

## ANNALS

### † MICHAEL TH. LASCARIS 1903-1965

The Administrative Council and the members of the Institute for Balkan Studies announce with deep sorrow the death in Athens, 7 November, of the great Greek expert in the history and literature of the Balkan countries, Professor Michael Th. Lascaris. His departure from life is a great loss not only for his colleagues, his friends and his students, but also for Balkan scholarship in Greece and abroad.

He was born in Corfu in 1903, and belonged to a distinguished family of eminent scholars and politicians. His grandfather Stamatis Lascaris (1814-1889), prominent lawyer and politician, took a very active part in the fight for liberation of the Ionian islands; his uncle Spyridon Lascaris (1852-1932), lawyer and author, distinguished himself in the political life of Corfu; his brother Stamatis Lascaris (1896-1960) career diplomat and lecturer at the University of Athens, was the author of important books and studies on the Diplomatic history of Modern Greece and Western Europe; his uncle on his mother's side was the eminent historian of Economics Professor Andreas Andreadis (1876-1935) and his brother-in-law K. Papadimitriou (1904-1963) was one of the most active and imaginative Directors of the Greek Archaeological Service.

Michael Th. Lascaris was initiated in the language and in the history of the Balkan countries by Serbian scholars, serving in the Serbian Army which was stationed in Corfu at the beginning of the First World War. They returned the warm hospitality they found in the elegant mansion of the Lascaris' family by teaching the language and history of their country to the diligent and gifted young Michael Lascaris. Later he studied at the Universities of Paris, Zagreb, Sofia and Bucarest and mastered the languages and history of all the Balkan countries. He received his D. Phil. at the University of Belgrade and when he was still 23 years old he was appointed Associate Professor of the History of the Balkan countries and, later, Professor of Medieval and Modern European History at the University of Thessaloniki where he taught until he retired to Athens for reasons of health in 1959. He was member of the

Administrative Council of the Institute for Balkan Studies and, after he moved to Athens, honorary member of it, correspondent member of the Rumanian and Serbian Academies of Sciences and for a while served as Director of the Institute for Modern Greek Studies of the Royal Research Institute in Athens. He has made a large number of friends in the scholarly circles in all the Balkan countries until the Second World War and its aftermath, the political events in the Balkans, to his bitter disappointment, alienated him from persons and places very dear to his heart.

The range of his studies is shown in the bibliography which follows; it is not complete, because it contains only his publications in French, English, Italian, Serbo-Croatian, Bulgarian and Rumanian. Numerous are also his publications in Greek, some of which are mentioned here. Long also is the list of his reviews of books, published mainly in *Byzantion*, *Revue historique du Sud-Est européen*, *Prilozi za knjizevnost, jezik, istoriju i folklor*, *Byzantinoslavica*, *Byzantinische Zeitschrift*, *Arhiv za arbanasku starinu*, *Revue Internationale des Etudes Balkaniques* and in various scholarly Greek periodicals. More important, however, than all the extremely valuable studies he had published, was his personal example of integrity, humanism and dedication to scholarship. His work and his example will remain as a landmark in the history of Balkan scholarship.

ST. PAPADOPOULOS

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## THE INSTITUTE FOR BALKAN STUDIES IN 1965 A REPORT ON ITS ACTIVITIES

### I. Publications

In 1965 the Institute published the following books:

1. (Serial number 74): Ap. Dascalakis, *The Hellenism of the Ancient Macedonians*. Pp. 294 + 1 map. The author is Professor of History at the University of Athens.
2. (Serial number 75): Odön Füves, *Oι "Ελληνες τῆς Οὐγγαρίας* [The Greeks of Hungary]. Pp. 58 + 6 figures + 1 map. The author is lecturer at the Faculty of Languages, Polytechnic Institute, Budapest.