

1956

Yugoslavia - Around the World Program - American Geographical Society

Joel Halpern

University of Massachusetts, Amherst, jmhalpern@anthro.umass.edu

Barbara Kerewsky-Halpern

University of Massachusetts - Amherst

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.umass.edu/emeritus_sw



Part of the [Anthropology Commons](#)

Halpern, Joel and Kerewsky-Halpern, Barbara, "Yugoslavia - Around the World Program - American Geographical Society" (1956).
Emeritus Faculty Author Gallery. 49.

Retrieved from https://scholarworks.umass.edu/emeritus_sw/49

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks@UMass Amherst. It has been accepted for inclusion in Emeritus Faculty Author Gallery by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks@UMass Amherst. For more information, please contact scholarworks@library.umass.edu.

Joel M. Halpern

Yugoslavia

By BARBARA and
JOEL HALPERN



NELSON DOUBLEDAY, INC. GARDEN CITY, N.Y.

Joel M. Halpern

Prepared with the cooperation of the
American Geographical Society

YUGOSLAVIA

COPYRIGHT 1956

BY NELSON DOUBLEDAY, INC. ©

PRINTED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



RISING from the sparkling Adriatic Sea like a stark, two-dimensional stage backdrop, mountain crests above the Yugoslav coast give no hint of the fascinating land beyond. There are landscapes from fairy tales, Bible stories, and dreams. There are cities in which we seem to be transported from Vienna to Istanbul simply by rounding a corner, and towns where we can turn back the centuries and stroll through living museums. Beyond the gray and barren mountains lies an incredible mosaic of scenery, peoples, and ways of life.

And all this is understandable, because the country is composed of a number of smaller and older nations, each with its own traditions and history. In fact, the only thing they had in common was that they were all Southern Slavs. *Yug* is "south" in Slavic languages, so Yugoslavia simply means Land of the South Slavs.

From the mountain barriers looming behind a sunny, palm-fringed shore to the majestic glacial peaks in the northwest and the rocky limestone backbone down one side of the country, the scene turns to wild and wooded inland mountains, gently rolling hills, and finally to the flat expanse of rich farm land in the north, with the Danube flowing through.

The ever-changing kaleidoscope of patterns would fit into the states of New York, Pennsylvania, and Connecticut combined. Within this



Gypsies are accomplished folk musicians and are hired to play at village festivities. Accompanying a drummer is the *zurla*-player, who uses his cheeks and mouth as a bellows to pump Oriental-sounding melodies from his reed pipe. You need plenty of wind to play this instrument!

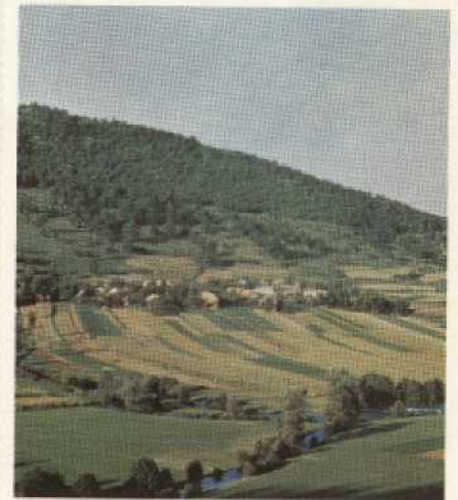
area of approximately 100,000 square miles live over 16,000,000 people. Three-fifths of the land is mountainous; over sixty per cent of the people are peasant farmers. This makes Yugoslavia one of the most agricultural countries in Europe (No. 8). On small private farms peasants subsist chiefly by what they wrest from the land, and they consume most of their produce at home. But there are many regional specialties, and Yugoslavia exports a variety of fine fruits, tobaccos, wines and liquors. Timber, too, is an important product, and just as significant are mineral raw materials, especially copper, chrome, manganese, iron, lead, bauxite, and mercury. It has been estimated that Yugoslavia has deposits of twenty-three of the twenty-six ores and minerals essential to industry. Another great asset is the tremendous water power potential, provided by the turbulent mountain streams and rivers rushing through rugged gorges.

A Varied Land

THIS VARIED LAND is populated by five larger national groups—the Serbs, Croats, Slovenes, Macedonians and Montenegrins. Four of them speak separate but closely related languages, although a compound of the two main ones, called Serbo-Croatian, is considered the official language. Two alphabets are in use and in addition, several different calendar systems are followed.

