

In jurul izvoarelor literare ale creștinismului dacoroman (A propos des sources littéraires du christianisme daco-roman) et *Niceta din Remesiana și originile creștinismului daco roman* (Niceta de Remesiane et les origines du christianisme daco-roman), où il procède à une critique, méthodique et rigoureuse, des sources concernant la diffusion du christianisme sur les territoires de la Roumanie en nous montrant à ce propos le crédit et la valeur qu'il faut leur accorder. La position de l'auteur contraste souvent avec les opinions si controversées de certains chercheurs qui ont utilisé les sources, parfois sans aucun sens critique, et sans la prudence requise par ce genre d'informations, si peu nombreuses par ailleurs, et surtout loin d'être toujours très explicites.

Certes, cette brève présentation que nous venons de faire ne saurait évoquer toute la richesse des problèmes traités dans cet ouvrage. Seule une consultation détaillée—au lecteur étranger, les résumés français à la fin du volume seront d'une réelle utilité—peut rendre l'image véritable de tout ce que nous apporte ce livre. En effet, il représente non seulement un stade nouveau de la connaissance du passé de la Roumanie, mais c'est en fait aussi une contribution à l'histoire générale du monde antique, vu la permanente interprétation des événements locaux, dans le contexte général des phénomènes historiques.

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The Future of Communism in Europe. Compiled and Edited by R.V. Burks. Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1968. Pp. 283.

The Future of Communism in Europe is a collection of five essays by five specialists who delivered five lectures at Wayne State University as part of the Franklin Memorial Lectures for 1967. The purpose of the lectures, according to the editor, was to "attempt to forecast or, perhaps more modestly, to assemble the elements of a forecast, on the future of communism in Europe." The five contributors Kevin Devlin, Michael Petrovich, Gregory Grossman, Arnold Horelick, and R.V. Burks, faithful to that purpose, delivered stimulating and informative lectures.

Devlin's analysis of the prospects for communism in Western Europe is lucid. It reviews the pertinent factors for development in the proper historic context and prognosticates continuation of the policy of accommodation within the "objective conditions" prevalent in the

West in 1967. Petrovich has written an excellent summary statement of Yugoslav problems to the date of delivery. Grossman's paper is sober, technocratic, and altogether a masterful evaluation of the economic problems and prospects of the communist states of Eastern Europe. Horelick presented a synopsis of Russian political evolution since the October Revolution to an audience apparently more familiar with Russian than with communist affairs. Burks' assessment of the "transmutation of European communism" is imaginative, informative, and in good taste. Evidently the lectures satisfied the requirements of the sponsor and of the audience as well. The volume is also useful for students of international communism longing for periodic reviews of trends and changes in communist affairs.

The volume, however, also reveals the risks inherent to ventures of this kind. Even though the editor distinguishes between "forecasting" and "prediction" to the extent to which forecasting seeks "to prepare an estimate of future developments so that provision can be made for their likely consequences" the forecasting which provided the rationale for the lectures and resultant book is woefully inadequate. It would be difficult to blame the authors for having failed to realize the potential explosiveness of the Czechoslovak situation in 1967. However, the dynamics of Soviet and East European communist policies in 1967 were far more complex than the authors were prone to recognize. Generalizations and theories derived from applied Kremlinology have proven to be generally worthless either for forecasting or for predicting largely because they ignore the totality of the phenomenon. There are no easy cures for solving the methodological and research problems connected with the study of communism. Nevertheless, we would urge that all concerned with the study of international communism allow the facts to speak for themselves.

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STEPHEN FISCHER-GALATI

O. Lancaster, *Sailing to Byzantium*, London, John Murray, 1969. Pp. 184 with 8 colour plates and numerous drawings by the author.

The title of the book itself taken from W.B. Yeats' famous poem clearly suggests that this is not a scholarly manual but a guide for the educated English-speaking traveller who is not familiar with Byzantine