

tions ignores the most respected account of that gang's activities, Henry L. Roberts's *Rumania: Political Problems of an Agrarian State* (Yale University Press, 1951), then it cannot be accepted as a reliable source. Nevertheless, it is an American virtue to refrain from censorship. There is plenty of room for polemics and for their rebuttals.

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Costas Asimakopoulos, *Anthology of Rumanian Poetry*, Athens, Arion, 1974, pp. 261.

Following his edition of «The Contemporary Poets of Yugoslavia», Costas Asimakopoulos attempts in this small volume to assemble the best of the Rumanian poets. The handsome edition is an anthology of seventy old and new poets of Rumania who are the most representative of their periods. Selections are taken from their finest poetic works.

Before presenting his anthology, the author attempts in an introduction to give in some thirty pages (7-38) a brief survey of the history of Rumania beginning with the ancient Greeks of «Lesser Scythia», the Roman period of Trajan (106 A.D.), the Byzantine of the 13th Century, followed by the Turkish period and the Phanariotes.

In the footnote on pp. 10-13 he gives a rather impoverished list of Greek men of letters who resided in Rumania beginning (perhaps mistakenly) with Laonikos Chalkocondyles. It should be pointed out that by Paisius Lazarides the author must surely mean Paisius Ligarides, and Dapontes was known as Caesarios and not Caesaris. In these pages (beginning especially with p. 9 ff.), Asimakopoulos emphasizes the Greek tradition in Rumanian thought, in art, and so on, and concludes with Demetrius Cantemir (1673-1723), the first to deal at any length with Rumanian folk poetry, and the «Stolnic» Constantine Cantacuzene. He then moves on to cite the place of Vas. Alecsandrescu (1821-1885), Cesar Boliac (1813-1881), and D. Bolintineanu (1819-1872), among others. He thus comes to M. Eminescu (1850-1889) the great bard of the country (pp. 25-28). After Eminescu there are mentioned in a few lines the Transylvanian G. Goşbuc (1866-1918), the forerunner of symbolism in Rumanian poetry, Al. Macedonski (1854-1920), the Byronist Duiliu Zamfirescu (1858-1922), A. Vlacută (1858-1918), the poet D. Anghel (1872-1914), who was much influenced by French symbolism, and the passionate Germanophile Stefan O. Josif (1875-1915) (pp. 28-31). It would have been preferable perhaps to have written the names of the poets referred to in the preface in their Rumanian spelling as are the names of those poets whose work is included in the anthology. Incidentally, verses of the poets mentioned above are not included in the anthology. At all events, I believe it would have been possible to have included excerpts from their poems by eliminating pieces from other poets. The very useful book by Asimakopoulos would thus have become even more representative of the entire spectrum of this country's poetry, and could have more accurately been described as an «Anthology of Rumanian Poetry».

In pp. 31-41 the author discusses «certain general phenomena in Rumanian» to point out the French, Italian and Greek influences on Rumanian cultures and the reasons for these influences. Pp. 41-258 are taken up by the actual anthology beginning with the poet Tudor Arghezi (1888-1967) and concluding with the work of Andrian Paunescu (b. 1943), one of the younger poets of his generation. The

poems are arranged chronologically, by the years in which each poet had reached his prime. Very useful is the insertion of a brief biographical sketch for each of the poets included in the anthology.

The translations of the poetry were made with considerable success, and it would appear that the author has a very sensitive understanding of the Rumanian tongue. But much of the success of the translation is due, as the author himself points out, to the valuable assistance given him by the philhellene poet Aurel Rău, by Messrs. Karambis, Anagnostopoulos-Zoukas, D. Dongas, and A. Karavias, the lecturer A. Radu of the university of Jassy, and J. Haliyannis.

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Harry N. Howard, *Turkey, the Straits and U.S. Policy*, Baltimore, Md., The Johns Hopkins University Press, pp. 280 + iv Appendices and Index.

Professor Harry N. Howard's most recent book extends the periods covered in his earlier books, *The Partition of Turkey* and *The King-Crane Commission* to include the first appearance of U.S. political and trade interests following the first Treaty of 1830 to the present. All three of these books reflect the thorough, accurate and scholarly approach typical of an author whose mature life has been dedicated to the affairs of the Middle East.

What strikes the reader is how little the «great minds» of the post-World War I period understood or anticipated the dramatic forces that were released by the collapse of the Ottoman Empire. From Napoleon's invasion of Egypt in 1798 to the establishment of Ataturk's Republic, European Imperialism reigned unchallenged. The U.S. had its Imperial goals and methods in the Caribbean and in the Phillipines. All the great Powers had developed «the arrogance of Power» along with a contempt for «the lesser breeds without the law», producing deep disagreements among themselves, secret deals, rival ambitions, conflicts and contradictions which led to confrontations after the common victory of 1918.

The force which they completely ignored was the wave of nationalistic movements which erupted and soon swept away the illusions on which political divisions were based. The first of these was Kemal Ataturk's Republican Turkey, which forced rapid revision of attitudes and agreements. A concomitant set of nationalistic groups were the Zionist — Jewish nationalists — and the Arab States. The seeds sown in 1914-18 still bedevil the politics of the area in 1975.

Encouragement of a *Megali Hellas* aroused the fears of the Turks, producing the Cyprus war of July 1974. There were a few who did anticipate future problems. General Harbord predicted the impossibility of establishing an Independent Armenia and the King-Crane report predicted it would need 50,000 troops to force Zionism upon the Arabs (pp. 78-79). Though not included in this study, the U.S. soon realized that France and U.K. hoped to exclude the USA from oil concessions — which led to some friction, but final inclusion of U.S. companies in Iraq. These conflicts have escalated till in 1975, the Cyprus issue threatens the south-east flank of NATO, while the Arab-Israeli conflict has produced four wars and an Arab oil embargo and could produce still worse in the near future.

Harry Howard's books outline the steps by which these seemingly insoluble problems have arisen and escalated — partially due to the shadow of Imperial Rus-