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CONTENTS

| | |
|----------------------|----|
| <i>Editor's Note</i> | ix |
|----------------------|----|

ARTICLES

| | |
|--|-----|
| The Origins of Balkan Patriarchy Karl Kaser, <i>Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz</i> | 1 |
| The Greek Revolution of 1821: A New Look at Old Problems Vitalii Sheremet, <i>Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow</i> | 41 |
| “This Violent Passion”: Gobineau and Greece James Tetreault, <i>York College, CUNY</i> | 57 |
| Aristides E. Phoutrides: Harvard's Schizocardiac Scholar Nicholas D. Diamantides, <i>Kent State University</i> | 75 |
| On the Relative Strength of Greek Exports, 1973–1986 L. Papayannakis, <i>National Technical University of Greece</i> S. E. G. Lolos, <i>Bank of Greece</i> | 95 |
| Greek-Bulgarian and Greek-Soviet Relations 1953–1959: A View from the British Archives Evanthis Hatzivassiliou, <i>Thessaloniki</i> | 119 |
| Self-Image and Ethnic Stereotypes in Bulgaria Maria Todorova, <i>University of Sofia</i> | 139 |
| Relations Between Cyprus and the European Community Yannos N. Kranidiotis, <i>Consutant on E.C. Affairs, Nicosia</i> | 165 |
| Human Rights and the New World Order: The Relevance of Cyprus David J. Scheffer, <i>Carnegie Endowment for International Peace</i> | 207 |

| | |
|---|-----|
| “Inter-Love”: Cavafy’s Humanistic Answer Bridging the Gaps Michael Pieris, <i>University of Cyprus</i> | 221 |
| The Greek Post-Symbolist Poet’s Place in Society Elli Philokyprou, <i>Oxford University</i> | 231 |
| Social Class, Ideology, and the Novel in Interwar Greece (1922–1940) Evangelia Tastsoglou, <i>Ryerson Polytechnic Institute</i> | 241 |
| In-Between States: The Uses of Liminality in the Pontic Theater Patricia Fann, <i>Oxford University</i> | 273 |
| TEXT TRANSLATIONS | |
| George Theotokas, <i>Leisure Hours</i> Donald E. Martin, <i>Rockford College</i> | 293 |
| Kostis Palamas, <i>Death of a Brave Man</i> Constantine Santas, <i>Flagler College</i> | 331 |
| RESEARCH AIDS | |
| Bruno Lavagnini: Siena, 3 Ottobre 1891–Palermo, 20 Marzo 1992 Vincenzo Rotolo, <i>University of Palermo</i> | 357 |
| George Thaniel (22 February 1938–21 June 1991) Edward Phinney, <i>University of Massachusetts at Amherst</i> | 395 |
| REVIEW ARTICLES | |
| On the Occasion of the 2500th Anniversary of Greek Democracy John E. Rexine, <i>Colgate University</i> | 409 |
| Ethics and Traffic in Stolen Goods: The Wronged Images of Lysi Karl F. Morrison, <i>Rutgers University</i> | 414 |
| The “Golden Age” of Crete Lynda Garland, <i>University of New England, Australia</i> | 422 |
| Romanian and Other Greek Merchants in Southern Transylvania James Niessen, <i>Europa Institute Budapest</i> | 433 |
| The Enigma of PASOK: Greek Socialism Reviewed Richard Clogg, <i>Oxford University</i> | 439 |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Greek Anthropology Comes of Age Peter S. Allen, <i>Rhode Island College</i> | 446 |
| The Cyprus Economic Miracle: A Review Demos P. Hadjiyanis, <i>University of St. Thomas</i> | 460 |

