

THE HISTORICAL AND NATIONALISTIC THOUGHT OF NICOLAE IORGA. By *William O. Oldson*. East European Monographs, no. 5. Boulder, Colo.: *East European Quarterly*, 1973. Distributed by Columbia University Press, New York. viii, 135 pp. \$10.00.

NICOLAE IORGA: A ROMANIAN HISTORIAN OF THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE. By *Maria Matilda Alexandrescu-Dersca Bulgaru*. Translated by *Mary Lăzărescu*. Bibliotheca Historica Romaniae Studies, 40. Bucharest: Publishing House of the Academy of the Socialist Republic of Romania, 1972. 190 pp. Lei 10, paper.

These two studies present a tantalizing peek at the tip of the proverbial iceberg. The first is an analysis of Iorga's primarily nationalistic histories of his countrymen, whereas the second is a recounting of Iorga's four-volume history of the Ottoman Empire (originally published in German in 1908–13) and other works treating the Turkish occupation. Since only one of Iorga's major works has appeared in English (a one-volume history of the Rumanians published in London in 1925), of the twelve hundred books and pamphlets he miraculously turned out, we must accept on faith the findings of these two contemporary experts.

Although Iorga was virtually ignored by Rumania's Marxist historians before 1964, he has now emerged to take his rightful place as that nation's most distinguished savant. Mr. Oldson, a young American scholar, was fortunate to undertake on-the-scene research after Iorga's posthumous rehabilitation, and Dr. Bulgaru, a professional Rumanian historian, is likewise privileged to investigate hitherto restricted sources. These and other recent studies of Iorga presage the restoration of the honors temporarily denied him.

Bulgaru's book deals with Iorga's still commendable studies of the Turks and with the influences of that ethnic group on Rumania's evolution. Whereas her analysis is extremely favorable to Iorga, Oldson's study is critically probing and furnishes us with a sharp insight into Iorga's distortions of history to satisfy his nationalism and propagandizing in favor of the creation of "Greater Rumania." Oldson's book boldly suggests that Iorga's distortions, admittedly for didactic purposes, resemble the intricate gyrations of Rumanian historiography under the present regime. The force of nationalism is probably stronger than that of Marxism, or even truth.

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ROMÂNIA ÎN ANII NEUTRALITĂȚII (1914–1916). By *Constantin Nuțu*. Bucharest: Editura Științifică, 1972. 348 pp. Lei 15.

Rumanian historians have produced a plethora of specialized studies on the period of the First World War, especially articles and monographs dealing with "popular" or "revolutionary" movements. But as yet no general synthesis has appeared. Publication of volume 5 of the official *Istoria României* (Bucharest, 1960–), which covers the period 1878–1918, has been promised for almost ten years, and a collective at the Institute of History in Bucharest is just beginning work on a major study, *România în primul război Mondial*. The book under review, written by a professor of history at Bucharest University and director of the University Library, partly fills this lacuna. It is not a specialized diplomatic history but a