

PARTEI UND LITERATUR IN RUMANIEN SEIT 1945. By *Anneli Ute Gabanyi*. Untersuchungen zur Gegenwartskunde Südosteuropas, 9. Munich: R. Oldenbourg Verlag, 1975. 209 pp. DM 25, paper.

This interesting and informative essay on the relationship of party and literature in Rumania is a welcome addition to our knowledge of cultural developments in Eastern Europe's postwar period. It is also a well-documented testimony to the fundamental similarities of the pattern that has evolved, since the war, in every country of Eastern Europe under Soviet domination and party direction. Because Ms. Gabanyi's approach is basically—and inevitably—political, its chronology follows closely the development of the political scene in Rumania from the initial *Gleichschaltung* of literature through the Stalinist phase of Socialist Realism and the post-Stalinist phase of "thaw" up to the contemporary and growing ambiguities of the Ceaușescu era. These phases are clearly and sharply defined and their substances, both political and literary, are well analyzed. The reader is given a wide and reliable insight into the witch's cauldron of political-literary intrigues as well as an overview of "theoretical" developments that are, of course, the literary reflections of political events with political consequences. The initial class war period of 1944–47 is followed by the total repression of the Stalinist dictatorship; and the *small thaw* (*Das kleine Tauwetter*) of 1953–57 is followed, as the result of the Polish and Hungarian uprisings, by a new ice age (*Eine neue Eiszeit*), lasting for only a year and giving way to the "directed liberalism" of the years 1960–65. A long and interesting chapter is devoted to the Ceaușescu era's *Literaturpolitik* with its internal conflicts, theoretical contradictions, and the growing, if somewhat uncertain, resistance of a new generation of writers. Ms. Gabanyi views the present phase of development, I think quite rightly, with cautious pessimism: certain methods may have changed but the party's basic aim—to maintain its ideological and political supremacy over art and literature—remains unaltered.

A reliable guide and a clear and concise treatment, Ms. Gabanyi's essay is the first attempt to summarize and analyze the political-literary relationships in postwar Rumania. It is regrettable, however, that she did not pay closer attention to the problems of ethnic minorities (Hungarians, Germans) or to the international impact of internal upheavals within the bloc. A good index is sorely missed.

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A STUDY IN SOCIAL SURVIVAL: THE KATUN IN BILEĆA RUDINE. By *Wayne S. Vucinich*. Monograph Series in World Affairs, vol. 13: CHANGE AND SURVIVAL: STUDIES IN SOCIAL DYNAMICS IN EASTERN EUROPE AND THE SOVIET UNION. ESSAYS IN HONOR OF JOSEF KORBEL, Book 1. Denver: University of Denver, Graduate School of International Studies, 1975. xxiv, 194 pp. Paper.

Divided into two parts, one based on published materials and the second on the author's own direct observations over many years, *A Study in Social Survival* is a study of the society, ethnography, material culture, administrative organization, and political vicissitudes of a group of mountain communities in eastern Herzegovina collectively known as Bileća Rudine. In effect, Professor Vucinich deals with the *katun* culture of Bileća Rudine under the varying conditions of medieval Serbian, Ottoman, Habsburg, monarchical Yugoslav, and Communist Yugoslav rule—from the Serbian Middle Ages to the submergence under water, in 1968, of two dozen Trebišnjica basin villages, including the village of Vucinich's own childhood, in order to provide energy for three hydroelectric plants.