

# Various Notes on Books, Journals, and Film

William G. Lockwood, University of Michigan

- *Ethnic Groups and the State*, edited by Paul Brass. 341 pp., 4 figures, 14 tables, index. \$27.50 (cloth).

The nine chapters comprising this collection include three pertaining specifically to Eastern Europe: "The Ethnicity Problem in a Multi-ethnic Anational State: Continuity and Recasting of Ethnic Identity in the Ottoman State," by Kemal Karpat; "Slovak Nationalism and the Hungarian State 1870-1910," by David W. Paul; and "The Institutional Management of Cultural Diversity: An Analysis of the Yugoslav Experience," by Paul V. Warwick and Lenard J. Cohen. But the most interesting for many readers of this *Newsletter* will be the introductory chapter, "Ethnic Groups and the State," by the editor Paul Brass.

- *Ethnicity and Nationality: A Bibliographic Guide*, by G. Carter Bentley. School of International Studies Publications on Ethnicity and Nationality, Number 3. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1981. xxii + 380 pp., indexes. \$40.00 (cloth).

This was intended as a multidisciplinary and cross-cultural bibliography of theoretical work on ethnicity. It includes only English language materials through 1979, and is effectively indexed with regard to geographical area, specific topic, and discipline of the author. There are 2338 entries, of which 308 are annotated. A good idea. But, while no single bibliography ever has all the references you want, this one seems to lack an especially large number of significant works, especially those by anthropologists. Nevertheless, it is a useful reference book. Given the price, we suggest you borrow the library copy.

- *An Urban Enclave: Lithuanian Refugees in Los Angeles*, by Liucija Baskauskas. New York: AMS Press, 1985. viii + 173 pp., appendix, bibliography, index. \$35.00 (cloth).

This was originally presented as the author's doctoral dissertation in anthropology at the University of California at Los Angeles in 1971. It is a study of a Lithuanian refugee community

some 20 years after arrival, making good use of what anthropological literature existed on ethnicity at that time. Data was collected by participant observation (made easier by the investigator's membership in the group under study) and, especially, by a formal survey instrument (presented in the appendix). The focus is on assimilation processes, boundary maintenance, and the nature of ethnic status in America. The study does not include a systematic community study.

- *Russkoya Celo: The Ethnography of a Russian-American Community*, by Stanford Neil Berber. New York: AMS Press, 1985. vi + 131 pp., 1 map, 3 appendices, bibliography, index. \$29.50 (cloth).

This is obviously -- judging from internal evidence -- a Masters or Doctoral dissertation belatedly making its way into print. Yet, inexcusably, there is no statement of the purpose for which it was originally written other than a solitary mention of "dissertation" in the preface. It is an ethnographic study of an unnamed Russian-American community in the midwest, based on one year of "participant observation" (during which the investigator did not live in the community itself) in 1965-66. The approach is frankly descriptive and uninformed by theory, but the results are interesting in that we have relatively few other works on Russian-Americans and that it is among the earlier anthropological studies of any American ethnic community.

- *The Jews of Poland: Recollections and Recipes*, by Edouard de Pomiane, translated by Josephine Bacon. Garden Grove: Pholiota Press, 1985. xix + 220 pp., 1 map, 29 photographs, indexes. \$9.95 (paper).

Not exactly anthropological, perhaps, but an interesting piece of ethnography from a community now lost for study. This book was originally published in French in 1929 under the title *Cuisine Juive: Ghettos Modernes*. This is the first translation to English. De Pomiane was a well known chef, the first-ever host of a radio cooking show and the author of a number of much-used cookbooks. He was of Polish origin and fascinated by the large Jewish minority in Poland. Thus he traveled to Poland to study the customs and cookery of Polish Jewry, the result of which is this book. The first 55 pages consist of travelogue, replete with ethnographic and

culinary comments; the remainder is a cookbook of Jewish cuisine in Poland during the mid-1920s. The translator, an American food writer, corrects the several ethnographic errors of de Pomiane in a short introduction of her own.

- *Reluctant Hosts; Denmark's Reception of Guest Workers*, by Jonathan Matthew Schwartz. Kultursociologiske Skrifter No. 21, Institut for Kultursociologi, Kobenhavns Universitet. Copenhagen: Akademisk Forlag, 1985. 145 pp., 2 maps, 6 photographs, tables. n.p. (paper).

