

influenced various Croatian authors. She knows her subject well, and is able to keep the reader's attention.

This collection of various studies is mostly concerned with Germany and France, and greatly neglects the impact of Italy, Great Britain, and the United States. With the exception of a solid paper by Sonja Bašić on Antun Matoš and E. A. Poe, British and American literatures are not examined. In *Forum*, the best Croatian literary magazine, several good analyses of literary activity in America have appeared in recent years, and perhaps some of them should have been included. An excellent essay by Antun Nizeteo on "Whitman in Croatia" (in *Journal of Croatian Studies*, vol. 11–12, 1970–71) has proved that the Croatian writers valued Whitman highly even before he was superbly rendered into Croatian by Tin Ujević (1951). If there was a reason for excluding living authors, at least some of the older writers should have been studied.

Notwithstanding these remarks and suggestions, I recommend this valuable miscellany to all those who are interested in Croatian literature in its European framework, and I eagerly await the next volume, which probably will be more in touch with present-day reality. Even a small Croatia is looking beyond strictly European horizons.

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A SLOVENIAN VILLAGE: ŽEROVNICA. By *Irene Winner*. Providence: Brown University Press, 1971. xiv, 267 pp. \$14.00.

This book is the first professional ethnographic account of a Slovenian community (in the English language) and fills a serious gap in the literature. It is also a beautifully produced book, with good photographs, charming drawings, and scarcely a typographical error, to all of which its price is testimony.

Most of the book is about peasant economics and the relationship between social organization, everyday interaction, and economic factors. It is particularly helpful in its emphasis on the internal stratification of a peasant community. A clear picture emerges of the peasant's struggle for survival under more than one regime, of his adaptability and pragmatism, his love for the land. Family structure is treated in detail and in historical depth; historical demographers will find this information quite useful. In general, the weight of the book is historical, almost half of it devoted to developments leading up to the present day, with great reliance placed on local sources.

The articulation of the village with the larger economy and even the importance of migration to and return from America are stressed to a degree absent in many monographs on peasant life, which often view the peasant in isolation. The importance of factory employment in modern peasant life is noted, as is the attraction of such work for the young and the increasing burden on the old to maintain traditional ways. The relationships of uncollectivized peasants to the socialist state and to the neighboring agricultural commune are clearly laid out, as are the effects of shifting governmental policy and the more conservative trend of recent agricultural and economic policy.

In all of this concentration the book excels, although the view that emerges is clearly the peasants', not too critically presented. What the book lacks is adequate material on other important aspects of social organization and on nonmaterial cul-

ture. Information on role relationships and the life cycle, although present, is thin. Religion, magic, curing, art, and the use of language (as opposed to some specification of dialect type) receive scant or no attention. There is a section on value orientation devoted mainly to a critique of Foster's theory of limited good that might have been appropriate in what must have been the original dissertation but is a fifth wheel in this context. The book ends lamely on this subject, there having been no indication that this was to be the dénouement.

Even though the descriptions of economic and political interrelationships between the village and higher governmental levels, and between it and other lands through emigration, are clear, one misses a statement of the position of Slovenia in the Yugoslav federation, of the role of Slovene nationalism in the modern state, of the way the tax burden may fall on Slovene peasants precisely because they are in one of the more economically advanced republics. Neither does one find any explication of the obvious similarities in organization and ecological adjustment between the Slovene peasant and his montane cousins from the Bay of Biscay to the Carpathians, to whom he is closer in many ways than to his brethren to the southeast. In short, the book is parochial in its view, conditioned very much by modern political boundaries. It is also anthropologically unimaginative, utterly descriptive, failing to seize the theoretical bait so obvious in its economic and political data. It does not come up to the descriptive fullness of Halpern's work on Orašac, and does not at all achieve the penetrating insight of Fél and Hofer in their remarkable work on Hungarian peasants.

But there is no use complaining in terms of a book the author did not write, even if one would have preferred to read it. This is a community study of strong historical bent, typically unfocused theoretically, and rather selective in its descriptive emphasis. However, it has better data on economic relations, family history, and political and social differentiation than most, and it is a welcome addition to the literature for those restricted to works in English.

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THE EMBATTLED MOUNTAIN. By *F. W. D. Deakin*. New York and London: Oxford University Press, 1971. xvi, 284 pp. \$9.50.

In May 1943, F. W. D. Deakin, the Oxford historian and literary secretary to Winston Churchill, parachuted into Tito's headquarters in the midst of the fierce battle of the Sutjeska River. Wounded by the same bomb that struck Tito and barely escaping death in the attack which killed Ivo Lola Ribar, he survived to report to Cairo by wireless that Tito was indeed "killing Germans," as Churchill put it. Deakin became convinced that Mihailović was collaborating with the Axis, and his reports to that effect were influential in turning British support away from the Chetniks and toward the Partisans.

Twenty-five years later Deakin began working on a broadly conceived history of the Sutjeska battle, but he found that memories of his own participation in it "bedevilled and blocked [him] at every turn." In *The Embattled Mountain* he describes his involvement in hopes of clearing his mind and opening the way for the comprehensive study which will follow.

The result, however, is not a memoir. Neither is it a history. Rather it is a