

movement-like society," such as Czechoslovakia became in 1968. (This concept was taken from Amitai Etzioni's book *The Active Society*, 1968.)

Despite the problems of language and organization, students of Czechoslovakia in particular and of Soviet crisis management in general would ignore Horský's book at their own peril. Horský's strong point—and we ought to teach our students more along these lines—is in identifying a decision-making issue (an event, a theory, a person) and then tackling it in depth. He does not only ask what and how, but also why and what are the alternatives. To this reviewer, some of the argumentation suffers from an excess of psychology, but attempts to determine psychological motivations for decisions are perhaps a dimension that ought to be added to our investigations. Are we not guilty of laying all the stress on macro- and microsocial relationships in which seeming illogicality may well be the outcome of psychological determinants, let alone the "free will" of the actors in our stories? It is in this field that Horský's work complements the other studies of Czechoslovak reformism which have by now filled many a library shelf. Without it, I dare say, our comprehension of the Prague Spring would be the poorer.

Insofar as I understand Horský's theoretical conclusions (and I apologize to the author if I do not), the weakness of his argument is the result of isolating the events of that fateful week in August 1968 as the fountain from which bucketfuls of wisdom are drawn about what was good and bad and what ought to be done in the future. There are also too many generalizations and platitudes, such as, "Freedom cannot be obtained while praying on one's knees." Horský, of course, is not the only one to look back on popular resistance to the occupation forces as the glorious culmination of a morally superior historic thrust. So dramatic a stand commands sympathy, but contributes little to an analysis of the processes which Soviet intervention in Czechoslovakia set in motion. After all, the glorious resistance lasted only a week, and a somewhat less glorious one continued only until April 1969, but by that time the seeds of "normalization" had already begun to germinate. Only if viewed from the vantage point of, say, August 25, 1968, could it be claimed that might had been defeated by ethos. Even if the target of our investigation is confined to "nonviolent defense," an inquiry ought to be made into not only why it came about, but above all why it collapsed so soon and so meekly.

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DUBROVNIK I ENGLSKA 1300–1650. By *Veselin Kostić*. Odeljenje jezika i književnosti, 26. Belgrade: Srpska akademija nauka i umetnosti, 1975. 660 pp.

Veselin Kostić, who has already given us an excellent volume on the cultural relations between Yugoslav lands and England until the year 1700 (*Kulturne veze između jugoslovenskih zemalja i Engleske do 1700 godine* [Belgrade, 1972]), has recently published a second, very important book—dealing with Dubrovnik (Ragusa) and England from the year 1300 to 1650—which complements the first volume. *Dubrovnik i Engleska 1300–1650* deals with economic, maritime, and political relations between Dubrovnik and England, but it contains much more than the title implies, because it covers other Yugoslav areas as well and discusses many related problems of both Yugoslav and English history.

Kostić starts with a detailed survey of Venetian navigation to England and Flanders and examines the participation of the Ragusans and other Dalmatians who served as sailors and oarsmen. An interesting discussion of people from Yugoslav regions in medieval England follows, after which the author moves into what is really the core of his book—the sixteenth century. He deals here with the organization of Ragusan trade with England, the presence of Ragusan ships in English harbors, and the mer-

chants, captains, and goods involved in this trade. Kostić very clearly shows how important Dubrovnik was for the trade and economy of Tudor England, a fact hitherto largely ignored and overshadowed by the role attributed to Venice. According to Kostić's calculations, in the mid-sixteenth century, 16 percent of English kerseys were purchased by Ragusan merchants. Hence, trade with Dubrovnik provided employment for large numbers of English workers. Ragusan ships performed a vital role in transporting the kerseys and other English goods to Dubrovnik (where many of the kerseys entered the Ottoman-held Balkan hinterland) and also in bringing Greek wines and other commodities to England. Kostić is quite justified in stating that "had Ragusans at any time in this period left London, many English mouths would have remained hungry, as happened later when Dubrovnik abruptly diminished its imports of kerseys, and some English harbors would have become deserted, as did Margate and Southampton when the last Ragusan ships sailed from them" (p. 226).

In the second half of the sixteenth century, a number of important Ragusan businessmen and bankers—whose economic power was truly extraordinary—appeared in England. For example, the Ragusan patrician Nicholas Gučetić (de Gozze) lived in London from 1552 or 1553 until his death in 1595, when his net worth was calculated to be nearly thirty thousand pounds—at a time when the total income of the English state amounted to about three hundred thousand pounds, and when, a few years later, William Shakespeare was receiving an honorarium of five pounds per play (pp. 268, 285–86).