BOOK REVIEWS

| | |
|--|--|
| Leonora Navari, <i>Greece and the Levant: The Catalogue of the Henry Myron Blackmer Collection of Books and Manuscripts</i> 475 <i>Reviewed by Theofanis G. Stavrou</i> | Parker T. Hart, <i>Two NATO Allies at the Threshold of War: Cyprus, A Firsthand Account of Crisis Management, 1965–1968</i> 486 <i>Reviewed by Joseph S. Joseph</i> |
| Andrija Jakovljevic, <i>Catalogue of Byzantine Chant Manuscripts in the Monastic and Episcopal Libraries of Cyprus</i> 476 <i>Reviewed by Edward V. Williams</i> | Luciano Cheles, Ronnie Ferguson, and Michalina Vaughan (eds.), <i>Neofascism in Europe</i> 488 <i>Reviewed by Martin Blinkhorn</i> |
| Stylianos K. Perdikis, <i>Η Μονή Κύκκου, Ο Αρχιμανδρίτης Κυπριανός, και ο Τυπογράφος Μιχαήλ Γλυκής</i> 478 <i>Reviewed by Theofanis G. Stavrou</i> | Gerasimos Augustinos (ed.), <i>Diverse Paths to Modernity in Southeastern Europe: Essays in National Development</i> 491 <i>Reviewed by Karl Kaser</i> |
| Daniel Goffman, <i>Izmir and the Levantine World 1550–1650</i> 480 <i>Reviewed by William D. Phillips, Jr.</i> | Branimir M. Jankovich, <i>The Balkans in International Relations</i> 493 <i>Reviewed by Martin S. Fallon</i> |
| Evie Marie Zachariades-Holmberg, (ed.), <i>Σχόλια Έλευθερίου Βενιζέλου στην Ιστορία του Πελοποννησιακού πολέμου του Θουκυδίδη</i> 480 <i>Reviewed by J. G. Joachim</i> | <i>National Problems in the Balkans: History and Contemporary Developments</i> 494 <i>Reviewed by Ekaterina Nikova</i> |
| Constantine Svolopoulos, <i>Η Έλληνική Έξωτερική Πολιτική 1900–1945</i> 482 <i>Reviewed by Theodosios Karvounarakis</i> | Ekaterina Nikova, <i>The Balkans and the European Community</i> 495 <i>Reviewed by Darinka Vassileva</i> |
| Costas N. Hadjipateras and Maria S. Fafalios, <i>Crete 1941 Eyewitnessed</i> 484 <i>Reviewed by Harold Deutsch</i> | Paul Bushkovitch, <i>Religion and Society in Russia: The Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries</i> 496 <i>Reviewed by Nancy Shields Kollmann</i> |
| | <i>A Mennonite in Russia: The Diaries of Jacob D. Epp 1851–1880</i> 499 <i>Reviewed by Rhonda Clark</i> |

| | |
|---|--|
| Vladimir Solovyov, <i>The Meaning of Love</i> ———, <i>War, Progress, and the End of History</i> 501 <i>Reviewed by Kristi Groberg</i> | Magda M. Kitromilidou, <i>Ἀκριτικά τραγούδια καὶ παραλογές ἀπὸ τὴν Κύπρο</i> 516 <i>Reviewed by Peter Mackridge</i> |
| Leon Tretjakewitsch, <i>Bishop Michel d'Herbigny, SJ, and Russia: A Pre-Ecumenical Approach to Christian Unity</i> 503 <i>Reviewed by James W. Cunningham</i> | Elisavet Moutzan-Martinengou, <i>My Story</i> 517 <i>Reviewed by Elizabeth Faue</i> |
| Suzanna Moody and Joel Wurl (eds.), <i>The Immigration History Research Center: A Guide to Collections</i> 506 <i>Reviewed by Keith P. Dyrud</i> | Eva Palmer Sikelianos, <i>Ἱερός Πανικός</i> 519 <i>Reviewed by David Connolly</i> |
| Myron B. Kuropas, <i>The Ukrainian Americans: Roots and Aspirations, 1886-1954</i> Orest Subtelny, <i>Ukrainians in North America: An Illustrated History</i> 507 <i>Reviewed by Keith P. Dyrud</i> | George Philippou-Pierides, <i>Memories and Stories from Egypt</i> 520 <i>Reviewed by Yannis E. Ioannou</i> |
| Dia M. L. Philippides, <i>Census of Modern Greek Literature: Checklist of English Language Sources Useful in the Study of Modern Greek Literature</i> 510 <i>Reviewed by Peter Mackridge</i> | Nikiforos Vrettakos, <i>Gifts in Abeyance: Last Poems 1981-91</i> 522 <i>Reviewed by M. Byron Raizis</i> |
| Roderick Beaton, <i>George Seferis</i> David Holton, <i>Erotokritos</i> David Ricks, <i>Byzantine Heroic Poetry</i> 512 <i>Reviewed by John E. Rexine</i> | Takis Theodoropoulos, <i>To Αδιανόητο Τοπίο</i> 523 <i>Reviewed by Maria Anastasopoulou</i> |
| <i>Mourning Songs of Greek Women</i> 515 <i>Reviewed by M. Byron Raizis</i> | Thordis Simonsen, <i>Dancing Girl: Themes and Improvisations in a Greek Village</i> 524 <i>Reviewed by Elinor M. Despalatovic</i> |
| | N. Georgopoulos, <i>Art and Emotion: The Aesthetics of E. P. Papanoutsos</i> 526 <i>Reviewed by Leonidas Pantelides</i> |
| | OTHER BOOKS RECEIVED 529 |

