

He also expressed the view that the role of the Orthodox Church in the development of Rumanian nationalism might have deserved closer attention.

All the participants in the panel agreed that further studies of nationalism in southeastern Europe should place greater emphasis on the interaction of the various nationalisms.

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THE SOUTHERN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION MEETING
AT ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA, NOVEMBER 7-9, 1963

William A. Jenks, of Washington and Lee University, gave an address on "The Later Habsburg Concept of Statecraft" at the luncheon meeting of the European section on Friday, November 8. He maintained that the renewal of constitutionalism in the Habsburg monarchy in 1867 conditioned Francis Joseph's behavior as a ruler in European royalty's last great period and raised problems which his heirs, Rudolph and Francis Ferdinand, attempted to answer as they prepared for highest responsibility. Determined to uphold his prerogatives to the end of his reign, the emperor was always on guard against the pretensions of the Liberals while they dominated his cabinets in Austria. When more pleasing nominees served as ministers-president, he was likely to urge a conciliation of the nationalities, increasing popular participation in elections, and social security measures. After 1907 he seemed at last to become the opportunist and drifter that Friedjung and Srbik depicted, but earlier he had demonstrated a capacity for growth and understanding that the very punctiliousness and dryness of his personality did much to obscure.

Rudolph, the devotee of "progress" and the friend of doctrinaire liberalism, seems less "modern" in comparison. He mingled a strong sense of "German mission" with an adoration of the army. To secure allies against "clerical" obscurantism, he was willing to overlook the "magyarization" policies of the Liberal cabinets in Budapest. Francis Ferdinand, a self-proclaimed ultraconservative, deplored universal manhood suffrage in Austria but strongly recommended it in Hungary to break the power of the Magyars, whom he disliked. As Austria's last baroque figure, he probably had not decided upon forceful solu-

tions at the time of his death. Of the three, Jenks asserted, it was Francis Joseph who evidenced the most distinct signs of growth and understanding, at least in the 1879-1907 period of his reign.

THE AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION CONVENTION AT PHILADELPHIA, PA., DECEMBER 28-30, 1963

On the afternoon of December 28, at a panel discussion on "The United States and Central Europe, 1900-1920," which was presided over by Arthur J. May, of the University of Rochester, Margaret Sterne, of Wayne State University, talked on "United States Presidents in the Eyes of Austro-Hungarian Diplomats, 1901-1913." She emphasized the fact that while Austrian diplomats were occasionally critical of American policies, they were in general on excellent terms with the United States government.

George Bárány, of the University of Denver, read a paper on "Wilsonian Central Europe: Lansing's Contribution." He contended that Secretary of State Robert Lansing played a much greater role than has hitherto been assumed in the American decision to support the transformation of East Central Europe into an area of independent nation states at the close of World War I. As early as the period between the summers of 1917 and 1918 he promoted the idea of breaking up the Habsburg monarchy as an anti-German political alternative to President Wilson's efforts to make a compromise and to procure a separate peace with Austria-Hungary. His attitude was considerably influenced by the rapid disintegration of Russian military power on the Eastern front. He believed that the disappearance of a strong Russia as a counterweight to the German *Drang nach Osten* necessitated the creation of a new balance of power in Central Europe.

Of the two commentators on the program, Victor S. Mamatey, of Florida State University, pointed out the great differences between the relations between Austria-Hungary and the United States during the two different eras described by the two speakers. He agreed with Bárány that Lansing had a greater influence on Wilson than is commonly thought. Joseph P. O'Grady, of LaSalle College, expressed disagreement with Bárány's implication that the United States was interested in Central Europe before 1914. He asserted that much research still needs to be