

In the second part the writer deals with the Macedonian problem in the period 1940-1960, and the attitude shown towards it by Communist Bulgaria and Tito's Yugoslavia before and after the split between Tito and Cominform.

The book is supplemented by an appendix containing a chronology of the most important events in the history of the Macedonian question and, as its first edition is out of print, a revised one appeared this year.

3. *Ἡ συμβολὴ τοῦ Ἑλληνισμοῦ τῆς Πελαγονίας εἰς τὴν ἱστορίαν τῆς νεωτέρας Ἑλλάδος*, [The Contribution of Pelagonia's Hellenism to the History of Modern Greece], by Mr. Constantinos Vavouskos, Assistant Professor at the University of Thessalonike, Thessalonike, 1959, 34 pp., No. 30 in the series of the Institute's publications.

This book, a lecture delivered in March 22nd, 1959, in Thessalonike, is also an essay dealing in general with the Greek element of the area of Pelagonia, which has been lost to Greece, and devoting a considerable portion of it to the participation of that part of Macedonia in the fight at the beginning of this century. Supplemented by unpublished valuable information with regard to unknown details of the Macedonian struggle in Monastir, Kruchovo, Megarovo, Nisopolis, etc. and containing old photographs in an appendix, makes it a very important contribution to the study of those troubled times.

MICHAEL G. PAPA-CONSTANTINOU

Ciro Giannelli - A. Vaillant, *Un Lexique Macédonien du XVI siècle*, Paris, Institut d'Études Slaves de l'Université de Paris, 1958, p. p. 69.

Habent sua fata libelli! A 16th century Greek from Macedonia, passing through slav-speaking villages of Western Macedonia and motivated by purely practical considerations, wrote down some of the slavonic words he heard spoken in that region. At that time he could not perceive that his notes would offer present-day slavologists with the oldest lexicon of a slavonic dialect. Neither could he imagine that four centuries thence, he himself would become an important figure on account of the fact that that unimportant dialect has in our days been elevated to the rank of an individual slavonic language side by side with the Bulgarian and Serbian.

In 1940 Cardinal Giovanni Mercati discovered in the library of St. Peter in Rome, a Greek codex (C 152) of 14 notebooks written toward the end of the 15th century and containing various texts, such as comedies by Aristofanes, the *Theogonia* by Hesioidos and a book in Greek with a Turkish translation in Greek characters, *De fide Christianorum Ad Turcos*. This codex was presented, along with six other codices, to the Basilica of St. Peter by its owner Sylvestros, who was Grand protosyngelos of the Patriarchate of Jerusalem, an Orthodox,

who was in good terms with the Catholics and who may have been proselytized in the end to the Catholic Church.

In the margin of the pages of this codex there have been inscribed by an unknown former owner, probably a Greek from Macedonia as evidenced by the idiomatic language he employed¹, 301 slavic words and phrases written in Greek characters, with a Greek translation annexed, as well as three verses from one slavic popular song and one verse from another love song.

This small slavic lexicon begins as follows (the spelling is that of the manuscript): Ἀρχ(η) ἐν Βουλγαρίοις ῥιμάτων, εἰς κινή γλῶττα ἐρχομένη. γκοσποντίνε αὐφέντι, μπράτε ἀδελφέ, ντάσι στράν ναχεις ὕγια, ντάσι πρόστ νάσε συγχοριμενος, ὄσταβίνη ντὰ σπόμε ἄφησέ μας νὰ κοιμηθούμε, ἔλα ντὰ ιάμε ἔλα νὰ φάμε, ἡ ντα πήμε καὶ νὰ ποίωμε, ντότ ντὰ πόιντιμε καὶ ἀπέκοι νὰ πάμε, ντὰ ραμπότουμε νὰ δουλεύσομε, ἡματε χλιάπο ντὰ κούπημε ἔχεται ψομῇ νὰ αγοράσομε, ἡματε βήνο ντὰ κούπημε ἔχε(τε) κρασῇ νὰ ἀγοράσομε, οτ κία στράνατα ποίντιμε βο Μπόγασκο ἀπὸ ποία μερια νὰ πάμε στὸ Μπόγασκο a.s.o.

