

does, that "the greatest impediment to Greek progress and the cause of many misfortunes of the Greek Nation was . . . the influence of the Great Powers of the moment in Greece." As the author himself notes, Greek development or the lack of it was the result of a series of factors—historical and economic, internal and external—interacting with one another.

The author's study reveals the great extent to which Greek affairs were bound up with the leading figures of the period. This was accepted by both the Greeks and the European diplomats who dealt with that state, and they acted accordingly. This can be seen in the decision by Venizelos to set up a revolutionary government in Thessaloniki and the determination of England and France to force the issue of Greece's role in the war with the king.

The work as a whole is a sound diplomatic history gathering together a good deal of previously unpublished material. It would have benefited, however, from a judicious pruning of the innumerable and often inordinately long quotations from diplomatic correspondence that are found on almost every page of the text. All in all the author has made a useful addition to the literature of this important period in modern history.

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HISTORIA TOU HELLĒNIKOU ERGATIKOU KINĒMATOS. 3rd edition.

By *Gianēs Kordatos*. Athens: Mpoukoumanes, 1972. 340 pp.

Kordatos's study of the Greek labor movement was first published four decades ago. A second revised edition appeared in 1956; the present edition is a reprint of the latter. Kordatos was an indefatigable worker and a prolific writer (he wrote more than twenty-five books, several of them multivolume), but he was not a careful researcher. Perhaps the latter consideration was irrelevant to him, for historical objectivity was hardly one of his aims. To him Ranke's dictum *wie es eigentlich gewesen* was no more than an instrument of bourgeois philistinism, as in fact it frequently was in the hands of official Greek historiography. He would not deny the legitimacy of the historian's search for the "truth," but he sought to discover it through his effort to reconstruct the past in the Marxian mold, or at least what he perceived as Marxist methodology. Above all, Kordatos's aim was to rewrite history for the "education" of the "broad masses." No doubt the functional aspect of his work affected the fruits of his labors: his work reflects all the weaknesses of a vulgarized mechanistic conception of Marxism, characteristic of most Greek Marxists of his generation, and none of the strengths of Marxist social analysis. What is striking in his work is not so much his bias and polemics, or his not infrequently shoddy work, but rather the lack of the essence of a Marxist conceptualization of his subject—that is, class analysis through the material forces of production as related to social organization. Kordatos, like most Greek Marxists of his generation, lacked the sophisticated methodological tools for an effective dissection of the Greek social structure, despite his sincere efforts to overcome the romantic ultranationalistic conservatism characteristic of Greek academic historiography. Thus, when stripped of the official Communist jargon and its visceral polemics, Kordatos's work remains essentially traditional.

He has, however, explored areas of modern Greek history untouched by Greek academic historians for whom social analysis was either alien or taboo.

Kordatos's study of the Greek labor and socialist movements was the first of its kind. Although the book purports to be a history of the labor movement, two-thirds of it is devoted to the origins and development of the early Greek socialist movement. Kordatos endeavors to merge the two movements, but this is hardly acceptable, because they developed to a great extent independently, even though the socialists themselves did appeal to the workers in an effort to project the socialist movement as the political arm of labor. Kordatos begins his study with the early labor stirrings in the 1870s and then examines the nascent radical groups with anarchist and utopian socialist tendencies that appeared at the same time in port cities such as Patras, Piraeus, Pyrgos, Kalamata, and in Cephalonia. There are no traces of Marxism until the turn of the century. The book ends with the unification of the labor and socialist movements and the establishment of the General Confederation of the Workers of Greece and the Greek Socialist Labor Party in the fall of 1918. The entire story is an up-hill struggle of the small socialist groups not so much to assert themselves—together with the more radical workers—as political entities as to secure recognition of a legitimate existence. The effort of the socialists to imbue the workers with a class consciousness that would enable them to assert themselves collectively and challenge the legitimacy of the existing social structure was less successful. To be sure, one could hardly expect a different outcome when confronted with such insurmountable cultural, socioeconomic, and political obstacles as those encountered by the Greek Left. When one considers the conditions of the workers and the fact that the new forces had to operate in an oppressive cultural and political environment inimical to melioristic social and philosophical concepts that could be a threat to the established order, it is indeed surprising that they accomplished as much as they did. In the end, the limited successes of the Greek socialists in 1918 can be understood only within the context of a convergence of circumstances emanating from the world crisis of 1914–18. The history of the Greek labor and socialist movements remains to be written.

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A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF SLAVIC DICTIONARIES, 4 vols. 2nd revised and enlarged edition. Compiled by *Richard C. Lewanski*. The Johns Hopkins University Bologna Center Library Publications, no. 7. World Bibliography of Dictionaries. Bologna: Editrice Compositori, 1972–73. Vol. 1: POLISH. viii, 197 pp. Vol. 2: BELORUSSIAN, BULGARIAN, CZECH, KASHUBIAN, LUSATIAN, OLD CHURCH SLAVIC, MACEDONIAN, POLABIAN, SERBO-CROATIAN, SLOVAK, SLOVENIAN, UKRAINIAN. xii, 352 pp. Vol. 3: RUSSIAN. xl, 386 pp. Vol. 4: SUPPLEMENT. vi, 409 pp.

The background and plan of this second edition have to be deduced by comparison with the first edition, since Lewanski is not helpful in this regard; he simply reprints earlier introductions without any overall explanation. A mystery of minor proportions is the relevance of the cuneiform inscriptions on the covers; could it be that the Italian printer confused Slavic and Sumerian? The first three volumes of this work appeared originally as publications of the New York Public Library: Volume 1, Polish, in 1959; volume 2, Slavic languages other than Polish and Russian, in 1962; volume 3, Russian, in 1963. In this edition volume 1 has been updated (for example, item 1360 on page 129 describes a Polish-Russian chemical