

Paul saw the Order as a means of recreating a bond among the aristocracy of Europe which somehow could become the basis for defending and preserving the old order against the assault of the French Revolution. But Professor Saul does not go deeper than this and consequently the issue of the Order becomes digressive. The issue detracts from a more positive image of Paul responding to the modernizing forces developing in southern Russia. In fact, the author avoids connecting Paul to such a response while stressing the importance of this Black Sea trade (i. e., p. 225). This becomes a somewhat serious criticism since the author argues, and rightly, that there was a great degree of continuity between the Mediterranean policies of Paul and Alexander. In fact, the over-all organization of the book hangs on that continuity even though the author frequently points to vagaries of personality and court intrigue as highly influential factors. Another criticism is that the book's contents are too fragmented. The same events are sometimes described in separate passages but in a different context and without sufficient linkage. This leads to an excessive number of details which at times obscure the reader's view of the broader strategic contours.

On the other hand, one must compliment the author in tracing such a wide range of sources which include manuscript material at Corfu of the Ionian Republic, the State Archives at Naples of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies, papers of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta, Rome and published Russian primary and secondary sources. In general, this is an excellent book which brings together a great deal of information about a subject that has been insufficiently treated.

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Paul L. Horecky, Editor, *Southeastern Europe: A Guide to Basic Publications*. Chicago & London: The University of Chicago Press, 1969. Pp. 755.

As every scholar knows only too well, the rapid accumulation of knowledge (or at least of publications written in the pursuit of knowledge), which is so much a feature of our times, is not without its drawbacks. Familiarizing oneself with the growing literature in virtually any field

is not only extremely time-consuming but also hazardous: it is always possible that an important piece of research has been overlooked, often with embarrassing results. Increasingly, therefore, one finds that no research tool is more valuable than a carefully selected, well annotated and up-to-date bibliography.

Recently the work of the Balkan specialist has been greatly facilitated by the publication (in 1969) of *Southeastern Europe: A Guide to Basic Publications*, prepared for the Subcommittee on East Central and Southeast European Studies (American Council of Learned Societies and the Social Science Research Council) under the editorship of Paul L. Horecky, Assistant Chief of the Slavic and Central European Division of the Library of Congress. The fifty-odd contributors, for the most part American-based Balkan specialists, include some of the most prestigious scholarly names in the social sciences, linguistics, and the arts. A companion volume dealing with East Central Europe has also been published by the University of Chicago Press.

As the editor makes clear in his Preface, the difficulties involved in an undertaking of this kind are formidable and their handling necessitates value judgments and decisions which will not be universally recognized as the best. Dr. Horecky estimates that the literature on Southeastern Europe produced during the last fifty years probably exceeds 600,000 titles, whereas the present *Guide* includes only about 5,000 books, periodicals and articles. Thus this project was perceived as a "highly selective and judiciously evaluated inventory of the most important publications" on the Balkans which had appeared by 1968. Making allowances for unavoidable subjectivity in the selection of titles and in the commentary, the results are truly outstanding.

The countries covered in the *Guide* are Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, Rumania, and Yugoslavia, while the focus is on their historical-political, social, economic and cultural development. The works listed are primarily in the language of the country concerned, or in English, with fewer entries in other key European languages. Principal consideration is given to the period since these nations achieved their independence and especially to their more recent past. The first chapter deals with the entire area of the Balkans and identifies the most important general bibliographies as well as scholarly works on the region's geography, ethnography, history, politics, foreign relations, economy, social development and culture. It is followed by chapters on each of the five countries,

sub-divided into similar sections as those employed for the entire area. An index by title as well as by author completes the volume.

It is the fate of reference and bibliographical works to become obsolete almost as soon as they appear, and the *Guide* is no exception. One can hope, therefore, that Dr. Horecky's wish to see this volume followed by a series of specialized bibliographical studies will be fulfilled on a continuing basis, every few years.

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Ἐφημερίδες τῆς Ἑλληνικῆς Ἐπαναστάσεως. Τόμος Πρῶτος: Ἐθνικὴ Ἐφημερίς (1832-1833), Ἀθῆναι 1972, Ἐθνικὸν Τυπογραφεῖον. (News-papers of the Time of the Greek Revolution. Volume I: "National Newspaper" 1832-1833).

(A publication of the Prefecture of Attica on the anniversary of the 1821 Revolution. National Printing Office, Athens, 1972). Preface by G.D. Demakopoulos.

The most sincere historians and writers who feel that today their prime duty is to focus their readers' attention to the world as an indivisible whole, are faced with the problem of a vanishing reality. I think that the only way left to them is to speak through the things they immediately perceive and through evident details so that they may approach a reconstruction of reality without any prejudice. However, the characteristic elements which are necessary for a reconstruction of the true image of a given historical scene can only be searched out when there is a body of important references to the past in the specific field of our interest.

In this context, the importance of the reprinting (with the photo-static method) of the newspapers which were published at the time of the Greek Revolution of 1821 is invaluable: these papers are hard to find in our days, or rather are indeed inaccessible even to the specialized scholar. Therefore, the political, social, cultural and even psychological reality of that period seems in ways incomprehensible, secluded in the limits of its own space and time, and that exactly because of the inacces-