Kostić goes on to delineate the decline of Ragusan trade with England during the first half of the seventeenth century and then discusses the Englishmen in Dubrovnik. Although their numbers and activities cannot be compared to the importance of the Ragusans in England, there still were a few picturesque individuals among the English who visited Dubrovnik (for example, Robert Brancester in 1529 and Captain John Smith—later of New World fame—in about 1601). The role of English ships in Mediterranean and Adriatic trade, on the other hand, did increase dramatically between the mid-sixteenth and mid-seventeenth centuries. As Kostić aptly puts it: "Between the time that cabbage eaten on London tables was brought there by Ragusan seamen from the Netherlands and the time when the Ragusans ate bread made out of wheat brought to them by English ships from nearby Valona, only one century had elapsed, but that one hundred years witnessed not only the decline of Ragusan shipping, but also the establishment of the commercial and naval power of the British Empire" (p. 345).

In the last portion of the book, Kostić deals with the official correspondence and diplomatic contacts between Dubrovnik and England, devoting special attention to the participation of Ragusan ships in the famous Spanish Armada of 1588. Contrary to the traditional opinions held in Yugoslavia—that twelve or even thirty-three Ragusan ships took part in the Armada—Kostić says that apparently only three Ragusan ships were in that fleet, all of which perished on the way back along the western coast of Scotland and Ireland (one of the ships, the famous *Tobermory Galleon*, sank near the island of Mull).

The book includes forty-two appendixes containing interesting documents from English, Ragusan, and Venetian archives (which are not always in chronological order nor clearly dated) and concludes with an extensive and excellent English summary (pp. 565–600), an exhaustive bibliography, and a good index. There are some minor errors (for example, the date of the revolt of seamen on Venetian galleys in London is given on pages 74–76 as 1392, while on page 486 it is given correctly as 1396; the island of San Pietro is not off southwestern Sicily as stated on pages 453–54, but Sardinia), but these are insignificant flaws compared to the detailed and conscientious research in Yugoslav, English, and Italian archives and published works that went into this volume.

The attractive and lively fashion in which Kostić presents the huge amount of material should also be mentioned. He is especially good at depicting the personal life of Ragusans in England, and, although he correctly points out that "what has been lost forever is probably more valuable than what we can save from oblivion" (p. 256), he still manages to bring quite a number of those important and interesting individuals to life.

Kostić's book is a work of the highest quality. It contains an enormous wealth of useful information and exhibits an imposing breadth of vision. It is a volume of great interest to all historians of England, Dubrovnik, and the Mediterranean, as well as to economic historians of the period in general. One can only hope that it will be translated into English forthwith.

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THE YUGOSLAVS. By *Dusko Doder*. New York and Toronto: Random House, 1978. xiv, 256 pp. \$10.00.

Good journalism has a meaningful place in the study of society and politics. Journalistic accounts of foreign countries have the potential of giving readers, scholars included, a broad and realistic perspective, an intellectual backdrop against which discrete phenomena acquire added meaning. *The Yugoslavs* is such a book. Illuminating and entertaining, it describes the real patterns of authority, major social processes, and the essentials of politics in contemporary Yugoslavia. For example, it discusses the *veza* as a central feature of an "alternative bureaucratic system . . . of networks of clan and family links, old friendships . . ." (p. 75). Doder is intelligently critical in an open and direct way. His style is fresh and crisp, and he never loses a realistic empathy (perhaps sympathy) for the Yugoslavs and their unique country. The author is well qualified. He has had several domestic and foreign assignments for the *Washington Post*, serving as its reporter in the State Department and also its Moscow correspondent. These assignments, his reporting from Cuba, the Middle East, and elsewhere, as well as his early childhood years spent in Yugoslavia, have given him a good comparative base for writing about that country, where, more recently, he lived for three years in the 1970s while covering Eastern Europe.

The Yugoslavs deals with several of the crucial, possibly contradictory, issues facing this unique land: national identity and the "ethnic key," socialist ideals and private goals, modernity and tradition, breadwinners abroad and dependents in Yugoslavia, political dictatorship and self-management, constitutionalism and a president for life, an arrangement with the Soviet Union and General People's Defense, a real degree of freedom of expression and a cowed intelligentsia's legal struggle with "repression with a human face." Doder deals with all of this on both an intellectual and a common sense level, presenting the true state of the country through rational, factually supported arguments and references to individual human situations. What emerges is a picture of a pragmatic regime unable and unwilling to move forward toward actual political change that could match the capabilities and aspirations of contemporary Yugoslavia. According to Doder, "constant motion and activism" is evident (p. 239), but advancement is not. He states that "Yugoslavia today is a country without an ideology," and that practical policies constitute the legacy of Tito, the "first Marxist king" (pp. 235 and 240). Even the ethnic issue, in his opinion, may be partly a product of the leadership (p. 244). The phrase "sugar-coated communism" occurred to this reviewer.

I have no quarrel with the author's judgments. They reflect a much needed sweeping aside of the fog of pseudo-Marxist and naïve liberal obfuscation often shrouding Yugoslavia. Particularly striking, however, is the well-expressed sensitivity to the continued operative meaning of traditional values and mass (ethnic)