

nées proviennent en grande partie de l'état actuel de la recherche historique dans le domaine traité. En effet avant de pouvoir mener à bon terme une étude sur les réactions de l'opinion publique provoquées par la guerre d'indépendance grecque, il faut un nombre suffisant de monographies sur les différents aspects de la question (presse périodique, brochures politiques, œuvres littéraires, arts figuratifs, témoignages de contemporains—mémoires, journaux personnels, etc.). Alors seulement il nous sera possible d'aborder sérieusement le sujet et d'en faire une synthèse valable.

En tout cas le travail de M. Dimopoulos, à part les renseignements intéressants dans le domaine de la recherche qu'il nous apporte, est avant tout utile pour le grand public averti, qui pourra y trouver une idée générale de l'état d'esprit en France au moment de l'insurrection grecque. Ce public saura certainement apprécier aussi le style de l'auteur et son français clair et précis.

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George W. Hoffman: *The Balkans in Transition*. D. Van Nostrand Company, Princeton New Jersey, 1963. Pp. 124.

In this small book, Professor Hoffman deals with the geographical setting, the peopling of the peninsula, the evolution of the political territorial framework and the social and economic transformation of three countries, Albania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia, that form the basic core of Southeastern Europe according to the author. In a study published before the war by Professor C. Evelpidi under the title "Les états balkaniques" (Paris: Rousseau et Cie, éditeurs, 1930) the Greek scholar, agreeing with the usual meaning of the term "Balkan States," considers as countries of the Balkan Peninsula, not only the three countries already mentioned but also Rumania and Greece, i.e. all countries formed after the disaggregation of the Turkish empire and having historical, ethnographic, social, even psychological affiliations. An American scholar, Professor L.S. Stavrianos considers Greece, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Albania and Rumania as belonging to the Balkan Countries. Cf. L. S. Stavrianos: *The Balkans since 1453*, New York: Rinehart and Company, 1958; idem: *The Balkans 1815-1914*, New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1963). another American Professor, Robert Lee Wolff includes among the Balkan countries only Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Albania and Rumania. Of course after World-War II, Greece has

a different political regime from that of the other Balkan countries and different economic and commercial ties, and could therefore be omitted. But Rumania (even Hungary) could be examined in the framework of Professor Hoffman's book, if the author wanted to give a broader picture of the social, political and economical problems of South-Eastern Europe, which forms a group of countries having special characteristics.

Having examined the relief, the routes and rivers, also the climate and natural vegetation of the three countries in which he confines his research, the author engages in the examination of some much discussed topics, that of the peopling of the Balkan peninsula and that of the evolution of the political territorial framework of the Balkan countries. The author relies on previous works, many of which cannot be considered as being very objective.

In section 4 concerning Social and Economic Transformation the author considers that the three Balkan countries differ in size, population, and the availability of raw materials. Up to 1939 all three Balkan countries had a common base: poverty, illiteracy, surplus agricultural labor force. Industry was almost unknown, urban settlements were few and small. Efforts have been made to improve existing conditions; however economic and social progress was slow, and during the inter-war years real income per capita was perhaps one-fourth to one-fifth that of France or of England.

The years following 1945 transformed the whole social and economic life of the Balkan people. The former agrarian economies have been transformed in agrarian-industrial. The urban population is rapidly increasing, total industrial production has tripled. However agricultural production has grown rather slowly in comparison with industrial products. The author considers that the agriculture of the three countries remains the stepchild of economic development. It could be added that this situation is a common characteristic of all communist countries, in which economic development was of the type of unbalanced growth.

Summarizing the arguments of the book, the author considers that during the last decades communist rule has imposed the 3 Balkan countries its alien philosophy. But as time goes on the traditional potential of the Balkan people for absorbing and adjusting again comes to the fore. Communist rule adapts itself to local conditions and changes from an international Communism, subservient to Moscow, to a national, at times nationalistic, type of government. The author

is wondering what is the future for the people of this region. Certainly he says it must be more than just choosing between two alternatives, Communism and western-type democracy. The question is, the author writes, quoting John C. Campbell, what modifications of the one or the other, or what third alternative, would fit Balkan conditions and would be politically feasible. May I remind however how difficult it is for small and rather weak countries, like the three Balkan countries (may be with the exception of Yugoslavia) to choose their own way, even under present conditions.

Judging the book as a whole one could consider it as a readable, well-written and well-balanced book, which can give the reader a good picture of the conditions prevailing in the three Balkan countries.

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Sotirios I. Dakaris, *Οἱ Γενεαλογικοὶ Μῦθοι τῶν Μολοσσῶν*, [The Genealogical Myths of the Molossians]. Publication of the Archaeological Society of Athens, No. 53. Athens 1964. Pp. 169 with Preface (pp. a-b) + 1 map and 6 pictures in 5 plates.

This important study of Dr. S. Dakaris, Ephor of Antiquities of Epirus, is his doctoral dissertation, which was accepted by the Philosophical Faculty of the National Capodistrian University of Athens.

The book is divided into six chapters: A, the Archaeology of Epirus (pp. 1-13); B, the Genealogical Myths of the Molossians (pp. 14-49); C, Two Historical Kings of the Molossians (pp. 50-67); D, Euripides and Epirus (pp. 68-101); E, the Expansion of the Tradition in and outside Epirus (pp. 162-163); and F, Characterization and the Greek Nature of the Myths (pp. 164-169).

In Chapter A, Dakaris summarizes the finds and the results of the archaeological research in Epirus. He mentions the recent Palaeolithic discoveries near Pantanassa and Aghios Georgios in the district of Preveza (to which may be added more numerous finds made in 1964); and follows, as far as the find-material permits, the continuity of life in the Neolithic and Bronze Ages. During the latter, the inhabitants of Epirus "most probably" were not Greeks, but pre-hellenic peoples from southwestern Asia Minor. Place-names have been attributed to these people; among which are the Epirotic place-names Θύαμος, Θύαμις, Κρᾶθις, Κελυδνός, Πίνδος, Ἀμυρον, Ὠρωπός, Κίχυρος etc.,