

sketching the background of such interjections in a brief paragraph largely succeeds in avoiding the utter confusion which could easily attend the description of such varied and disparate materials in so limited a space.

It is difficult to quarrel with the main lines of Mamatey's interpretation of Habsburg history: the major, and for the most part neglected, role of Ferdinand I in forging a viable union between his newly acquired dominions; the transparently self-serving notions of various noble estates in opposing Habsburg centralism; the very considerable, almost anachronistic, prosperity of the agricultural holdings after the Thirty Years' War; the weakness of the "carpetbagging" neoaristocracy, which despite its vast wealth was not sufficiently rooted in its lands to oppose the will of the monarch; the continuing interest of foreign powers, especially France, in Hungarian affairs, which made the Magyars an exception to this rule; and the repeated abandonment of promising Eastern ventures by Leopold I and Charles VI in favor of quixotic expeditions in the West, which prevented the Monarchy from becoming a truly Danubian one. These themes are all developed here with the clarity they deserve.

One may regret that so little attention is paid to the cultural and intellectual history of the Monarchy, that there are so many misprints, and that Mamatey perpetuates the legend of Maria Theresa appealing for support to the Hungarian nobles with the infant Joseph II in her arms. But these are small criticisms of so useful a book.

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THE RISE AND FALL OF THE HABSBERG MONARCHY. By *Victor-L. Tapié*. Translated by *Stephen Hardman*. New York, Washington, London: Praeger Publishers, 1971. viii, 430 pp. \$15.00.

There are two obvious ways to set about the formidable task of writing a history of the Habsburg Empire: one, which may be called the traditional way, has the story emanate from the Austro-German center; the other, unorthodox way is from the viewpoint of the various national groups and their relations to the center. The first approach is frequently associated with a built-in German bias, the second with the difficult problem of giving a homogeneous structure to the narrative. Whenever only limited space is available, the second approach encounters the additional difficulties of having to coordinate conflicting claims at every point of the narrative.

Possibly to avoid these and other pitfalls, Professor Tapié, a distinguished historian of the baroque era in general and of the Austrian baroque in particular, has chosen a third approach, a kind of synthesis between the issues germane to the empire as a whole and those anchored in the historicopolitical entities as component parts of the Habsburg monarchy, more or less rolled into one. The national issues are generally discussed within the framework of these units. A book structured according to such a technique does not make it easy for the reader to trace specific problems through the centuries. On the other hand, what the narrative may sometimes lack in clarity is to a degree gained in readability. In this sense the author can use his unquestionable erudition and literary skill to full advantage.

In offering so huge a panorama in time and place Tapié obviously had to make difficult decisions in choice of material, and here it is manifestly impossible

to do equal justice to all aspects of his highly complex subject. Tapié's exemplary impartiality notwithstanding, some themes of his study are, in Orwellian terms, more equal than others. In a regional sense this pertains above all to the lands of the Bohemian crown. As to topical range, one of the strongest features of the work is the analysis of socioeconomic problems. The history of domestic political developments is within the available space best covered in regard to earlier modern history up to the death of Joseph II. The subsequent chapters emphasize trends more than specific facts. As to intellectual history, there are occasional and pertinent references offered but no continuous narrative, however brief. Particularly attractive throughout the whole work are Tapié's comments on formative art in the empire. Foreign policy, on the other hand, though always intelligently sketched, is the stepchild among the themes of the book. This pertains equally to the first half of the eighteenth century, the era of the rise of the Habsburg monarchy to Great Power rank, and to the diplomatic and military history from 1789 to 1814, which had to be covered in five pages. Here even more than in other places one feels that the limits of space set to the author were indeed too rigid to do full justice to his objective. As to the outbreak of the First World War, its course and its consequences, Tapié's account is measured and judicial. Concerning the ultimate responsibility for the dissolution of the empire, he lets the facts more or less speak for themselves. This means, however, no evasion of the historian's responsibility but confidence in the judgment of the mature and educated reader to whom this book is meant to appeal. The discussion of the treaty system of Versailles and its consequences to East Central Europe are treated in the same manner. They are neither attacked nor defended but presented as they really were, in the best tradition of the historicism of a highly sophisticated historian.

It would be easy to criticize this important and attractive work for a number of factual commissions and omissions. Not only lack of space prevents this. Such issues can in no way obscure Tapié's distinct achievement. Regrettable, however, are the numerous typographical errors, particularly in non-English words, for which the responsibility in the case of a translation rests with the publisher. The translation itself is no better than adequate (e.g., *pays tchèques* translated as "Czech countries" or foreign quotations retranslated from the French edition instead of quoted from the work in the original language). Furthermore, the very brief index of the French edition has been further "simplified," not to the advantage of the work. Again, this is not the author's doing. His personal obligation, and at the same time distinct accomplishment, is the presentation of a work highly perceptive and individualistic in interpretation. It reveals in every passage the connoisseur of the Danube area and his genuine rapport with the subject.

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JESUITS AND JACOBINS: ENLIGHTENMENT AND ENLIGHTENED
DESPOTISM IN AUSTRIA. By *Paul P. Bernard*. Urbana, Chicago, London: University of Illinois Press, 1971. x, 198 pp. \$7.50.

Professor Bernard, having published two other books on Joseph II, has devoted this one to the intellectual history of his reign. He is concerned to argue that after about 1760 there was such a thing as an Austrian Enlightenment, largely indepen-