CHRONICLE OF EVENTS

| | |
|---|-----|
| July 1990–June 1992 John A. Mazis and Soterios Stavrou, <i>University of Minnesota</i> | 535 |
|---|-----|

EDITOR'S NOTE

THE PRESENT VOLUME OF THE *Modern Greek Studies Yearbook* attests once more to our determination to honor our original objective of making this publication a scholarly international forum where a variety of issues relating to the modern Greek experience in the broadest context possible would be discussed. The context, which includes the Mediterranean and Eastern Europe with special emphasis on Greek-Slavic relations, has prompted some colleagues to suggest the idea of a subtitle reflecting the broader scope and the range of contents normally featured in this publication. After considering the matter in some detail, the decision was made to cling to the name by which the venture was launched and by which the *Yearbook* has established itself. After all, the objective is clearly stated on the copyright page of each issue and we will be happy to respond to inquiries on the subject from our readers and subscribers.

The contributors to this year's issue represent academic and research institutions from the following eleven countries: Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, England, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Russia (the Commonwealth of Independent States), and the United States. This clearly makes the *Yearbook* an international forum. And judging by the number of submitted articles to be considered for future issues, we feel confident that the trend of creating an increasingly larger pool of contributors from the international scholarly community will continue. Indicative of this trend is the fact that approximately half of this year's entries are by individuals who appear in the *Yearbook* for the first time.

More importantly, this year's contributions include seminal articles on the Balkans, rendered quite timely by the intensity and protracted nature of the crisis in the region. Crises in the Balkans and other areas of the former Soviet Bloc have some "Western" observers and policy makers convinced that entire systems and societies are in a process of transition and that the industrialized democracies, presumably cognizant and in control of the laws of

