

the flying centuries noting the changes time and historical events have left upon the language known as Modern Greek today.

The pioneering work stated by Prof. Swanson in the field of Modern Greek studies has been carried on and greatly expanded by his successor, the editor of this present edition, Prof. Theofanis G. Stavrou. Under his leadership not only has the University of Minnesota achieved a justly deserved reputation as one of the principal centers for the study of Modern Greek language and culture in the United States but he has also, through associating with *The North Central Publishing Company of St. Paul, MN.* produced, under imprimature NOSTOS BOOKS published books by, or on, noted Modern Greek authors either written originally in English or in English translation. The VOCABULARY is the seventh in the series to have come out by NOSTOS with two more due to appear, soon, *Two Plays* by Nikos Kazantzakis (Sodon and Gomorrah), translated by Kimon Friar, and *Angelos Sikelianos and the Delphic Idea* authored by Theofanis Stavrou himself.

*Pacific Grove, Ca.*

ANN ARPAJOLU

Ἀγγελοπούλου Ἀ. Ἀθαν., *Ἡ ἐκκλησιαστικὴ ἱστορία τῶν νέων χωρῶν 1912-28*, [Ecclesiastical history of the new lands: 1912-28] σελ. 196, Θεσσαλονίκη 1981.

This is a very interesting book by Ath. Angelopoulos of the University of Thessaloniki dealing with the history of the Greek orthodox church 1912-28 in Northern Greece. The latter includes those provinces of the Ottoman Empire which were freed 1912-3 in Macedonia, in Epirus and in the Aegean Sea and in the case of Thraki 1920. As World war I began in 1914 the orthodox church of this area was deprived of any contact possibility with the Patriarchate in Constantinople and following intranational quarrels in Greece 1916-7 of the possibility of contact with the authorities of the Greek orthodox church of Southern Greece. Of course it was not possible to stop the activity of the church in Northern Greece nor the settlement of its problems. Thus special institutions were created by the provisional government of Thessaloniki. Canon law imposed the consent of the Oecumenical Patriarch but this was granted for practical reasons only ex post. The administration of the Greek orthodox church in Northern Greece and in those islands which were ruled by the provisional government of Thessaloniki was assumed by the «Hierarchy of the new lands» whose decisions were carried out by the «Ecclesiastical Archierarchal Council». Both included only metropolits of Northern Greece and of those Aegean islands ruled by the provisional government of Thessaloniki. The author analysed successfully the activity of both and stressed that their creation was indispensable, their decisions were appropriate and many were and are even applied not only in the North but also in the South of Greece when the provisional government of Thessaloniki moved to Athens.

The two institutions mentioned before did not only settle problems connected with the Greek orthodox church but also with education. Let me mention in this connection that the latter would have been more successful in Greece if instead of applying centralisation on the basis of the French precedent the decentralised

system developed under Ottoman domination would have been maintained. On the other hand the author believes that the settlement in virtue of which the Greek orthodox church in Northern Greece preserved its spiritual links with the Oecumenic Patriarch in Constantinople whilst becoming as far as administration is concerned a part of the church of the Greek state is satisfactory and has yielded good results. I do not think that the author is wrong on the basis of an already long experience inasmuch as the weakening of the Oecumenical Patriarchate in Constantinople had and has to be avoided. Of course it may be argued that the simple but complete union of the orthodox church of Northern Greece with the orthodox church of the Greek State would have simplified the latter's structure and operation without however the certitude of a more satisfactory result. Let me end by noting that the author got the opportunity to analyse the unbelievably rough and bad behaviour of the Bulgarian occupation authorities in Eastern Macedonia and in Thraki 1916-18 without forgetting that the same harsh treatment was applied by the Bulgarians once more 1941-4 in the same areas.

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