

undoubtedly describe him a wishful thinker, obsessed by faith in universal organizations so characteristic of our age, even though Zernov speaks of a sort of "Eucharistic unity." But few will challenge his diagnosis of the serious threats to Christianity by our scientific and secularistic age. His study, therefore, takes the appearance of a sermon seeking to marshal the resources of Christendom for a successful stand against its enemies.

Many topics in this comprehensive account are discussed only briefly. This is no reflection on the balance of the work or the intentional neglect of certain issues by the author. Mr. Zernov has actually rendered students of the Eastern Church a service by occasionally pointing out problems and issues which merit further investigation. He notes, for example, that there is no monograph dealing specifically with the religious aspect of the liberation movement in the Balkan Peninsula during the nineteenth century. As is known, religion played a critical role during this period.

In short, Eastern Christendom is an indispensable reference work. It is literally an encyclopedia of councils, dates, names and events in the checkered history of the Eastern Church. It should be of value to theologians, historians, students as well as average readers. It is about the best introduction to the subject available in English at the present. A classified bibliography consisting mostly of works in English will serve as a guide to those interested in studying further the history of the Eastern Christians who comprise one third of contemporary Christendom.

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S. A. Nikitin et als. eds. *Osvodozhdenie Bolgarii ot turetskogo iga* (*The Liberation of Bulgaria from the Turkish Yoke*). Documents in three volumes. Vol. I, *Osvoboditelnaia borba iuzhnykh slavian i Rossiia* [*The Liberation Struggle of the Southern Slavs and Russia*], Moscow 1961, 715 pp.

Probably one of the most lasting contributions of Soviet historians will be their systematic and thorough publication of documents. The volume under review, published by the Soviet Academy of Sciences with the collaboration of its Bulgarian counterpart as the first of a three volume projected work, is such a case in point. Admittedly, the documents deal with a period already much worked on by Slavic and Western scholars, and a number of documents collections have appeared since the beginning of the twentieth century. But, as the editors point out, previous publications dealt almost exclusively with the war period, 1877/1878, treating mostly the military and diplomatic aspects of the crisis and neglecting the social and economic aspects of the same. Furthermore, these early publications by-passed the preparatory phase of the Russo-Turkish conflict, that is to say the revolutionary movements in the Balkan peninsula between 1875

and 1877. It is with the hope of filling this gap that (even though the theme of the present collection of documents is the liberation of Bulgaria from Turkish rule) the first volume is devoted entirely to the liberation movements of the Southern Slavs from the outbreak of the revolts in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the summer of 1875 to the declaration of the Russo-Turkish War on April 12, 1877.

The scope of the first volume is ambitious, and its chief contribution is essentially the fact that it supplements previous works by concentrating on relations between Russians and Balkan Slavs as well as on the various sections of the two Slavic societies (peasants, workers, officials, intelligentsia, revolutionaries, etc.). Many of the documents reveal in detail the activities of the Slavonic Committees and Panslavistic groups and their contributions—material and moral—to the revolutionary cause in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This emphasis, in a way, reflects the research interests of the chief editor of the series, S. A. Nikitin, who during the last few years has been actively engaged with the subject of Panslavism and its role in the liberation movement of the Southern Slavs. The collection is enriched by the dispatches of Russian consuls in the Balkan peninsula and the Russian Ambassador in Constantinople. These dispatches chronicle the growth of the national struggle of the Southern Slavs against the Turks and Russia's inevitable participation in it.

The consular reports often provide fresh and interesting insights on the internal conditions of the Ottoman Empire, as well as on the relations of the Slavic nations toward each other. From time to time one catches glimpses of the relations or rather rivalries between the Slavs and the southern non-Slavic member of the Balkan peninsula, Greece. The latter was especially alarmed by the rise of Panslavism, sponsored in some way or other by Russia, and was constantly calculating the effects Panslavism might have on the future of the Greek state. A dispatch by the Russian minister in Athens, P. A. Saburov, to the Russian Foreign Minister A. M. Gorchakov (pp. 639-640) lists the main reasons which made Russo-Greek unity of action in the Balkans impossible. The main reasons, according to Saburov, were the ambitions and interests of Greek nationalist circles in the "distant provinces of Thrace and Macedonia," which ultimately would form part of the Greek state. This rivalry between Slavs and Greeks, as is known, outlived the nineteenth century and made itself felt in the twentieth century as well.

In short, this substantial publication is undoubtedly a useful collection of 460 documents, and in their efforts to make it as complete as possible the editors consulted seventy two archival collections in the Soviet Union and over sixty collections in Bulgaria. Its value is further enhanced by a supplement including a glossary of Turkish terms, excellent indexes and a satisfactory bibliography of Slavic and Western scholarship on Russian-Balkan relations during the decade of the 1870's; even though one is struck by the conspicuous absence

of Professor M. B. Petrovitch's, *The Emergence of Russian Panslavism* (1856-1870) (N. J. 1956), with which work the editor of the volume under review is well acquainted as he commented extensively and critically on it a year earlier in his *Slavianskie komitety v Rossii v 1858-1876 gg* (*The Slavonic Committees in Russia from 1858 to 1876*) (Moscow, 1960).

If the subsequent volumes, which will cover the period of the Russo-Turkish War (1877/1878) and the establishment of the Bulgarian state, are as useful as the present one, the three volumes will form a basic reference work for the student of Russian-Balkan relations in particular and Russian Near Eastern relations in general during this decisive decade of Balkan as well as Ottoman history.

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P. R. Franke, *Die Antiken Münzen von Epirus*. Wiesbaden: Franz Steiner Verlag, 1961. Volume 1 in 2 parts. 344 pp., 67 plates.

In the course of the last half-century, Greek numismatics has been advanced by a series of studies of individual coinages which have not only considered the various coin types, but which have more and more dealt with the original dies. Usually these dies studies have been based on the rather well-preserved silver coins, but in this book by Peter Robert Franke most of the Epirot coins are of bronze. At the same time pure numismatics no longer satisfies the numismatist, who feels that numismatics must be considered ancillary to history or some other discipline. Both of these trends are apparent here.

Franke has divided his study into two parts: a numismatic section devoted to the coinages of Epiros, and a section of studies on the history, religion and culture of the area. The numismatic section contains a catalogue of all the coins of the autonomous Epirot Koinon down to the reorganization of Greek affairs by Augustus in 27 B. C. This date has been taken as the cut-off point. Both silver and bronze coins are included; in all there are 2,319 coins from 78 museums, 73 private collections or dealers' stocks and 119 dealers' catalogues. The coins of Amantia, Byllis, Olympe and Orikos (towns which are generally considered to be in Illyria, but were occasionally under Epirot control) are omitted, primarily because much of the material for a study of these coins is in Albania, and is consequently inaccessible. The selected boundary, therefore, is the Keraunian Mountains which in antiquity marked the boundary between Illyria and Epiros. In addition the coins of Ambrakia, the Korinthian colony, are excluded, both because of the city's general independence of Epiros and because of the existence of Ravel's monograph on its silver coinage before 338 B. C. The coins of Alexander the Molossian and of Pyrrhos which were issued in Italy, Sicily or Macedonia are reserved for Volume II. The mints are arranged alphabetically with the Epirot Symmarchy and the