

Most of the flourmills and sawmills in Carinthia, as no doubt is the case elsewhere in Slovenia, are falling into disuse; it is imperative that their structure, their components, their workings, their functions, and their role in their communities be properly recorded for posterity. We may lament the passing of the dialects and of the cultural components of everyday life exemplified by the mills in this video—with Milka Hartman for instance: "A moj srp ni več nabrušen, kot ga oče je žanjici / brusil - meni in sestrici; / zrnje v moko mlel v mlinu; mlin je žalostno porušen ..."—but we must also record what we can before it is too late. This is the first of what may be called "ethnographic and dialectological" videofilms in a planned series, two more of which (with their pamphlets, etc.) are nearly complete. This very worthwhile endeavor, and its first very laudable manifestation, are suitably consecrated to Stanislaus Hafner, Emeritus Professor of Graz University, who had the foresight and enterprise to initiate the systematic recording of folkways and folk speech in Austrian Carinthia.

Tom Priestly, University of Alberta

Bernard Comrie and Greville G. Corbett, eds. *The Slavonic Languages*. London and New York: Routledge, 1993. 1078 pp., \$125.00 (cloth).

This volume presents a survey of the individual Slavonic languages, both living and extinct, and also contains a chapter on alphabets and transliteration. Each language is described by a separate specialist in that subject and, in fact, two scholars have contributed to two languages. Each chapter is highly structured, containing information on the same topics, so that the reader can easily compare information on one topic in all the Slavonic languages. *The Slavonic Languages* consists of an introduction by the editors (1–19), and the following chapters: Alphabets and Transliteration (20–59, by Paul Cubberly), Proto-Slavonic (60–121, by Alexander M. Schenker), Old Church Slavonic (125–87, by David Huntley), Bulgarian (188–248, by Ernest A. Scatton), Macedonian (249–305, by Victor A. Friedman), Serbo-Croat (306–87, by E. Wayles Brown), Slovene (388–451, by T. M. S. Priestly), Czech (455–532, by David Short), Slovak (533–92, by David

Short), Sorbian (759–94, by Gerald Stone), Polish (686–758, by Robert A. Rothstein), Cassubian (759–94, by Gerald Stone), Polabian (795–824, by Kazimierz Polański), Russian (827–86, by Alan Timberlake), Belorussian (887–946, by Peter Mayo), Ukrainian (947–98, by George Y. Shevelov), and Slavonic languages in emigration (999–1036, by Roland Sussex). These chapters are followed by an index on pages 1037–78.

The chapter on alphabets and transliteration sets the cultural scene and deals with the activities of Constantine and Methodius, while the wonderfully succinct yet detailed chapter on Proto-Slavonic provides the bridge from Indo-European to its Slavonic branch. The chapter on Old Church Slavonic gives an analysis of that language that is then largely paralleled in the chapters on the individual Slavonic languages. Basically, each chapter adopts the following pattern. A brief history of the literary language and its current status is followed by sections on phonology, morphophonemic alterations inherited from Proto-Slavonic or arising after Proto-Slavonic, inflectional morphology (nominal, pronominal, numerical, and verbal), derivational morphology, and syntax (covering element order in declarative sentences, copular sentences, coordination and comitativity, subordination, negation, anaphora and pronouns, reflexives and reciprocals, possession, and quantification). These sections are then followed by a brief description of lexis, which covers the inherited Proto-Slavonic lexis, borrowed words, and three specific lexical fields: colors, parts of the body, and kinship terms. Finally, there is a short description of the dialects of the language. For all those languages that use Cyrillic, all examples are followed by transliterations. The final chapter deals with the Slavonic languages in emigration and covers such topics as language maintenance, social and core values, policies and rights, abstand, motivation and desire to maintain autonomy and distinctiveness, and standard languages. Overall, the book provides an up-to-date survey in English of current knowledge on all aspects of the Slavonic languages. There are, of course, quibbles on the lack of information on specific topics (e.g., pronouns in Ukrainian and Russian, quantification in Cassubian, and verbs of motion in Slovene), but obviously the scope of each chapter had to be restricted. The approach to the material, too, is essentially synchronic and at times one feels that a little more diachronic data could have been provided.

Nevertheless, this is an excellent, comprehensive work that is sure to become an essential tool for all Slavists.

The chapter on Slovene was written by Tom Priestly. In his introduction he explains the difference between the standard literary language and the general colloquial language, and gives a brief history of the language. Unfortunately, because of the compressed nature of the work, information on the important nineteenth-century contributors to the language is lacking. The section on phonology is very comprehensive and clear. Slovene has two phonological systems that differ only in respect of prosodic phenomena. Contrary to most current practices, Priestly uses the tonemic system and offers an algorithm for deriving the nontonemic system from the tonemic. In most current grammars it is the nontonemic that is used, since many Slovene dialects no longer have a tonemic system. In addition, the description of the vowel system is reinforced by a succinct discussion of how the prosodic distinctions arose with a list of eight sequential changes given, which occurred subsequent to the Proto-Slavonic "neoacute" accent shift. In the consonant system, *dž* is rightly given phonemic status, although some scholars do not accord it this status.

