

thal and Goluchowski, however, must have been aware of the support given by Russia to France at Algeciras, and it is extraordinary that they should think that Russia could still be weaned away from France.

The other chapters are most likely to attract specialists. Hans Wagner examines the differing views of Maria Theresa and Joseph II about payments by the crown of pensions and charities. Hermann Freudenberger summarizes the cultural and economic services of one Moravian and four Bohemian aristocrats in the late eighteenth and first half of the nineteenth centuries. Adam Wandruszka's account of the relations between an Austrian officer and an American lady in the early 1840s is a charming though melancholy diversion. Professor Erika Weinzierl's essay on Aehrenthal's treatment of the claim for a new university for the Italian-speaking subjects of the Monarchy throws fresh light on that complex personality, as well as on Austro-Italian diplomatic relations. The last chapter, a survey by Joseph Held of the role of *Nyugat*, the distinguished Hungarian radical periodical, has nothing startlingly new to say, but is a clear and useful account.

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THE HABSBURG EMPIRE IN WORLD WAR I: ESSAYS ON THE INTELLECTUAL, MILITARY, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF THE HABSBURG WAR EFFORT. Edited by *Robert A. Kann, Béla K. Király, and Paula S. Fichtner*. East European Monographs, 23. Boulder, Colo.: *East European Quarterly*, 1977. xiv, 247 pp. \$14.00. Distributed by Columbia University Press, New York.

The dozen essays in this volume vary considerably in theme and scope, ranging from an analysis of the economic effects of the transport crisis to a survey of literary war patriots and from a synthesis on warfare to a critique of American historical writing on the Habsburgs. Such variety precludes commentary on each contribution in the space available. The collection is unusual in that it treats the impact of war on the Habsburg Monarchy without presenting the topic as a prelude to the Monarchy's inevitable disintegration. Rather than dwell on the fatal weaknesses of a multinational empire in the twentieth century, the implicit emphasis in a number of essays is on the resilience of some of its structures.

One of the institutions most severely tried by the war, the imperial army, is compared favorably to its counterparts elsewhere. Gunther Rothenberg suggests that the army was weakened by a stalemated war and Emperor Franz Joseph's death rather than by the claims of rival nationalisms. The "Schweikian" image of the Habsburg army is ably undermined by Jay Luvaas, whose comparative approach stresses similarities with other armies in composition, leadership, preparation for combat, and relative cohesion. It would have been particularly instructive to have had similar comparative essays on the wartime functioning of other imperial institutions. The issue of the dynasty is addressed obliquely by several authors insofar as they cite the emperor's death as a turning point for the army. The section on military affairs concludes with Béla Király's wide-ranging essay, which focuses on attempts to limit and regulate warfare in the industrial era, but loses sight of the Habsburgs in its broad sweep.

Wartime political life in the Habsburg lands, as presented by Victor Mamatey and Gabor Vermes, reveals a preoccupation with prewar issues—Czech parliamentarians keenly pursuing some form of statehood within the Habsburg or Romanov empires (depending on the fortunes of war), while their Magyar counterparts grapple with the intractable question of suffrage reform in Hungary. Though the authors mention the "radicalization" of public opinion in the course of the war, they fail to

explore the war itself as a radicalizing force that was to overtake the schemes of politicians by 1918. Yet the process by which the war fueled the "ethnic nationalisms of the Habsburg peoples" would be a crucial issue in the empire's wartime history.

Literary war hysteria is the theme of R. A. Kann's essay on Austro-German poets in the war's opening months. Eva Balogh traces the evolution of their Magyar colleagues from the initial proud evocations of 1848–49 to the later realization that the Great War had little in common with the relatively short wars of national liberation or unification in the nineteenth century. Stephan Verosta's essay on *Mittleuropa* concludes with an intriguing allusion to the role of this concept in the dissolution of the Monarchy, raising the question of Germany's contribution to this process. While it is clear that some prominent Austro-Germans opposed the *Mittleuropa* scheme, its effect (if any) on the Habsburg peoples' disenchantment with the Monarchy calls for a more systematic analysis. In a timely examination of the historical bias of American writing on the Habsburg Empire, Paula Fichtner reminds us that the empire's history need not be studied primarily from the vantage point of its last years, dominated as they were by the nationalities question. In this connection, her critique of Oscar Jaszi's *The Dissolution of the Habsburg Monarchy* ably exposes the author's questionable assumptions, while acknowledging his influence on subsequent historical writing.

The general impression one gets from this volume is of many subjects touched on too lightly. Nonetheless, the case studies raise intriguing issues for further research, and the book as a whole serves as a reminder that there is more to Habsburg history during World War I than a collection of peoples eagerly anticipating the military defeat that would signal the triumph of their particular nationalisms.

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A SZOCIALISTA MAGYAR IRODALOM DOKUMENTUMAI AZ AMERIKAI
MAGYAR SAJTÓBAN 1920–1945. By József Kovács. Budapest: Akadémiai
Kiadó, 1977. 439 pp. 100 Ft.

The field of ethnic studies in the United States is comparatively new. Although this does not hold true for immigration studies, the social, economic, cultural, and literary achievements of many of the immigrant nationalities that make up the American nation have received relatively little attention until the past decade or so. There are, of course, exceptions; but the Hungarians, or Magyars, are not one of them. Few serious scholars have ventured into the Hungarian-American past. Thus, the majority of publications in the area of Hungarian-American studies have been either dilettante works produced by untrained authors, or general summaries based on the information found in these works.

Although still far from satisfactory, the situation has changed during the past few years. A number of trained scholars—Hungarian, as well as Hungarian-American—have ventured into the field; and some of them are beginning to produce serious works. In the field of history the most prominent of these scholars is Julia Puskás, whose major work on the development of Hungarian-American organizations should soon appear in print. In the field of literary history Puskás's work is paralleled by that of József Kovács—the author of the work under review.

The title of Kovács's book is an accurate description of its topic and content. It is a documentary work that contains a good selection of the writings of those Hungarian-American authors of the interwar period whose works fit into the category of "socialist literature." While these selections are useful and important, Kovács's eighty-six-page introductory study—which constitutes the first serious summary and assessment of the development and achievements of the socialist-oriented press and