transition, should hasten the process. The simplistic notion of transition implied in some of these observations aside, such assessments fail to appreciate sufficiently the complexity of the historical context of these crises. In some respects, then, the articles on the Balkans as evidenced, for example, by Karl Kaser's lead article on "The Origins of Balkan Patriarchy" constitute, in small measure, to be sure, an antidote to this simplistic notion of transition. Kaser's daring article, interdisciplinary and diachronic in its approach, suggests, among other things, how contemporary behavior in the war-torn Balkans may defy analysis if not viewed in the context of the historical experiences which have shaped the customs, practices, and mentality of some of the ethnic groups inhabiting the region under consideration. Kaser directs our attention to this problem by focusing on the origins of the institution of patriarchy as it relates particularly to Albanians, Vlachs, Serbs and to a lesser extent Greeks and other relevant ethnic groups. Whereas the concept of appreciating the origins of contemporary problems is not new, Kaser's work highlights this important phenomenon with poignancy. In some respects, his contribution amounts to a study of images and stereotypes that certain ethnic groups have of themselves or their neighbors with whom it has been their historical fate to interact politically and socially. Maria Todorova pursues this point convincingly by tracing the evolution of images and stereotypes reflected in the attitudes of Bulgarians toward Turks, Greeks, and other groups. Bearing in mind that xenophobia has recently contributed substantially to the rise of political extremism in Europe, studies such as Todorova's on images and stereotypes may serve as a model for understanding the nature of the problem in the Balkans and in other European countries where political extremism has become a challenge to a hitherto acceptable order of things. Todorova's and Kaser's articles, though not revisionistic, invite reconsideration of some of these troubling issues and their impact on inter-ethnic as well as international relations in the Balkans. New evidence helps make such reassessments possible, as is the case with the carefully researched and meticulously traced story of "Greek-Bulgarian and Greek-Soviet Relations, 1953-1959: A View from the British Archives," by Evanthis Hatzivassiliou. This contribution is as timely as it is informative given the new diplomatic postures by the Balkan states during the current crisis over developments in former Yugoslavia. Even a heavily researched topic such as the Greek War of Independence may benefit from a fresh glance. Thus Vitalii Sheremet's "The Greek Revolution of 1821: A New Look at Old Problems" illustrates how, even in the midst of revolution portending loss of territory, some farsighted Ottoman statesmen were capable of discussing creative alternatives to continuation of catastrophic military confrontations. The articles mentioned thus far bear witness to interaction, even interdependence, which has historically characterized the existence of the Balkan peoples despite the simultaneous presence of powerful divisive forces. Interaction and interdependence is also evident in the review article by James Niessen, "Romanian and Other Greek Merchants in Southern Transylvania,"

and the article by H. Papayannakis and S. E. G. Lolos, "On the Relative Strength of Greek Exports, 1973-1986." The economic interdependence of the Balkans is likely to increase despite disruptive forces at work due to recent hostilities and despite the persistence of certain images and stereotypes.

Images and stereotypes abound in several of the articles in the present volume. They range from the paradoxical descriptions of Gobineau, the French minister to Greece in the middle of the last century, who criticized and praised the modern Greeks profusely, as James Tetrault reminds us in his article " 'This Violent Passion': Gobineau and Greece," to the sympathetic view of Greek and American culture symbolized in the life and work of the Greek classical scholar Aristides Phoutrides. Contrary to Gobineau, Phoutrides, "Harvard's Schizocardiac Scholar," as Nicholas D. Diamantides calls him, is an example of the juxtaposition of two cultures in the mind and scholarship of an immigrant classical scholar. Consequently it is also a chapter in the history of immigration history and the transfer of ideas from one's native land to the adopted one and vice versa. The case of Phoutrides is important for another reason. In addition to his contribution as a classical scholar, he was a pioneer in promoting modern Greek culture, especially literature, in the new world through his translations of the works of modern Greek writers such as Kostis Palamas and his contemporaries. One could argue that in a way modern Greek studies in the United States began with Aristides Phoutrides. Diamantides painstakingly reconstructs the experiences of Phoutrides in the new world, his scholarly and social contacts, from archives scattered throughout the United States. It is a moving portrait and appreciation of an immigrant scholar who died quite young and in whose name a scholarship was established at Harvard University.

In selecting articles for the *Yearbook* we seek to maintain a balance between the social sciences and the humanities. This year we are fortunate to have four articles dealing exclusively with literature. The first one by Michael Pieris, " 'Inter-Love': Cavafy's Humanistic Answer Bridging the Gaps," is a sophisticated attempt to utilize analysis of the Alexandrine poet's work, in this case the poem "Myris," to go beyond literature, reminding us of the poet's sensibility with regard to inter-ethnic relations in cosmopolitan Hellenistic Alexandria, and by extension providing a yardstick to examine similar dilemmas in our days. Pieris's article also reminds us that literature as an institution can serve several purposes, bridging various disciplines. In some ways, this is the case with the rest of the literature articles in this volume, all of which contribute to our knowledge and understanding of modern Greek culture and society as well as literature. Elli Philokyprou's "The Greek Post-Symbolist Poet's Place in Society," Evangelia Tastsoglou's "Social Class, Ideology, and the Novel in Interwar Greece (1922-40)," and Patricia Fan's "In Between States: The Uses of Liminality in the Pontic Theater," despite obvious methodological differences make important contributions to literary and social history. We are especially pleased to present them here because they represent the work of a

new generation of scholars in the field. This is in keeping with the *Yearbook's* commitment to the field of modern Greek studies by promoting the work of younger as well as established scholars. The contributions on literature mentioned thus far are admirably supplemented by Lynda Garland's review article on "The 'Golden Age' of Crete."