The various allophones of the consonant *v* are described only in terms of its position vis-à-vis other consonants and vowels. A few concrete examples here alongside the formulae would not have gone amiss given the large number of possible realizations. Voicing and devoicing, too, are dealt with only briefly in four lines in the section "Consonants." Again, some examples would have been desirable, although a couple are given later, in section 2.3, which deals with morphophonemic alternations resulting from changes after Proto-Slavonic. In the section on morphophonemic alternations, the alternations resulting from the first palatalization and jotation are given in one table and not differentiated, which might have been preferable because in some cases (e.g., *s-š*) the alternation can arise as a result of either jotation or the first palatalization. In the introductory section on nominal morphology we find the forms *Dolenjsko* and *Doljenska* mentioned as nouns with adjectival declension. These are in reality substantivized adjectives and in fact the neuter nominative-accusative singular form is not really used nowadays. The feminine form *Dolenjska* is used instead and has the peculiarity of declining like a feminine adjective in the nominative-accusative singular and a neuter adjective

in the genitive-locative singular. In general, the morphology is presented very succinctly and masterfully. Sometimes, however, one encounters a rather abrupt statement that leaves one hanging, such as that on page 401 to the effect that most masculine nouns in *-r* extend the stem to *-rj-*, complemented by one example and no exceptions. We also find statements that possibly should be modified in accordance with trends in the modern language. For instance, on page 401 the author states that the infix *-ov-* in the dual and plural occurs as a stylistic variant with several nouns. In the modern language even those nouns that have an obligatory infix *-ov-* in the plural often lose it in the dual.

The Slovene pronoun system, too, is obviously for reasons of space described only in brief, with details of the main pronouns. One of the distinctive features of Slovene as compared to other Slavonic languages is its relatively complicated pronominal system, and a more detailed account would have been welcome.

In the section on numerals the statement that the higher numerals *tisoč* (one thousand), *milijon* (a million), and *milijarda* (one thousand million) decline like nouns is misleading. The numerals *tisoč* and *milijon* are in fact nowadays not declined in the singular. They may, however, be declined in the plural in the sense of "thousands of" and "millions of." In the section on quantification (441) we likewise encounter an assertion that "five" and higher numerals (other than those terminating in *eden, dva, tri, štiri*) in nonoblique cases control the genitive plural but "in the other cases they agree with their referents in number (plural) and case." In fact *tisoč* and *milijon* are not declined today and *milijarda* always takes the genitive plural, even in the oblique cases.

The description of the verbal system is given in outline form. The classification of conjugation classes is adopted as being suitable for comparative purposes and is based on the thematic vowel of the present stem. It is a simplified version of that given by Gunnar O. Svane in his *Grammatik der slowenischen Schriftsprache*¹. No details, however, are given as to how the participles or gerunds are formed or alternations in the past participle passive forms occur, as they are in the chapters on the other languages. One important omission here, especially in terms

¹ (Copenhagen: Rosenkilde und Bagger, 1958).

of comparison, is the complete absence of discussion of verbs of motion. The section on syntax follows the pattern in the chapters on other languages and is fairly comprehensive. One point of question, though, concerns the description of the so-called "orphan-accusative" (438). The author states that any masculine or neuter adjective in direct object position that is used in a noun phrase from which the noun is omitted takes the genitive ending *-ega* (i.e., it is marked animate). In the modern language, although this is true of masculine adjectives, it is now very rare in the case of neuter adjectives, for which the accusative form in *-o* is preferred. The section on the lexis is good, with a description of borrowings and the incorporation of borrowings with specific reference to the modern period.

The final section, on Slovene dialects, fifty in all, presents eight major groups comprising six pan-dialectal bases and two large transitional areas. Smaller transitional dialects are left out. Inevitably, only minimal information on the features of these dialects is given. In conclusion, one can say that despite certain regrets as to the extent of coverage, which is limited by the book's framework and guidelines, Priestly has done an excellent job of providing scholars with a good, clear profile of the modern Slovene language. His chapter will be welcomed by all those interested in this fascinating language.

Peter Herrity, University of Nottingham

Marija Pirjevec. *Dvoje izvirov slovenske književnosti*. Ljubljana: Slovenska Matica, 1997. 215 pp., 5176 SIT (= \$30.75) (cloth).

A professor of Slavic literatures in Trieste, Marija Pirjevec has made yet another contribution to the study of Slovene literature with her most recent analysis of Slovene literary history from the point of view of what she considers to be its two principal sources, ethnocentrism on one hand and universalism on the other (5). Starting with the second half of the eighteenth century and the writers of the Slovene Enlightenment, she documents the oscillations between writers who sought to discern a national style and content for their works, and those who attempted to raise Slovene literature to a higher, more international standard. As an