Schwartz is an American scholar who immigrated to Denmark in 1970, during the height of worker migration there from Southern Europe and the Middle East. This coincidence is not without significance; the empathy he demonstrates for his subject is every bit as important as his social awareness or his sociological aptitude. His book consists of six narrative and interpretive chapters, all very readable but not always connected in the most highly integrated fashion. His own field data comes almost entirely from Yugoslav guest workers, mostly Macedonians but, in one chapter, also Gypsies. Of particular interest is his discussion of Macedonian guest workers back home in Macedonia.

- *The Revolution in the North: Soviet Ethnography and Nationality Policy*, by Kerstin Eidlitz Kuoljok. Studia Multiethnica Upsaliensia Number 1, Centre for Multiethnic Research, Uppsala University. Stockholm: Almqvist and Wiksell, 1985. x + 185 pp., 1 map, bibliography, n.p. (paper).

This is a study of Soviet nationality policy among the smaller nationalities of Siberia, the ideology behind it, the methods used to promote the incorporation of the "pre capitalistic" peoples into the Soviet socialist system, and the results of this policy. The author was motivated by the question, why don't Saami (Lapps) of the Soviet Union have organizations of their own as do Saami of her native Sweden or the other Scandinavian countries? The question rather gets lost in the remainder of the book, but no matter as the book stands well on its own. The author uses as her only data the published work of Soviet ethnologists -- there is no indication that she herself ever went to the Soviet Union -- and some readers will find objectionable her uncritical

acceptance of both their evidence and their unrelativistic perspective, She concludes that the Soviet Union has had a much more successful minority policy than have the Western states, but that it would be impossible for the West to imitate the methods of the Soviet state since these are dependent on a society in which Marxism-Leninism is the predominant Ideology.

- *Szlovakiai Olahcigany Nepdalok/Vlach Gypsy Folk Songs in Slovakia*, by Katalin Kovalcsik. Budapest: Institute for Musicology of the Hungarian Academy for Sciences, 1985. 187 pp., 20 photographs, index, bibliography. 64 forint (paper).

This is yet another of a number of solid ethnographic studies of Gypsies published recently in Hungary. (See book notes in Fall 1985 and Spring 1986 numbers of the Newsletter.) This publication is the first volume in a new series entitled "Gypsy Folk Music of Europe." It is completely bilingual, Hungarian and English, a pattern we hope will be followed in subsequent volumes. It consists of a short introduction (a discussion of the music rather than its context), followed by a collection of fifty songs, selected from a collection of some 250 made by the author in Slovakia in 1981. The songs are presented, with music, in Romani and in both Hungarian and English translation.

- *Recueil III, Etudes et Documents Balkaniques et Mediterraneens*, Volume 10. Paris, 1986. n.p. (paper).

This is the tenth in a series of publications on mostly Balkan ethnology edited by Paul H. Stahl. Like two previously published volumes, it consists of a collection of articles and other materials. The ten articles concern topics ranging from the inauguration of a disco in Greece to matrilineal marriages in Yugoslavia to Jewish-Romanian relations in the 16th and 17th centuries. The one American author (Margaret Hiebert Beissinger, "Couplets and Clusters as Compositional Devices in Romanian Traditional Narrative Songs") presents her paper in English but the others, who come from a variety of Eastern and Western European countries, all utilize French. The collection of articles is augmented by a small selection of folk texts and an extensive book review section. The latter, which concerns almost entirely books published in the Balkans, is particularly useful. Like previous volumes in this series, it is available without charge to

legitimate scholars who write Paul Henri Stahl, Laboratoire d'Anthropologie Sociale, 52 rue du Cardinal Lemoine, 75005 Paris, France.

- *A Serbian Village in Historical Perspective*, by Joel M. Halpern and Barbara Kerewsky-Halpern. Prospect Heights: Waveland Press, 1986. vii + 169 pp., maps, photographs, glossary, bibliography. \$7.95 (paper). Komarov: A Czech Farming Village, by Zdenek Salzmänn and Vladimir Scheufler. Prospect Heights: Waveland Press, 1986. x + 166 pp., maps, photographs, figures, tables, musical examples, chronology, glossary, pronunciation guide, bibliography. \$7.95 (paper).

