

BOOK REVIEWS

Marija Makarovič. *Kmečko gospodarstvo na slovenskem*. Ljubljana: Mladinska Knjiga, 1978. 300 pp., no bibliography.

Because of the limited number of intensive ethnographic studies of Slovene village life, new materials are always welcome, even when they do not reflect new methodologies or contemporary interests. The author of the above work, an ethnographer, has written various specialized studies on aspects of Slovene peasant life on such subjects as folk costumes, embroidery, proverbs, etc. These are primarily surveys of broad areas of Slovenia, although some concentrate on particular regions and particular problems. For example, the author has worked in villages specializing in wine culture and has investigated the effects of this industry on village life. Recently she has stated that she is particularly interested in utilizing an independent participant observation technique, which she opposes to the structured questionnaire and the dependence on quantitative data. The former method yields information on the difficult but important areas of interpersonal relations and general ways of life which give an entirely different picture from that suggested by statistical averages. She has also stated that she wishes to call attention to the complex and difficult life of the peasant worker, who is neither a true peasant nor a true worker and whose dilemmas are not properly understood. (Nedelja, interview by Ladislav Lesar, 11/5/78, p. 5).

However, the present book does not demonstrate these interests. It is essentially a survey of technological aspects of the traditional material culture of the Slovene peasant. One of its strengths are the excellent and prolific illustrations by France Golob. All technologies are well covered, from cultivation to animal husbandry, forestry, gardening, hunting and gathering, as well as such specialized activities as vineyard cultivation, hop growing, beekeeping, raising of silkworms, charcoal burning, floating of logs, etc. She also includes two years of a diary of a middle peasant proprietor (the years 1953 and 1977 from a diary that begins in 1946). However, the diary is not a rich source such as the type so well researched in Poland, written by Polish peasants, but rather a dry and abbreviated record of the day's activities, the composition of the family and the division of labor within the family, without reflections

or subjective impressions. While such a diary is indeed of interest, it requires interpretation on the part of the ethnographer; unfortunately, this was lacking.

The book is described as a systematic survey of Slovene peasant material culture. Indeed it is this, and thus has considerable value, as do all the atlas-like treatments of traditional cultures still being carried out in Europe. While the entirely descriptive and timeless treatment remains a limiting factor, insofar as this work presents a clear description of the fast-disappearing traditional technologies of Slovene peasant life, and an illustrated record as well, it is an important addition to source material on this subject.

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Lexikalische Inventarisierung der slowenischen Volkssprache in Kärnten (Grundsätzliches und Allgemeines). S. Hafner and E. Prunč, eds. Graz, 1980. 354 pp. + 14 dialectological maps (Institut für Slavistik der Universität Graz: Slowenische Forschungsberichte, 1).

We have before us the first report on an ambitious yet urgently important research project: the lexical cataloguing of the Slovene vernacular of Carinthia, produced by a team of young Slovenists of the Institute of Slavistics at the University of Graz in Austria. The publication of this trial volume aims at two targets: to present a modern theoretical framework for investigating Slovene-German bilingualism (pp. 1-55), and to test the methodology to be used in preparation of the planned thesaurus of the Slovene vernacular of Carinthia (pp. 59-339). The contributions to the first part are by S. Hafner and E. Prunč, the material of the second part was prepared by Prunč, L. Karničar, H. Pfandl, and A. Sellner.

There is no doubt that the published research in the volume reflects a high quality of theoretical competence of the new Graz school of Slovenists in dealing with the highly complex linguistic situation in Carinthia today. The theoretical positions outlined by Hafner and Prunč are based on contemporary sociolinguistics: the American, today leading in the field (C. Ferguson, J. Fishman, E. Haugen, W. Labov); and the Soviet Russian, today essentially derivative (A. D.