

The period chosen is a significant one, for it was at that time that a movement arose in favor of encouraging the growth of large-scale mechanized industry. And since the author provides numerous footnotes, as well as an extensive twenty-five-page bibliography, his study is of great use to potential researchers on the subject. On the other hand, it is curious and unfortunate that despite the author's penchant for extensive factual detail, he has not discussed with any thoroughness the 1887 law encouraging sheltered industrialization. This law is so important because it was the first of its kind; a detailed analysis of it would thus be extremely helpful for a good understanding of late nineteenth-century Rumanian industrial development. To date, no adequate treatment of this law exists.

Zane asserts that the economic development of the period 1880–1900 laid the basis for subsequent large-scale “capitalist” industry (p. 167). This point of view is a familiar one in Rumanian historiography, bourgeois-liberal as well as Communist (see, most notably, the works of Stefan Zeletin in the 1920s and those of Lucrețiu Pătrășcanu twenty years later). But the author never really deals with the key question whether Rumania's long-term industrial development was simply a product of the sheltered industrialization movement of the late nineteenth century or rather of the Old Kingdom's union with Transylvania in 1918. It is certain that whatever industrial development occurred before World War I (not to mention before 1900) was extremely modest in comparison with the post-1918 period.

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EUROPE'S FIRST MONUMENTAL SCULPTURE: NEW DISCOVERIES  
AT LEPENSKI VIR. By *Dragoslav Srejšović*. Translated by *Lovett F. Edwards*. New Aspects of Antiquity series. New York: Stein and Day, 1972. 216 pp. 13 color plates, 87 monochrome plates, 58 line drawings. \$20.00.

Lepenski Vir was a village site of prehistoric hunters and fishers on the Yugoslav bank of the Danube in the Iron Gates gorge. The site, as well as others like it in the area, is now totally submerged by the waters backed up from the Rumanian-Yugoslav dam. It has generated considerable excitement and controversy, both because it is the largest nonagricultural settlement in Europe and because it has a number of unusual features, notably a unique art style.

Apart from Lepenski Vir and certain other sites in the Iron Gates region, the “mesolithic” of south-central Europe (here meaning anything postglacial and preagricultural, or at least nonagricultural) was known only from deposits in caves and from small open sites that lacked permanent architecture. The evidence of occupation was meager—small flint tools, splintered bones of the wild animals hunted for food, mollusk shells in coastal situations, and little else. Then suddenly in 1966 Dr. Srejšović's excavations at Lepenski Vir began to reveal a compact village of fishers and hunters, with sixty-five or so unique houses representing several phases of occupation. The houses were trapezoidal in plan, with their entrances facing the river. Most had hard floors of a mortar-hard, red-colored material, and set into the floor of each was a rectangular hearth made of thin limestone slabs, surrounded by smaller slabs forming a series of V's. At the rear of many hearths were found—again set into the floors—examples of an art that featured low-relief carving or pecking of river boulders, often into anthropomorphic forms up to fifty centimeters high. The dead were buried between and beneath

the house floors. No wonder then that this sensational find was hailed in the press as the "first city," and its newly unearthed art style acclaimed as "monumental sculpture."

Srejšović's book is a popularized general report on Lepenski Vir—popularized in the sense that the detailed plans and systematic analyses of artifacts customary in specialist monographs are absent. Many interpretative statements are thus not supported by data, and the book can also not be used by specialists to evaluate the phenomena excavated. Furthermore, presumably in an effort to sell the book, the publishers have given it an inappropriate title. First, it is in fact a slightly revised translation of the excavator's Serbo-Croatian original (*Lepenski Vir*, 1969). Second, it neither deals predominantly with the stone sculptures nor does it present any "new discoveries" made since 1969, when excavations ended except for minor clean-up operations. Actually, the excavator promptly reported most of the sensational "discoveries," for example in the *Illustrated London News* for January 20 and February 3, 1968, and in *Archaeology* (1969). Obviously the book presents the data in greater completeness.

Apart from the inherent interest in a rich cultural manifestation that does not fit the known sequence of archeological cultures, a major theoretical question is the relation of the Lepenski Vir culture with those surrounding it, and in particular with the first agricultural complex of the central Balkans, which seems to have been in the process of spreading and becoming established during the time span of the Lepenski Vir culture. Since there are no other archeological records in south-central Europe showing culture contact between the indigenous hunters and gatherers in the area and the spreading agricultural complex, or acculturation on the part of the indigenous population, the possibility of Lepenski Vir's representing such a situation is of great interest. It is a pity that no further field work can be done. One hopes that detailed publication of the excavations and the results of analysis of materials, from Lepenski Vir as well as from the nearby sites of Padina and Vlasac, will provide clarification. The comparison of certain classes of data, such as flint and bone tools, should throw much light on the interrelations of these three sites as well as their relations with the early agricultural complex.

The book is competently translated (except for a few specialized terms), well illustrated, and includes a number of valuable appendixes on the ecology, geology, pollen, food-animal bones, human skeletal remains, and radiocarbon dating of the site.

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MEHMED SOKOLOVIĆ. By *Radovan Samardžić*. Belgrade: Srpska književna zadruha, 1971. 572 pp.

The fascinating figure of Mehmed Sokolović (Mohammed Sokolli, Sokolovich) has attracted little attention from modern historians. Professor Radovan Samardžić of the University of Belgrade, a prominent specialist in late medieval and early modern Balkan history, has written a work that is not only a fine scholarly contribution but also a distinguished literary achievement. The book traces Sokolovich's life from his early youth in the little Bosnian village of Sokolovići (where he was born about 1505), through his first education in the Serbian Orthodox monastery of Mileševa, to his departure for Istanbul as part of a child-levy when he was about