. Second wide gaps have been created in Slovenia's infrastructure, particularly in facilities for higher education, research, and transportation.

Hocevar's ethnic theory of economic development, so useful in explaining the earlier economic development of Slovenia, becomes less useful in explaining the repercussions of these income transfers. When the fiscal and regulatory powers of government become so great as they are in a one-party state, the force of ethnicity cannot be relied upon to guide a nation's economic development unless it is sustained by the institutions of government. Hence, Slovenia is now struggling for political independence within a Yugoslav state organized on a federated basis. This development, greatly aided by the downfall of Alexander Ranković in July 1966, may be expected to continue.

Georgetown University

CTRIL A. ZEBOT

Gunther E. Rothenberg, *The Military Border in Croatia, 1740-1881: A Study of an Imperial Institution*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1966. Pp. 224.

Among the many fascinating aspects of the history of the Habsburg Monarchy, none is more compelling for the scholar than the struggle