

Catholic church and of the Croatian Peasant Party lacks balance. Instead of pertinent primary sources available in Belgrade and Zagreb, as well as in Bonn, London, and Washington, the author uses propagandistic literature published by the Yugoslavian government.

The most important and original contribution in this book is the detailed and factual report on the Croatian armed forces. The writer lists stations of gendarmerie, locates individual armed units, enumerates their manpower, and identifies the commanding officers. The fourth and last section deals with the Ustasha terror machinery and its atrocities. Why, however, was it necessary to copy entire pages of works which have already been published in Yugoslavia?

The volume is mostly descriptive and the book's structure is only partially successful. In Colić's examination of the Croatian denominations, the Roman and Greek Catholic religions are dealt with in nine pages, Islam is passed over with barely eighteen lines, and the Jewish and Old Catholic faiths are disregarded altogether. The extensive analysis of ethnic Germans and of Serbian life calls for a similar treatment of the ethnic Magyars, Slovaks, Montenegrins, and other national, ethnic, and religious minorities. Unfortunately, in all of his analysis, Colić refrains from asking searching and thought-provoking questions. Croatian independence and the Ustasha are still internal problems in Yugoslavia, but current developments constrain the local historian and prevent him from looking astutely and realistically into the past.

In some respects, Colić's study is both an important and a pioneering work. He has invested much effort on an admittedly difficult topic. It is a pity that the treatise is not of uniform value.

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The subject matter of this latest collection of articles on Rumanian medieval history deals primarily with economic and social, rather than political and cultural, development. There are several significant longer essays. David Prodan describes in detail the abolition of serfdom in Transylvania during the reign of Joseph II. In command of the considerable published literature and archival sources on the subject and treating it against the broader background of similar developments in the other Habsburg hereditary lands, he finds that up to 1780 Transylvania lagged behind neighboring territories in the regulation of landlord-serf relations; there had been no general overhaul of the system, as had occurred in Hungary in 1767 and the Banat in 1780. He stresses Joseph's personal acquaintance with agrarian conditions in Transylvania as a result of his two visits there in 1773 and 1783 and the thousands of petitions he collected from peasants. Joseph's initial act of emancipation, that of August 16, 1783, fell short of granting the serfs the essential freedom of movement. Prodan ascribes this failure to strenuous opposition from the Transylvanian estates. He believes that only the massive uprising led by Horea in 1784–85 could have overcome the opposition and brought the final act of emancipation of August 22, 1785. Even so, he points out, the landowning class succeeded in blocking any specification of peasant property rights, as had been done in the other hereditary lands. Nonetheless, Prodan concludes that freedom of movement

and the peasant's improved juridical status enabled him better to defend himself against abuses of authority.

Also noteworthy is Lia Lehr's study of the causes of demographic changes in seventeenth-century Wallachia. She gives a brief overview of the major periods of fluctuation and then analyzes, in some detail, each of the contributing causes: famine, war, mass flight, enslavement, drought, and, not least in importance, resettlement. She is careful to note the close interrelation of all these factors, a point she demonstrates clearly in a survey of conditions in the village of Negrași between 1652 and 1697. Although her materials are not so abundant or varied as are those available to demographic historians in Western Europe, she has succeeded admirably in showing the connection between economic and political development and population changes. Florin Constantiniu's article on the collective village mentality in Rumanian medieval society, which draws upon the theoretical writings of Lucien Febvre and other members of the "Annales" school, is an introduction to some of the problems involved in such a study rather than an in-depth treatment of the subject. He stresses the prevailing insecurity and fear as a major cause of peasant emotional behavior and draws examples for a typology of peasant revolts from Horea's uprising. His treatment seems one-sided; curiously, in a study of medieval village mentalities the influence of religious belief is ignored.

Limitations of space permit only a cursory review of the other contributions to the volume. The eminent Orientalist, Aurel Decei, analyzes and publishes two documents, dated 1533 and 1534, relating to the career of Aloisio Gritti, the son of a Venetian doge, who had risen to high rank in the Ottoman civil service. Gritti's general report to the sultan on conditions in Wallachia in 1534 contains valuable new information. Lidia Demény describes the organization and administration of the customs stations in Transylvania between 1541 and the end of the seventeenth century. Of particular interest is her discussion of the part played in the customs operation by various groups and the rise to prominence in Transylvanian commerce of foreign merchants. Aurora Ilieș is also concerned with trade, specifically, the routes and means of conveyance used in the transport of salt in Wallachia from the fifteenth to the beginning of the nineteenth century. There are two short, but pithy, contributions to the history of old Rumanian law: Ovid Sachelarie's analysis of the lack of finality in judicial decisions, a situation which permitted interminable reopenings of cases and was not finally remedied until the beginning of the nineteenth century; and Tudor Voinea's description of banishment and exile as punishments for boyars and other social classes in the Rumanian principalities from the early seventeenth to the beginning of the nineteenth century. Finally, Sergiu Columbeanu, drawing upon a wide variety of fiscal documents, analyzes the multiple causes for the increase in the *bir*, the main tax owed by individuals to the state treasury in Wallachia between 1775 and 1831.

In addition to the above, the volume contains a number of articles devoted to previously unpublished sources of Rumanian history. Deserving of mention are Damaschin Mioc's description of Slavo-Rumanian manuscripts dating from the end of the fifteenth to the middle of the seventeenth century in the Lenin Library in Moscow, and Gheorghe Crot's edition of Dimitrie Panaiotache's "The Judicial Art," an important source for the history of law in Wallachia drawn up in 1793. There is, finally, a substantial section devoted to reviews of recent Rumanian and foreign works on medieval history and culture.

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