These two village monographs, first published in 1972 and 1974 respectively as parts of the series edited by the Spindlers for Holt, Rinehart and Winston, are once again available. When they first appeared, they were practically the only suitable textbooks for East European ethnology courses. Although the situation has greatly improved in recent years, republication is nevertheless very welcome. They are still the only village studies on rural Serbia or Czechoslovakia suitable for classroom use, and the historical depth they (especially Halpern's book) now present, makes them particularly useful in demonstrating the social and cultural change that is the outstanding feature of post-World War II Eastern Europe. Both books have been updated for the Waveland editions, principally by the addition of new final chapters.

- *Ethnologia Slavica*, Volume 14, 1982. Bratislava: Slovenske Pedagogicke Nakladatelstvo 1985. n.p. (cloth).

*Ethnologia Slavica* is an international review of Slavic ethnology. This volume contains one short article in English ("Urgent Tasks of the Comparative Slavic Ethnology," by Jan Padolák) and three longer ones in German with Slovak resumes, all by Slovak authors. Perhaps most interesting to the majority of Newsletter readers are three reviews in English, and another in German, of Slovak ethnographic publications. It, and earlier numbers in the series, can be obtained from The Study and Information Center, Comenius University, Safarikovo nám. 6, 818 06 Bratislava, Czechoslovakia

## Journals

Two issues of *Soviet Anthropology and Archeology* have appeared since our last report:  
Spring 1986 (Volume XXIV, Number 4)

A. Kutsenkov, "The Origin of Caste and the Caste System."

The Soviet Editors, Introduction to a Round Table, "The State and Law in the Ancient East."

V.A. Iakobson, "Some Problems in the Study of the State and Law in the Ancient East."

G. F. Kim and G.K. Shirokov, "Humanistic Studies of Asia and North Africa."

Summer 1986 (Volume XXV, Number 1)

n.a., "Theoretical Problems in the Reconstruction of Ancient Slavic Intellectual Culture."

M.V. Osorina, "Modern Children's Lore As an Object of Interdisciplinary Study (Toward an Ethnography of Childhood)."

G.E. Afanas'ev, "The Large Family Among the Alans."

B.I. Kliuev, "New Forms of Religious Worship in Modern India."

An article appeared recently in the *New York Review of Books* that, though not by an anthropologist or about anthropology per se, will surely be of interest to many *Newsletter* readers.

Does Central Europe Exist?, by Timothy Garton Ash. *New York Review of Books*, Volume 33, Number 15, pages 45-52 (October 9, 1986).

This is a particularly appropriate question, given our current discussion of the relationship between the East European Anthropology Group and the newly organized Society for the Anthropology of Europe.

We draw your attention to a useful survey, including a twelve page bibliography, of archeological research in Eastern Europe since the mid-1970s.

Selective Survey of Archaeological Research in Eastern Europe, by Sarunas Milisauskas. *American Antiquity* 51(4):779-798.

This article will be useful not only to archeologists working inside and outside Eastern Europe but especially to other East Europeanists needing a quick and convenient reference to works on the prehistory of the region.

## **Film**

*My Family and Me*. 1986. Directed by Colette Piault. 16 mm, color, 75 mm. Distributed by Les Films du Quotidien, 5 Rue des Saints Peres, 75006 Paris, France.

This is the latest of several films by anthropologist-filmmaker Colette Piault about the effects of emigration on a Greek mountain village in Epirus. This one also concerns another of her professional interests, family relationships. We follow a 13 year old boy through three different shooting periods: winter in the village where he has been left with his grandparents; summer in the village when his parents return for their annual vacation; and Christmas in Zurich where the boy and his grandfather visit the family. Throughout, the focus is on the relationship between the boy, his grandparents and parents. The style is cinema verite, in Greek with English subtitles. For those of you who have seen others of Piault's films (*Everyday is Not a Feast Day*, 1980; *Thread of the Needle*, 1982; *Let's Get Married!*, 1985) this is her best to date.