The literature section is further enhanced by the translations of two important works representing two different generations of Greek writers: George Theotokas's *Leisure Hours*, translated by Donald Martin, and Kostis Palamas's *Death of a Brave Man*, translated by Constantine Santas and Antonios Gonis. Theotokas, the younger of the two and member of the "generation of the thirties" has been featured in the *Yearbook* regularly thanks to the dedication of Donald Martin. This is the first time that Palamas, the patriarch of modern Greek letters, whose career was coming to a close as Theotokas's was beginning, is featured in the *Yearbook*. Palamas was the focus of the Fifth Annual Celebration of Modern Greek Letters held at the University of Minnesota in May 1982. At that time the centrality of Palamas to modern Greek literature and the need for more translation of his work in English were duly noted. We are therefore delighted that a decade later we can bring this major writer to the attention of our readers through the translation of his finest prose work, *The Death of a Brave Man*. It is fitting that this translation is featured in this volume along with the article on Phoutrides who was the first to translate Palamas in the United States during the first quarter of this century. *Death of a Brave Man* is a fine example of ethnographic writing, reflecting, among other things, the self-image of a young *pallikari* who would rather die than spend the rest of his life as a cripple. Of course, the image of a perfect able-bodied young man has always enjoyed a special place in patriarchal Balkan societies.

Images and stereotypes are as much the product of scholarship as they are of other means of expression. For this reason in each issue of the *Yearbook* we endeavor to update our readers with the state of the art on modern Greek studies through extensive book reviews and review essays. In this volume, two review essays are particularly useful in this regard: Richard Clogg evaluates recent scholarship on Greek politics with emphasis on socialism (PASOK) and Peter S. Allen does the same with scholarship on Greek anthropology. The quantity and quality of scholarship in the various disciplines constitute evidence that the field of modern Greek studies is fast coming of age. Since the *Yearbook's* coverage has been diachronic, we also endeavor, to the extent that it is possible, to review scholarship focusing on the classical and Byzantine periods. John Rexine's assessment of the works of two classical scholars on the subject of democracy is a case in point and is especially relevant since it was written "On the Occasion of the 2500th Anniversary of Greek Democracy."

Cyprus is generously represented in this volume with four contributions touching on significant topics, all of them with international dimensions. "Relations Between Cyprus and the European Community," by

Yannos Kranidiotis, is a detailed account of the steps taken in the hope of leading Cyprus to membership in the Community. Inevitably, the problem is discussed in the context of Greek-Turkish relations and the complications resulting from failure to find a workable solution to the Cyprus problem. The unsolved Cyprus problem also complicates Turkey's further integration into the European Community. The Cyprus problem may be taking on a new practical as well as symbolic meaning due to President-elect Clinton's statement that it should be dealt with primarily as a question of human rights and not one whose status is determined entirely by geopolitical considerations. This approach is undoubtedly related to expectations from the hoped-for climate in the new world order as elaborated further in the illuminating article by David J. Scheffer, "Human Rights and the New World Order: The Relevance of Cyprus," and as expounded forcefully, though with a different focus, in the essay by Karl F. Morrison, "Ethics and Traffic in Stolen Goods: The Wronged Images of Lysi." Despite the obvious unsettling crisis on the island, the political survival of Cyprus thus far has been accompanied by an "economic miracle," a phenomenon discussed extensively in the review essay by Demos Hadjiyanis. All these contributions invariably emphasize the international dimension of the Cyprus problem.