Meeting Place of East and West

HOW DID such a complex assortment ever get together as one united country? Location and history are the answers. Look at a map of Europe, and you will see why Yugoslavia is often called a meeting-place of East and West. The largest country of the Balkan Peninsula, it has land frontiers on three sides and serves today, as it has since prehistoric



8. PATCHWORK OF LAND HOLDINGS

With two thirds of Yugoslavia mountainous and over 60 per cent of the people farmers, it is easy to understand why every scrap of arable land is cultivated. Individual peasant holdings are small, usually under 10 acres, and very often they are scattered throughout the village.



6. THE PARLIAMENT BUILDING, BELGRADE

In this building, which once housed the Parliament of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, the new Yugoslav Assembly now meets. It has two houses, the Federal Council and a Council of Producers. Marshal Tito, as President of the country, is also President of the Federal Executive Council.

times, as a land bridge between the nations of the South and East and those of Central Europe. For thousands of years merchant caravans and invading armies have crossed and recrossed through the natural corridors of the Vardar and Morava rivers, each group leaving its individual stamp upon the country. Yugoslavia's continuing strategic position as a crossroads is better appreciated when we realize that eighty per cent of the borderlands are along the Iron Curtain, where she meets Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, and Albania.

Escape from the Iron Curtain

YUGOSLAVIA has been a united nation only since the end of World War I, and in its present political form it has been in existence since 1945, founded under the leadership of Josip Broz, a Communist. This

man is Marshal Tito, today President of the Federated People's Republic of Yugoslavia. In order of size the six constituent republics are Serbia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Macedonia, Slovenia and Montenegro, more or less conforming to older historical and national units. Each has its own capital, and Belgrade—Beograd in Serbo-Croat, meaning White City—is the capital of Serbia and all Yugoslavia (No. 6). Blue, red, and white bars, with a red star, symbol of Communism, form the flag of Yugoslavia (No. 12).

Yugoslavia was behind the Iron Curtain until 1948, but was expelled when she became too independent for Moscow's liking. She now pursues a policy somewhat different from the other Communist countries, a most important change being that an earlier program of collectivization of agriculture has been abandoned. The private peasants who compose so much of her population are allowed to till their own land and are not forced to join state-sponsored cooperative farms. But the basic teachings



12. RED STAR, SYMBOL OF TODAY'S YUGOSLAVIA

This is the flag adopted in 1945, and each of the six component republics has its own flag as well. The national emblem has five lighted torches, symbolizing the five main peoples, surrounded by sheaves of wheat and surmounted by a red star.



of Marx and Lenin are followed. There is only one political party in Yugoslavia, and all communications, banks, industries, and large businesses are state-owned.

Fisherfolk on the Danube

LET'S GO BACK to the time before there was a civilization in Egypt or Greece. A little band of fisherfolk lived by the side of the Danube, at a place called Vinča not far from where Belgrade lies today. They built no temples or palaces, nor did they make any intellectual contributions to human history—most of their energies were needed to stay alive. What these people of the New Stone Age left us is a rich record of their way of life, in their fishing implements, house foundations, and pottery. They had a liking for bright colors, with which they decorated crudely-shaped clay figurines, probably associated with their religion.

The Romans Take Over

THOUSANDS OF YEARS after the people of Vinča had passed into the sands of time, a new people, the Illyrians, appeared in these regions during the Iron Age. After 500 B.C. Celts invaded the area and mixed with the Illyrians, and later, before the birth of Christ, Greek colonies were established. Meanwhile the powerful Roman nation was rising in the West, and the land that now forms Yugoslavia represented to them another barbarian region to be conquered and added to their empire. Here they established many settlements and a network of roads, not only for military purposes but also to help them exploit the rich deposits of lead and copper which they found. Many present-day Yugoslav towns were important Roman centers.

When the Roman Empire split in the fourth century A.D., the dividing line went through what was to become Yugoslavia. Half the land faced Rome and the West, and the other half was oriented eastward, toward the Byzantine Empire centered in Constantinople, giving Yugoslavia the split personality she retains to this day. Many tribes—Avars, Huns and others—invaded the land, and Rome and Byzantium did not exercise complete control over their respective regions.

