

services in the persons of the *agentes in rebus* and their successors at the Imperial Palace and the diplomatic intelligence services of its military personnel and diplomats. Prof. Dvornik also discusses the organization and functioning of the fire signal system which was one of the best examples of Byzantine technology in the service of the security of the state.

The chapter on the Arab Muslim Empires shows how they were the inheritors of the Byzantine and Persian traditions of intelligence gathering with the now common development of a combination of postal and intelligence services which Prof. Dvornik has developed as a theme from the ancient Near East through the Mongol and Muscovite experiences. For the Mongol Empire there was the additional intelligence heritage of the Chinese which was quite similar to the ancient and medieval Near Eastern tradition, in large part it seems, according to Prof. Dvornik, because the intelligence services he is discussing are those of a common imperial experience.

The section on Muscovy is not as thoroughly developed as the rest of the book and does not give the uniformly excellent treatment of the subject as the rest of the book. The nature of the publication format for the book provides the only real difficulty with the book, i.e., no footnotes, but a simplified reference system to original sources. However, the excellent bibliographies more than compensate and draw one to explore more thoroughly this often neglected subject of intelligence services and their role in an empire as a substitute to the provision of real services to the subject population.

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H. Monnier, *Études de Droit Byzantin*, with an Introduction by Svoronos, London, Variorum Reprints, 1974, pp. 672.

Fr. Dvornik, *Photian and Byzantine Ecclesiastical Studies*, London, Variorum Reprints, 1974, pp. 472.

The first of these publications by Variorum Reprints contains three lengthy studies, printed in *Nouvelle Revue Historique de Droit Français et Étranger* between 1892 and 1914, by Henri Monnier (1851-1920), professor at the University of Bordeaux. The first study is L' «ἐπιβολή» a detailed investigation of the economic and social effects of this Byzantine statute up to the tenth century. Although our knowledge of the «ἐπιβολή» has been enriched by the works of G. Ostrogorsky, Fr. Dölger, G. Rouillard, J. Karayannopoulos, P. Lemerle, and N. Svoronos, Monnier's work remains a classic of this kind. The second published study is «Méditation sur la Constitution ἐκτέρας et le Jus Poenitendi» (1900), and concerns the economic struggle between the *Humiliores* and the *Potentiores* and its repercussions on Byzantine private law. The third study, «La Meditatio de Pactis Nudis» (1913-14),

also: Recueil Sirey (1915) examines Byzantine Juridical Activities of the eleventh century and is even today the most interesting work on the subject. The present edition has an introduction by N. Svoronos.

The second publication from Variorum Reprints contains twenty-two studies of Fr. Dvornik, published in English, French and Latin between 1930 and 1973, and divided into two parts: *Photiaka* and *Byzantina et Ecclesiastica*. The studies published are as follows:

Lettre à M. Henri Grégoire à propos de Michel III et des mosaïques de Sainte-Sophie; Études sur Photios; The Patriarch Photius; Father of Schism—or Patron of Reunion?; Photius et la réorganisation de l'académie patriarcale; The Patriarch Photius and Iconoslam; The Patriarch Photius in the Light of Recent Research; Patriarch Photius, Scholar and Statesman; The Embassies of Constantine-Cyril and Photius to the Arabs; Photius, Nicholas I and Hadrian II; Photius' Career in Teaching and Diplomacy; Quomodo incrementum influxus orientalis in Imperio Byzantino s. VII-IX dissensionem inter Ecclesiam Romanam et Orientalem promoverit; National Churches and the Church Universal; The Circus Parties in Byzantium: Their Evolution and Their Suppression; Pope Gelasius and Emperor Anastasius I; Emperors, Popes, and General Councils; The Byzantine Church and the Immaculate Conception; The See of Constantinople in the First Latin Collection of Canon Law; Greek Uniats and the Number of Oecumenical Councils; Patriarch Ignatius and Caesar Bardas; Which Councils are Oecumenical?; Origins of Episcopal Synods; Preambles to the Schism of Michael Cerularius.

The edition has an introduction by the author and an index.

The republication by Variorum Reprints of these studies, many of which are very rare, constitutes a supplement to Fr. Dvornik's more extensive works on the history of the Orthodox Church and is a worthwhile contribution.

CH. K. PAPASTATHIS

Robert Browning, *Byzantium and Bulgaria. A Comparative Study Across the Early Medieval Frontier*, Berkeley and Los Angeles, University of California Press, 1975, pp. 198.

In this book, Professor Browning does more than just compare Byzantine and Bulgarian societies in the ninth and tenth centuries, though that in itself is a masterful achievement; he gives us an extremely insightful description of each society within its own historical context. We have as a result one of the most valuable recent accounts of Byzantine and Bulgarian history and society during the ninth and tenth centuries which is both a solid narrative of events and an able analysis of social, political, cultural and economic conditions.

The book begins with an introductory chapter that confronts the basic and perplexing problem of sources. Browning develops the difficulties inherent in the types of source material that are available for the study of Bulgaria in the ninth and tenth