

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

Epirot Koinon at the end. Each section devoted to a particular mint is quadripartite. The first part presents a brief survey of the site, the area and its history. A brief section of bibliography follows. Then the numismatic problems—a brief discussion on the mint site, the coin types and their meaning, style, methods of striking, weight standards, area of circulation, countermarks, etc.—are treated. Finally a catalogue of coins of the mint is given.

In the classical period Epiros was inhabited by a number of tribes, the most prominent of which were the Molossians, Chaonians, Thesprotians and Athamanians. Among the cities of Epiros were Kassope, Phoinike, Elea (a Korinthish colony), Elatria, Pandosia, Bouchetion and Bitia (all four colonies of Elis) and Dodona, the site of the famous oracle. The Greek colonies obviously acted as centers from which Hellenic civilization radiated out among the native Epirot tribes.

The first coins issued in Epiros were silver obols and triobols struck by the Molossians in the first half of the fourth century. Bronze coins were also struck and continued to be issued down to 330/25. The Korinthish colony of Elea issued bronze coins with Korinthish types from ca. 360 to 342. In 342 Philip II of Macedon invaded Epiros, seized four cities of Kassopia — Elatria, Bouchetion, Bitia and Pandosia, and handed them over to Alexander the Molossian. This event finds its reflection in the coinage, for both Elea and Kassope issued bronze coins in the period after 342, almost all of which are overstruck on bronze coins of Philip II. At about the same time the Thesprotians produced a small issue of bronze coins. In the last part of the fourth century (Franke places it between 330 and 325) the Symmachy of the Epirots was created under Molossian headship, with the King of the Molossians as hegemon of the Symmachy. The Symmachy issued bronze coins down to the end of its existence, ca. 235/4, and during this period of almost 100 years no other Epirot mint struck coins. In the 230's (Franke's date is 235/4) a revolution destroyed the monarchy and replaced the Symmachy with a republican Koinon of the Epirots. Kassope and the Athamanians seem to have vindicated their independence and struck their own coins. The Koinon of Epirots issued an extensive coinage both in silver and in bronze from this date to 168/7 B.C., when a large part of Epiros, primarily the area of the Molossians, was wasted and plundered by the Romans in the wake of the Third Macedonian War, and the Koinon was dissolved. Between 168/7 and 148 the temple-community of Dodona and the cities of Phoinike and Pandosia, which escaped the Roman wrath issued bronze coins to fill the local need for small coins. From 148 down to the second half of the first century B.C. a reconstituted Koinon of the Epirots issued bronze coins. This, then, is a brief survey of the numismatic history of Epiros.

The scholarship of the first part of the book is excellent and reflects a great deal of care and effort. There is very little here to which one can object. I would, however, oppose Franke's assumptions that some of the Epirot coins were struck from dies manufactured with the

aid of punches or hubs. The number of dies in which Franke has "detected" the use of hubs is extremely small in relation to the overall number of dies used. It seems to me that Franke's instances of the use of hubs can more easily be explained by the recutting of dies or better by an individual die-cutter who in the course of cutting several dies has managed to cut parts of two dies so that their differences are indistinguishable to the human eye. The Athenian New Style is one of the most extensive of Greek coinages with over 1,000 obverse dies. Surely here, if anywhere, the engravers would have relied on hubs to speed up their work. Yet the recent exhaustive work by Miss Thompson on this coinage has brought to light no use of hubs. Is it conceivable that hubbing was used in Epiros which was more backward, and where fewer dies were needed, and not in Athens? Franke has promised us a more extensive treatment of this problem in volume II.

Franke has finished his work with a series of studies on the history, religion and culture of ancient Epiros. Here the quality of the work is not maintained at the consistently high level of the first three-fourths. He rightly contends that the Aeacid Kings, including Pyrrhos, were always only Kings of Molossians, and never Kings of the Epirots. On the other hand the contention that King Neoptolemus II was a son of Alexander the Molossian and ruled Epiros not only from 302 to ca. 297, but also from 317 to 312 must surely be wrong. R. Ross Holloway (*R.B.N.*, 1962, pp. 5-28) has already rejected Franke's contention that Pyrrhos struck the Syracusan Zeus Hellanios/Eagle on thunderbolt bronzes, and that the four-litron pieces of Gelon II of Syracuse with his portrait on the obverse and eagle on thunderbolt on the reverse were struck by Gelon for his marriage with the Epirot princess Nereis.

Despite these slight flaws *Die antike Münzen von Epirus*, Vol. I is a fine work which will be used by generations of numismatists and historians of the Balkan peninsula. The only regret is that there is nothing comparable for all the other parts of the Balkans.

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Sherman David Spector, *Rumania at the Paris Peace Conference*. New York: Bookman Associates Inc., 1962. 368 pp.

One of the less known aspects of the diplomacy of the First War is the series of negotiations of Rumania with the Allies in 1915 and 1916, which were conducted by Ioan I. C. Bratianu, her prime minister and foreign secretary. It was only after secret agreements with Russia, as well as with Great Britain, France, and Italy, that Rumania made her brief but painful entrance in the military history of the war, from August to December, 1916, which is the period of the "one hundred days."

Rumania's alignment with the Entente in 1916 meant that with-