

AZ ELLENFORRADALOM NEMZETISÉGI POLITIKÁJÁNAK KIALAKULÁSA. By *Béla Bellér*. Budapest: Akadémiai Kiadó, 1975. 290 pp. 60 Ft.

Bellér has compiled an impressive array of information on early interwar Hungarian nationality policy. The narrative covers the rise and fall of Christian petite bourgeoisie hegemony (1919–21), when the ultra-conservative counterrevolution feigned a “new course” in minority policy. In fact, it furthered revisionism. The second phase was dominated by the aristocratic István Bethlen, a nationalist equally dedicated to Magyar supremacy. Bethlen sought to pacify the nationalities with illusory gains.

Bellér correctly states that the government’s duplicity was an attempt to cashier Swabian (German) aspirations. After Trianon, Swabian autonomy was quietly dropped and the Ministry of Nationalities phased out. Even moderate Swabians, led by the controversial Jakob Bleyer, soon despaired. To mollify them, Bethlen instituted what promised to be a new, liberal course. But chauvinistic administrators, subtly encouraged from Budapest, sabotaged minority education and the Swabian cultural association, the U.D.V. In 1924, the minority problem was not yet acute; but as Germany gathered strength, the Swabians gained importance. Bellér suggests that ill-treatment undermined Swabian loyalty and encouraged future conflict involving the revitalized German Reich. This is debatable. The post-war nationalistic hysteria would have undoubtedly claimed the Swabians in any event.

This is a praiseworthy, meticulously researched monograph. Bellér has re-examined such half-forgotten episodes as Bethlen’s abortive plans for Slovakia’s subversion in league with Poland, and the machinations of the Ministry of Nationalities, mainly in the Successor States—especially its sinister plottings involving Slovak, Carpatho-Ukrainian, and Burgenland separatism. Bellér has consulted nearly all Hungarian primary and secondary sources and a respectable number of Western authors, but he has, unfortunately, ignored G. C. Paikert’s contributions, and the copious archival repositories in Vienna, Bonn, and Koblenz. Aside from his questionable use of the term “fascist,” and frequent allusions to class struggle, Bellér has provided a balanced and fair treatment of an important and neglected chapter in Central European history.

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COMMUNAL FAMILIES IN THE BALKANS: THE ZADRUGA. ESSAYS BY PHILIP E. MOSELY AND ESSAYS IN HIS HONOR. Edited by *Robert F. Byrnes*. Introduction by *Margaret Mead*. Notre Dame and London: University of Notre Dame Press, 1976. xxxii, 285 pp. \$14.95.

This volume is a fitting tribute to Philip Mosely. It represents a genuine contribution to knowledge in an area which deeply interested Mosely at an early stage in his career: the changing socioeconomic structure of the peasant household; more precisely, the extended family commune, or *zadruga*, in southeastern Europe. Unfortunately, his untimely death in 1972 did not permit him to return to this topic upon retirement, as he had long planned to do. But, from his articles reprinted here, it is clear that he had already made a major contribution to the study of the *zadruga* on the basis of extensive field work in the Balkans in the late 1930s.