

obtain. Also, an index would without doubt have enhanced the book. But evidently all these were omitted to keep the number of pages down.

Franc Kos's *Izbrano delo* is an important contribution not only for the specialists but also for the uninitiated lover of Slovene history. It best illustrates how the first Slovene historians built—stone by stone, fact by fact—the structure of Slovene history as we know it today. It was a work of love which brought no monetary gain to Franc Kos or to any other pioneer historian, but instead was a monetary burden for them. As there were no public libraries or archives available they had to buy for themselves almost all the printed sources and secondary literature. One would only wish that the historians in Slovenia would be granted enough money so they could also reprint Kos's most important work, the five volumes of the *Gradivo za zgodovino Slovencev v srednjem veku* which are today a great rarity but still an important tool for any historian of Slovene medieval history.

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Aleksander Jeločnik and Peter Kos, *Zakladna najdba Čentur-C. Foliki Maksencija in tetrarhije*. (The Čentur-C Hoard. Folles of Maxentius and of the Tetrarchy.) (*Situla* 23.) Ljubljana, 1983. 93 pp, 18 plates. \$6.00

In 1938 a huge hoard of early fourth century folles was discovered in the vicinity of Čentur, near Koper, Yugoslavia. Published properly and well illustrated, this so-called Čentur-C hoard complements the Čentur-A hoard of 5032 folles of Maxentius and the Tetrarchy published a decade ago (A. Jeločnik, *Čenturska zakladna najdba folisov Maksencija in tetrarhije* (*Situla* 12, Ljubljana, 1973). Because of the magnitude of the hoards and their time of deposit, they furnish valuable insight into both the history and political machinations of the period as well as the working of the *officinae* and the distribution of their coinage.

The Čentur-C hoard currently consists of 2276 folles (an unknown number and type were dispersed shortly after being found). It contains only folles after Diocletian's monetary reform of A.D. 294. As would be expected, coins of Maxentius' mints predominate (85.35% of the total), with those of Aquileia, the mint nearest to the place of discovery, accounting for the largest share (55.31% of the entire hoard). In contrast, the Čentur-A hoard percentages were 97.08% and 64.36% respectively, indicating the two hoards are indeed to be treated separately.

These hoards are important for many reasons and deserve to be better known. From a geo-historical perspective, their location is indicative of the importance of the Čentur plateau for control of the Istrian peninsula and hence the Pola and Parentium seaports. With the movement of Licinius' army through Hrušica (Ad Pirum) toward Aquileia on his route to Italy, holding the seaports would have been essential for the success of the military operations. Conversely, failure to occupy the ports would have allowed the ruler of Italy to ferry his forces by way of these ports and come up the backside of the army of the conqueror of northern Italy.

From a chronological perspective, the hoard is symptomatic of the pivotal role played by this region in the struggles for supremacy between Licinius and Maxentius in the last years of the first decade of the fourth century A.D. In combination with Čentur-A, the text of Anonymous Valesianus, inscriptions and archaeological finds (cf. H.J. Kellner, "Eine 'Kaiserfibel' des Maxentius," *Archaeologisches Korrespondenzblatt* 9 (1979) 209-11) a vision of sweeping military campaigns and a shifting of territory is brought vividly to mind. The result is a difficult historical jumble to resolve, with scholars relying upon incursions not depicted in the literature (cf. V. Picozzi, "Una campagna di Licinio contro Massenzio nel 310 non attestata dalle fonti letterarie," *Num Ant Clas* 5 (1976) 267-75) or denying such undocumented incursions. As such, Čentur-C, dated by the authors to the middle of A.D. 309, (as opposed to Čentur-A, which they date to mid-310) is a signpost for the chronology under consideration. It is indeed unfortunate that the entire hoard did not survive for its chronological implications.

Finally, the Čentur-C hoard is valuable for the numismatic evidence it brings under the scrutiny of scholarship. The size of the hoard, the wide distribution of its mint sources, the date of the hoard and implications intimated above, and a few new coin types all are of potential interest to the researcher. The authors have done an admirable job of publishing the hoard: weights, strike-axes, and plates are given along with a detailed catalog. The bi-lingual English-Slovenian text is a true help to Westerners, and is well-done. Errors are few (however, p. 25, read 20% unreduced folles from Thessalonica, not 30%.) In short, the authors are to be complimented on making this hoard available to scholarship in such a positive manner.

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Emidij Susič and Danilo Sedmak, *Tiha asimilacija; psihološki vidiki nacionalnega odtujevanja*. [= Slovenci v zamejstvu; Izdanje Slovenskega raziskovalnega inštituta v Trstu]. Trieste: Založništvo tržaškega tiska, 1983. 174 pp.

It is difficult to evaluate the merits of this book. One reason for this is that it is hard to decide to which genre of literature the book belongs and to whom it is addressed. It exhibits many traits of a propagandistic treatise; at the same time it contains some theoretical and empirical elements. I cannot claim any competence to review the book as an ideological tract; in fact, I do not know whether any competence outside of partisanship is relevant for that genre of writing. In any case, the authors do not PRESENT their study as a partisan tract but as a scholarly investigation. Thereby they no doubt willingly invite a review by the standards of social science. By such standards, I regret to say, the book suffers from very serious deficiencies. This is all the more regrettable because of the notable interest of the subject of the book, the many-faceted problems of ethnic identity of Slovenes in the Trieste region. Maintenance or loss of ethnic identity are, after all, not only a problem of some theoretical significance in several social sciences but also of great moral importance. I don't wish to be misunderstood. The problem with the book is NOT that the authors are *parti pris*; they have every right to be committed. But their personal commitments heavily encumber their scholarly performance. They have insuperable difficulties to define, investigate