We are pleased to point out that four of the contributions in this volume (one article and three book reviews) are by scholars from the newly-founded University of Cyprus which officially accepted its first students in September 1992. The university, as a teaching and research institution, is indispensable for the cultural and economic growth of a society. Consequently, this is a development of monumental implications for Cyprus, where education is held in high regard as evidenced by the number of Cypriot students attending universities abroad. It can be safely stated that next to political independence, the founding of the University of Cyprus can be considered the most important event in the history of that country. And to the extent that the founding of a university is one of the most optimistic of human endeavors, the expectations from this new institution are understandably high. One can't help but be impressed by the number and quality of professors the new university has attracted. Many of these professors abandoned careers in leading European and American universities to provide the critical mass of colleagues that a young academic institution needs in order to establish itself and to participate in international scholarly discourse. We look forward to further collaboration with our colleagues from the University of Cyprus. We are happy to dedicate the 1992 *Modern Greek Studies Yearbook* to the idea of the University of Cyprus, the people of Cyprus who contributed to its founding, and to those who will labor to guarantee its academic freedom and consequently safeguard its role as a catalyst in improving the quality of life on the island.

Whenever possible, the passing of colleagues who have made significant contributions to the field of modern Greek studies is appropriately

noted. The loss this year has been especially heavy with the death of the leading intellectual historian and literary critic Constantine Th. Dimaras on February 19, 1992. As is known, our policy has been to avoid presenting these happenings in the form of obituaries usually encountered in professional journals. Instead, we have opted for an assessment and comprehensive listing of the scholarly contributions of the departed colleagues. In our opinion this constitutes the finest form of tribute we can pay such individuals. It is hoped that we will be able to provide such a tribute to Constantine Th. Dimaras in a future issue of the *Yearbook*. In the meantime, we are able to provide tributes, in this year's issue, to two neohellenists whose contributions were milestones in the promotion of Greek studies in the country of their residence, Bruno Lavagnini (1891-1992) in Italy and George Thaniel (1931-91) in Canada. I am grateful to Professor Vincenzo Rotolo and Edward Phinney, who, on short notice, prepared the two entries on Lavagnini and Thaniel, respectively. Besides paying tribute to the individuals concerned, these assessments constitute indispensable bibliographic tools for teachers and researchers in the field.

The continuation and quality of the *Modern Greek Studies Yearbook* depends a great deal on the collaborative effort of the editorial board. I wish to express my appreciation to my colleagues on the board for the readiness with which they have responded to my inquiries. I want to thank especially Professor Louis Coutelle, from the University of Provence at Aix, who has served on the board since the genesis of the *Yearbook*. Professor Coutelle, now retired, is succeeded by Maria Couroucli, Chargé de Recherche, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique of the University of Paris X, Nanterre. She will be our contact person with the French scholarly community. We are grateful that she has accepted our invitation to join the board and we look forward to fruitful collaboration with her. Similarly, we wish to welcome Professor Christos G. Patrinelis from the University of Thessaloniki. He has replaced Eleutherios Prevelakis, who died last year. Professor Patrinelis will be our contact person with Greek scholars, especially historians. Regrettably, this is the last year that the name of Professor Constantine Trypanis will appear on the editorial page. Ill health has caused his resignation. We are grateful to him for his support to this scholarly enterprise. We are now searching for a replacement and welcome suggestions from colleagues in the field. It is our hope that Professor Trypanis's replacement will be somebody whose field of specialization is literature.

Finally, I want to record the obvious: the *Modern Greek Studies Yearbook* appears with regularity because of the incredible dedication and support I enjoy from several individuals associated with the University of Minnesota, chief among them being Joan Sommerfeld. Others who deserve thanks and recognition include Soterios Stavrou, Diana Dalbotten, John Mazis, Ken Marks, Martin Fallon, John Jenson, Gene Sommerfeld, and Freda Stavrou. They provide many hours of hard labor, psychological support and

intellectual stimulation without which this annual project cannot be completed. Again, it is my pleasure to thank administrators and colleagues in the College of Liberal Arts, the Center for European Studies, the Institute for International Studies, the History Department, and Special Collections of the University of Minnesota Library for their continued support and encouragement in making this, the eighth volume of the *Modern Greek Studies Yearbook*, a reality.

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