

Valiani's book has been translated into English from the original Italian edition of 1966 (two important new appendixes have been added). Živojinović's book, however, apparently was written originally in English. Since this is not his native language, it is difficult to say whether the malapropisms, faulty organization, tedious writing, and muffled points are the result of language deficiencies or of conceptual problems. The author's purpose is to flesh out the relation between America and Italy during the crucial period between April 1917 and April 1919, and to re-emphasize the impact of Wilson on Eastern Europe. He brings forward some interesting data on American aid to Italy during the war and on food relief afterward, and he shows how the actions of the American navy in the Adriatic helped establish a *de facto* American policy hostile to Italy after the Armistice. But his interpretation of Wilson's impact, his view that the Armistice negotiations in Paris represented a crucial lost opportunity to deflect Italy in the Adriatic, and other smaller points are not argued with sufficient clarity and force to be convincing. Therefore, despite the new data Živojinović introduces, his book is not likely to leave as lasting an impression on the scholarship of this period as Valiani's detailed and subtle study.

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YUGOSLAVIA: BEFORE THE ROMAN CONQUEST. By *John Alexander*.
Ancient Peoples and Places, no. 77. New York and Washington: Praeger
Publishers, 1972. Illus. 175 pp. \$12.50.

Obviously, the Ancient Peoples and Places series is intended to provide summaries of archeological data from particular geographic locations and time periods. Thus this book presents a summary of the archeological data on Yugoslavia from the earliest human occupation to the Roman Conquest. The five chapters of the book deal successively with the Paleolithic and Mesolithic periods, the Neolithic, the Early Bronze Age, the Middle and Late Bronze Age, and the pre-Roman Iron Age. Each of the chapters presents essentially a catalogue of the known data for that period. Each also contains a map, a list of sites, and various illustrations. Sixteen pages of plates follow the text.

The main purpose of compiling this summary is apparently to prepare a "history" of Yugoslavia from archeological (that is, prehistoric) materials. As Dr. Alexander points out at the beginning of chapter 5, this is easiest to do for the pre-Roman Iron Age, because "Yugoslavia was a close neighbour of civilized, literate, urban peoples in both Italy and Greece" (p. 98). For the earlier time periods presumably this is more difficult to do. I would suggest that it is, in fact, impossible to do, because "historic" events are not preserved in the archeological record. Archeological data from historic time periods may be correlated with recorded history, but historic events cannot be discovered archeologically. Archeological data (certainly from prehistoric time periods) are much more amenable to the analysis of the adaptations of prehistoric populations. In addition, these data are equally appropriate for the analysis of the techno-economic development of prehistoric populations. Unfortunately the "catalogue" format of the books in this series allows for very little discussion of human adaptations or techno-economic development.

It seems that books in the Ancient Peoples and Places series are directed at two audiences simultaneously: students of archeology and history, and the general

reading public. I doubt that either audience will be satisfied with this particular book. It may, however, serve as a somewhat useful source for students, in that the text summarizes the known data and the bibliography provides further sources. I would personally like to see books which attempt to cover this prehistoric/early historic time span composed of separate chapters by specialists in each period. Such books would be much more interesting and lively, and perhaps more satisfying to both students and the general reading public.

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SERBSKAIA GOSUDARSTVENNOST' V X-XIV VV. (KRITIKA TEORII "ZHUPNOI ORGANIZATSII"). By *V. P. Grachev*. Moscow: "Nauka," 1972. 332 pp. 1.29 rubles.

Mr. Grachev has tackled an important and controversial problem in the history of Western and Southern Slavs. Although he is primarily concerned with a critique of the emergence of the *župa* (the early territorial organization of certain Slavic peoples under a *župan*) in the historical development of Serbia, his polemical survey is largely dedicated to the theory of *župa* organization in the historiography of the Croats, Czechs, and other Slavs. This is not surprising, since despite Grachev's long elaboration, no major Serbian historians have advocated that there was a direct outgrowth of the Serbian medieval state from the *župe*.

The author surveys the source material on the subject and takes into account the differences in various regions of Serbia. He stresses—quite correctly—the evolution and differences between the *župe* and *župani* of earlier times and those of the Nemanjić period. There are many good points made in this connection, such as the author's effort to show that internal as well as external forces influenced the fate of *župe* and *župani*, although he sometimes pushes his point too far. Nevertheless, Grachev's basic attempt to prove the failure of earlier theoretical approaches to the problem in order to arrive at a new, Marxist explanation applied to Serbian history, does not seem particularly successful. The sources, as he admits, are less than abundant and considerably less than clear on many points. This is why much of the author's reasoning is based on such statements as "judging from all [information]," "it is possible to think," "it is possible to state with sufficient conviction," "it is possible to assume," "it is fully justified to assume," and so forth (see especially pp. 284–85). To draw far-reaching conclusions from this kind of reasoning is a pretty hazardous enterprise.

In addition, there are some errors in the interpretation of sources (for example, p. 81, on sources from Dubrovnik) and some lacunae in their use, as well as in the use of recent Yugoslav works (such as M. Dinić, *Odluke veća Dubrovačke Republike*, vol. 2, Belgrade, 1964; I. Božić et al., *Istorija Jugoslavije*, Belgrade, 1972; and N. Klaić, *Povijest Hrvata u ranom srednjem vijeku*, Zagreb, 1971; the author, however, may not have had access to the last two books).

On the whole, Grachev has made a sincere effort to approach the subject from a new point of view. His book, even if less than completely successful in this respect, is a stimulating contribution to research and discussion on this important problem.

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