That the author of this text was not a Slav who knew Greek, but a Greek who wanted to learn certain words of spoken Slavic appears from the way he joins two words in one or separates wrongly two neighboring words, as for example: ντάσι στράν da si sdrán, ὄσταβίνη ostavi ni, ταυτάσαμε da ftásame, στράνατα strana da, κάκο βόστιε kak ovostie, as well as the fact that he uses Greek letters to refer to Slavic consonants, for example G is portrayed by the Greek γ (ὄγαν=ogan), b by π, (χλιάπο=hljabo), d by τ (ταυτάσαμε=da ftasame), š by σ and ž by ζ. Using τζ for the slavic c=τζ (βέτζερ=vercer) was then a common practice even for Greek words (ἔτζι=ἔτσι). The Greek nationality of the writer is also attested by his smooth letter writing which points to the fact that he was well versed in writing Greek.

The particular characteristics of this slavic dialect as presented above, are similar, according to the observation of the publishers, to the peculiarities of the slavic dialects spoken today in the region between Kastoria and Boboštica in Southern Albania. Until recently, the oldest known document of the slavic dialect of the region of Northwestern Macedonia were slavic words contained in the *Four-Language Lexicon* written by Daniel Moschopolitis (1764). The material contained in this new discovery is older by two centuries. Moreover, it is older by four centuries of any other existing dialectological study of the slavic idioms of this area. It is, therefore, a historically precious document, justly characterized by its publishers as *precieuses reliques* and as *heureuse trouvaille*. Its historical value acquires unlimited proportions by the fact that ever since this local slavic dialect of Northwestern Macedonia was declared as the official, individual, national language of the People's Federal Republic of Macedonia and

1. ριμάτων=ρημάτων(ν), τοῦ Βαῖτου=τῶ(ν) Βαῖω(ν), χιλιδόνα=χελιδόνα, πετνός=πετεινός, κοῦτλος=κούτουλος.

received the name "Macedonian" this text becomes the oldest linguistic monument of a new national language which is cultivated with unbound zeal as the official language of this state and as its banner of its independent existence.

It is worth mentioning in this connection that as the inhabitants of today's federal republic of Skopje have always called themselves Bugari, i.e. *Bulgarians* and as one hundred years ago, the Mihadinov brothers entitled the collection of popular ballads of this region—published in Zagreb 1861—*Bulgarski Narodni Pesni*, i.e. "Bulgarian popular songs", so the author of this 16th century manuscript refers to the words of his manuscript as *Bulgarian*: (Ἀρχὴ ἐν Βουλγαρίῳς ἡμετέροις...). At that time there was no reason why the Greek names *Macedonia* and *Macedonian language* should be used while referring to a Slavic region and to a Slavic idiom. Foreign to contemporary political expediencies, those people were closer to the historical and ethnological truths.

N. P. ANDRIOTES

Kienitz F. K., *Existenzfragen des griechischen Bauerntums*. Pp. 122, Duncker Humblot, Berlin 1960.

The author, who is thoroughly familiar with the Greek language, tries to give a concise picture of the conditions of Greek agriculture. His book is divided into an introduction, a first and a second part.

In the introduction he tries to draw a brief picture of the entire Greek economy and to examine the position and duties of agriculture within this wide framework.

The next section, i.e. the first part of the book (pp. 21-43), the author reviews the evolution of the principle of ownership in Greek agriculture, reaching the correct conclusion that, despite certain errors and deficiencies, the agricultural reform helped considerably Greece not only economically but politically and socially as well. Probably the author does not appreciate sufficiently the progress of Greek agriculture since 1953, but it should not escape the attention of the reader that Greek writers have also expressed similar critical views on the matter.

In the last part the author deals with agricultural credit and agricultural co-operatives in Greece. He does not reveal anything new but this does not minimize the importance of the author's work. However, his book would have been more fruitful should the author had not confined himself to non-Greek sources but had consulted as well Greek books written on the subject. If he had consulted the reviews on the Greek economy published by the Bank of Greece since 1954 he could have acquainted himself more deeply with his subject.

In its present form, Mr. F. K. Kienitz' book may be used rather as an introductory by those interested in acquiring some general idea of Greek agriculture.

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