

ishment intellectuals. Also, beginning here and permeating the entire work is the added bonus of her comparisons between the Yugoslav, Chinese and Russian varieties of socialism.

But abstract theory is only one dimension the author uses. Utilizing detailed interviews with members of ten Belgrade families of varying economic status she uncovers what the man on the street is thinking about concerning such phenomena as market socialism, self management, communes, workers' councils and the generation gap. The findings are hardly startling: a real dichotomy between socialist theory and practice, the stifling of feedback from the people to the higher-ups by the local party hacks, the existence of an elite that manipulates to its own advantage and a young generation that, unlike its parents, cares more for economic security than for ideology. Even so, Zukin did discover some evidence of socialism participatory more in theory than in practice.

This is an unusual book to say the least. It is very clearly and yet tersely written; often one must reread a passage to grasp its full import, not because of slopy writing but because of its profundity. Although the author states that she intended it for non-experts rather than scholars, its depth makes one wonder what she could have meant by that statement. This feeling is enhanced upon encountering such names as O.H. Mead, Erving Goffman, Stutz, Oscar Lawis and Robert Lane, hardly conversation pieces for even the well read. On the other hand there are quotes from such writers as Gunthar Grass and Anthony Trollope, certainly well known but hardly what one would expect in a work such as this. Perhaps it would be more accurate to say that the book is worthwhile for specialists and non-specialists alike.

Professor Zukin's methodology may well be the most interesting aspect of the book. She eschews any conclusions; rather she seeks to analyze some problems of establishing a socialist democracy and to offer to readers «some standards for positively criticizing their society» (p. 266). In the same spirit she rejects the «fetishism of the scientific method and its alleged objectivity in favor of explanation grounded on admittedly subjective interpretation». (p. 263) Obviously Ms Zukin is very partial towards her subject. But her work is so good she needn't have gone to such lengths to defend her views, especially regarding her recognition of the dichotomy between socialist theory and practice. For many of her quotations towards this end she need only have substituted one of Robert Browning's: «Ah, but a man's reach must exceed his grasp, or what's a heaven for?»

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W. G. VETTES

Stahl, Paul Henri. *Ethnologie de l'Europe du Sud-est. Une Anthologie*. Paris, Mouton, 1974, pp. 309.

This anthology of the writings of nineteen authors is published in paperback as «Texte de Sciences Sociales 12» by the École Pratique des Hautes Études of the

Sorbonne. Its purpose is to assemble in a single volume accounts of travellers and scholars who visited areas of Southeast Europe, during the 19th and 18th centuries, in order to prevent these sources from being forgotten. While most essays were written originally in French, some have been translated from the German or English.

The areas under consideration were then parts of the Turkish empire. Perhaps this is what the editor means when he states that «the region constitutes a cultural unit, but within it each population must be studied as part of an entity». Although essentially correct, such a statement is much too vague for anthropology. Nevertheless, some of the papers presented here do offer useful glimpses into the daily life of these rural areas. Part I, on the Gypsies (using their own name: Aromounes) outlines their migrations, Part II deals with the customs, history and politics found in Montenegro (Crnagora). Part III is somewhat more topical and deals with the social organization of the Southern Slavs, particularly the Serbs and Croats. Anthropologists will appreciate in particular the contribution by Emile Lavelle on the *zadruga*, the patriarchal extended family (pp. 229-237). Even more topical is Part IV, on Women and Marriage among Turks and Greeks, showing the contrast in women's roles between these ethnic groups and discussing such matters as divorce and abortion. There is also some material on the regions of Albania and Macedonia.

This volume certainly represents a praiseworthy undertaking and will be useful to future researchers. However, the quality of the selections is uneven and there is no attempt to present them critically. Thus, each paper has to be evaluated separately and on its own merits. Moreover, while the editor may have rescued some of them from oblivion, for which he should be thanked, one would have expected that social science text from the Sorbonne would offer some central hypotheses which would render it more useful for comparative purposes.

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SIMON D. MESSING

Monica and Robert Beckinsale, *Southern Europe: The Mediterranean and Alpine Lands*, London, University of London Press, 1975, pp. X+334.

The Beckinsales, senior geographers from Oxford, have travelled and traversed Mediterranean and Alpine Europe frequently for well over thirty years. During that time, they have there witnessed much change and derived a finally honed appreciation of these lands and peoples as they were and now are. From that experience is born a book which is at once instructive and enjoyable. Evidences of sustained personal investigation abound and infuse the work with vigorous authenticity. Detailed enumeration of a variety of physical environments, replete with local nuance, couple well with judiciously selected studies in the sequence of human occupation. Consequently the book holds considerable interest for social scientists, historians and economists as well as for geographers and travellers generally.