

REVIEWS OF BOOKS

Südosteuropa-Studien, 8. Beiträge zum Bank-und Devisenrecht in Süd-Osteuropa. Südosteuropa-Verlagsgesellschaft, München 1965. S. 136.

The wellknown learned German society Südosteuropa-Gesellschaft, Munich, tries to follow as well as possible all developments occurring in the various sectors of life of the South Eastern European states. At the same time its leaders try to give to experts from all walks of life in South Eastern Europe the chance to attend its numerous meetings, to know each other and to meet specialists not only from Western Germany but also from the other Western countries provided they know some German which is used in all these meetings and in all the publications of the Südosteuropa Gesellschaft. In the frame of these successful efforts a meeting of people connected with banking and foreign exchange control in South Eastern Europe with their opposite numbers in the West was held in Munich in November 1962. The ten papers delivered with some supplementary notes and re-adaptation were published in 1965. If one deduces Greece who has become very respectable since 1953 with accurate and prompt payments abroad whenever debts become due and Turkey whose very acute foreign exchange problems have not constituted the object of a paper, conditions prevailing in the individual South Eastern states are quite similar. All of them indulge in inflation of a varying degree — Hungary is, in this connection, in the best position,— all of them are short of foreign exchange, all of them prohibit the import of their own banknotes, all of them apply quotas, all of them prohibit to their inhabitants to hold foreign balances, all of them accumulate debts abroad. Under these circumstances not much can be said about the regulations in force. If one considers clearing and trade agreements with the individual western European countries the main stipulations are quite similar. They prove that the problems are nearly the same with those plaguing many countries in the thirties and in the forties. The intricacies of these agreements hamper of course not only the trade and the exchange of services between the individual communist South Eastern European states and the other countries but also their visible and invisible trade between themselves.

Banking laws have no practical importance in South Eastern Europe outside Greece and Turkey. All banks have been nationalised and

all those available are run according to orders issued by the respective governments without considering their inflationary repercussions. The papers published give a lot of details which however have no interest outside the countries concerned and even there as a lot of amendments are carried out without often being published. The regulations applying in the case of the Hungarian banks are the most interesting and can, more than all others, be compared with laws on special banks in some of the Western European banks.

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Actes du XIIème Congrès International d'Études Byzantines, Ochride
10-16 Septembre 1961. Tomes: I-III Beograd 1963-1964.

A Ochride du 10 au 16 septembre 1961 eut lieu le XIIème Congrès international d'études byzantines auquel ont assisté plus de 400 savants, représentants des institutions de byzantinologie et autres, d'un grand nombre de pays. Lors des préparatifs de ce Congrès tenu à Ochride le Comité d'organisation choisit neuf thèmes et confia leur rédaction aux spécialistes des plus connus des différents domaines de la byzantinologie. Ainsi neuf rapports principaux ont été élaborés. Un, deux ou plusieurs rapports complémentaires ont été écrits encore sur chacun de ces thèmes. Tous ces thèmes faisaient un ensemble: quelques questions des plus essentielles y sont développées, questions de divers domaines de byzantinologie peu traitées jusqu'ici.

Le Congrès travaillait en séances plénières. Huit rapports et 17 rapports complémentaires, distribués avant le Congrès à tous les participants, y ont été discutés. Le neuvième rapport: "Oströmisches vulgärrecht, byzantinisches, balkanisches und slavisches Recht," confié à Heinrich Felix Schmid, n'a été ni présenté ni publié à cause du décès subit de l'auteur. Selon l'usage chacun des membres du Congrès a pu annoncer un thème librement choisi devant informer les participants de quelque problème. Aussi 267 communications ont elles été annoncées. Vu la diversité et le grand nombre de thèmes, le Comité d'organisation du XIIème Congrès international d'études byzantines les a réparties par différentes sections. Ainsi le Congrès, outre les séances plénières, a travaillé en six sections traitant des matières suivantes: histoire, philologie et histoire de la littérature, histoire de l'église et théologie, droit et sciences spéciales, sciences historiques auxiliaires et musicologie.

Le Comité yougoslave des études byzantines s'est chargé de publier