

Constantine N. Tsirpanlis, *A Short History of the Greek Language*, Thessaloniki 1970, pp. 33. Price \$ 1.50. Order from the author: 2754 Claflin Ave., Bronx, N.Y. 10468.

Scholars interested in the sociology and other aspects of language will find this interesting study more than useful. For Dr. Constantine Tsirpanlis, professor of Greek Studies at The New School for Social Research (N.Y.C.), is a brilliant and prolific author, who has written several books and innumerable articles in the fields of philology, anthropology, education, history, linguistics, onomasiology, theology, and so forth. In other words, this internationally known intellectual is certainly qualified to discuss the history of the Greek language in interdisciplinary fashion, which renders his work both fascinating and helpful to professors, students and intelligent laymen.

Besides, a pleasant surprise is the completeness of the volume, despite its brevity. Professor Tsirpanlis discusses not only every stage in the history of the subject under consideration from prehistoric times to the present, but also all of the major, and some of the minor, Greek dialects. His analysis of each word's evolution, beginning with the original Sanscrit equivalents, is especially masterful.

In addition, the following features increase the value of the book under review:

1. The style is lucid and literary—no unnecessary jargon is included.
2. The section headings enable the reader to follow the author without difficulty.
3. The myriad illustrations, including the tables, are exceedingly effective.
4. The many usefully and judiciously selected quotations make the study more revealing and authoritative.
5. The transliteration problem is virtually absent, since Professor Tsirpanlis usually presents his examples in the original languages.
6. Finally, his ability to combine linguistic data with countless sociocultural elements is admirable, almost inimitable.

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Sappho Mavroulia. *Tà Néa 'Ελληνικά γιά ξενόγλωσσους (Modern Greek for Foreigners)* Second edition revised. Athens 1967, pp. 282, paper back \$ 4.00. Order from the author: Androu 7, Athens (801), Greece.

The book is a result of many years' teaching experience to foreigners