

vania are the subject of an article by Maria Mirel and Ana Maria Ardos. E. Glodariu discusses another aspect of the cultural activity provided by Astra—the great number of popular (public) libraries founded in the towns and villages. During this phase, until 1900, the accent was placed on the efforts to establish a system, to build up a fitting administration, and even to create traveling libraries.

Other articles deal with different questions of economic history: M. Bunta presents the technological aspects of *faïence* manufacturing at Batiz, A. Neamțu discusses the iron mines in Hunedoara, and I. Kovács examines the abolition of feudalism in Transylvania.

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EVOLUȚIA GÎNDIRII ISTORICE ROMĂNEȘTI. By *Pompiliu Teodor*. Cluj: Editura Dacia, 1970. L, 478 pp. Lei 15.50.

Histories of Rumanian historiography are rarities. But it is not only this fact which makes the present volume welcome; it is the author's sure grasp, broad European view of his subject, and judicious selection of illustrative material. The volume is divided into two parts—a short introductory survey of nearly five centuries of Rumanian writings about the nature of history, and an anthology of selections from the principal historical schools and currents. Professor Teodor, of course, deals with the greats among Rumanian historians (Miron Costin, Dimitrie Cantemir, Alexandru Xenopol, and Nicolae Iorga), but he has also brought within his purview some, like Aaron Florian and Gheorghe Panu, whose contributions to the development of history as a distinct discipline have been largely ignored or forgotten.

Drawing upon an extensive bibliography of theoretical works in German, English, and French, the author has treated the development of Rumanian historical thought within the general framework of European historiography. In so doing, he has followed the criteria for the division of Rumanian historiography laid down in 1918 by the great Slavist, Ioan Bogdan, who distinguished five major periods beginning with that of the medieval annals and continuing through humanism, the Enlightenment, and romanticism to positivism. Teodor has added historical materialism to the list and has revealed its strong roots in the antiromantic and anti-positivist currents at the turn of the century. The beginnings of true history, he finds, may be traced back to the humanist writers of the seventeenth century—Costin and Cantemir in Moldavia and Stolnicul Constantin Cantacuzino in Wallachia. Costin was concerned with history as a craft and dealt with such questions as objectivity, the verification of sources, and the importance of human causality. Whereas Costin discussed these matters in passing, Cantacuzino and Cantemir devoted separate sections of their works to methodology and epistemology. Cantemir, moreover, was the first to write a philosophy of history.

The historians of the Enlightenment, especially the Transylvanians (Samuil Micu, Gheorghe Șincai, Petru Maior, and Ion Budai-Deleanu), the author demonstrates, combined the specifically Rumanian ideas about their people's Latinity and essential unity with the general currents of eighteenth-century European thought to produce histories that were at once critical, polemical, and romantic. Romanticism itself remained a strong force in Rumanian historiography during most of the nineteenth century because of the involvement of leading historians in the national movement and their consequent eagerness to discover values in the past that would

inspire the present. The author's discussion of the problem and his selection of sources are excellent. He points out how the historians of this school further refined the critical techniques of their craft and how they developed and employed the auxiliary sciences.

But it is only with the antiromantic and positivist currents of the end of the nineteenth century that we come to modern critical history. The works of Xenopol, Iorga, Bogdan, Dimitrie Onciul, and Vasile Pârvan raised Rumanian historiography to a European level, and their preoccupations with the scientific and philosophical nature of history reveal both the sophistication which Rumanian historiography had attained and the debt which they themselves owed to their German and French masters. Teodor has included in his anthology some of the great theoretical writings of these men: Xenopol's "Opening Lecture" in his course at the University of Iași in 1883 and his "Short Exposition of the Fundamental Principles of History" (1899), Bogdan's "Rumanian Historiography and Its Problems" (1905), Onciul's "The Epochs of Rumanian History and Their Division" (1906), and Iorga's "Two Historical Concepts" (1911). One wishes that this important phase could have been examined in more detail. The volume closes with a brief commentary on the rise of historical materialism and a selection from a work of one of its leading representatives, Lucrețiu Pătrășcanu.

Professor Teodor has given us an enlightened overview of his subject. Western scholars, in particular, will find the introduction, the prefaces to each author's works, and the comprehensive bibliographies a valuable introduction to Rumanian historiography.

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#### RELAȚII AGRARE ȘI MIȘCĂRI ȚĂRĂNEȘTI ÎN ROMÂNIA, 1908–1921.

By *Vasile Liveanu et al.* Bucharest: Editura Politică, 1967. 629 pp. Lei 23.

Previously there has been considerable study of the agrarian history of Rumania preceding the 1907 uprising and during the 1918–21 reforms, but *Relații agrare* breaks new ground in providing a detailed account of the 1908–18 interval as well as of the postwar reform period. It provides a valuable guide to the source material and presents much information, including helpful statistical data.

Unfortunately the apparatus has some defects. There is no bibliography, as in the case of other recent studies published in Rumania, so that one must look up sources in the scattered footnotes. There is no index of subjects or of persons, but only one focusing on place names—mainly some five thousand Rumanian communes. The text would have been improved by further division into subsections; for example, the 100 pages of part 3, chapter 1, bear only the general title "The Agrarian Problem and the Peasant Situation Between 1919 and 1921."

Of particular interest is this book's position in contemporary Rumanian historiography. As already pointed out in a review by C. Murgescu (*Studii*, 1969, pp. 1001–3), *Relații agrare* departs from the earlier Marxist-Leninist position that pre-1918 Rumanian agriculture was already well on its way to modernization. The authors stress that, on the contrary, agriculture was still extremely backward—a much more realistic view. It is a pity that a work of such importance does not devote more than the briefest attention to contrasting its position with that of earlier works. The pioneer work by I. Adam and N. Marcu (*Studii despre dezvolt-*