Slavic Ancestors

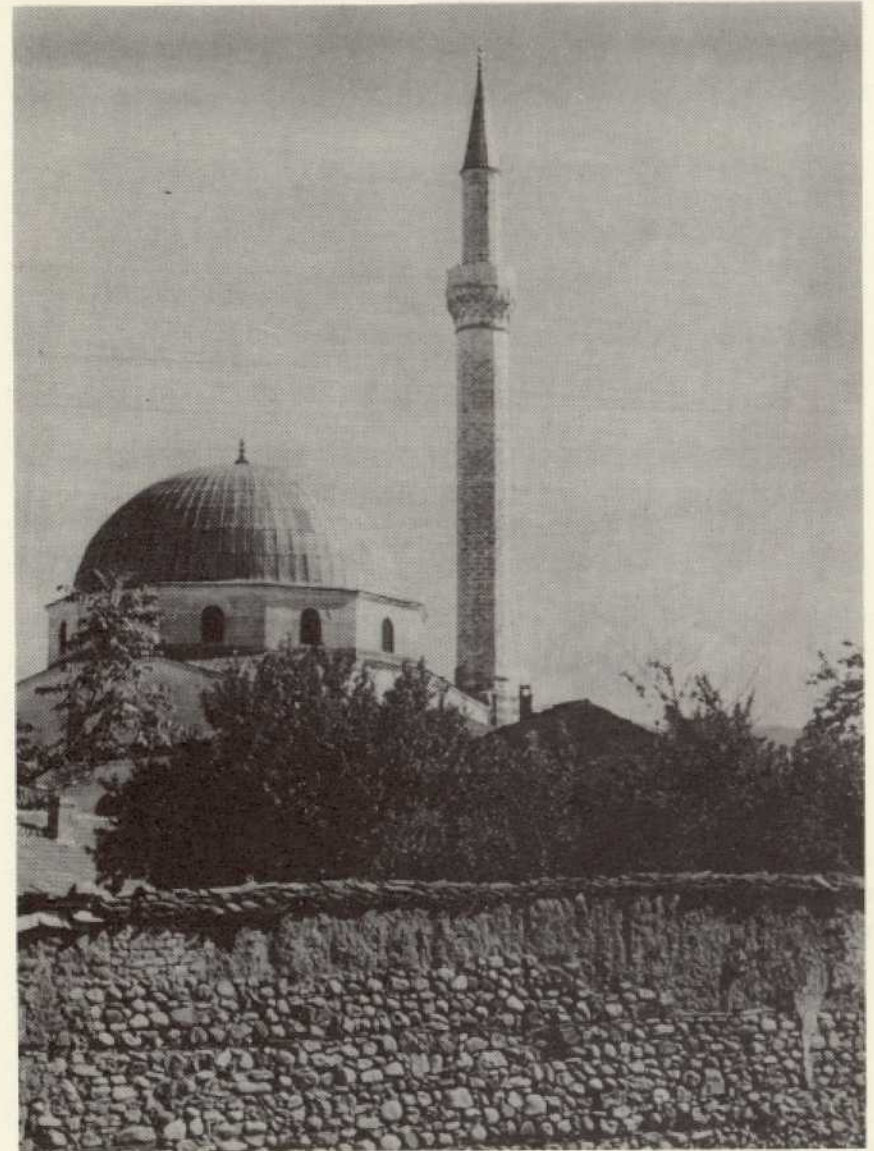
THEN, sometime around the year 500 and continuing for several centuries, tribal groups of Slav peoples came down from the region of the Carpathian Mountains and settled in the Balkans. They were the ancestors of the present Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes. In the course of time the Croats and Slovenes accepted Christianity from the West, became Roman Catholics, and learned to write in the Latin script. In the Middle Ages Slovene peoples were under Germanic rulers, Croats under Hungarian kings, and Venice seized most of the coast. These lands later became part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

On the other hand, the Serbs faced East, by Byzantium, and became Orthodox Christians, with a religion similar to Greek Orthodox. They adopted a Cyrillic alphabet (named after its originator, St. Cyril), based on Greek and similar to modern Russian. The churches and monasteries they built, many of them noted for their remarkable frescoes, are outstanding examples of Byzantine architecture. In the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries most Byzantine lands were conquered by the Turks, and so Mohammedanism, too, eventually became part of the way of life in much of the country.

Carved and Gabled Mountain Chalets

SINCE AMERICANS visiting Yugoslavia usually enter through Slovenia, that's a good place for us to start, too. Here, in an extension of the Alps, are glistening snow-capped peaks above meadows of alpine flowers. Hay is hung to dry on the racks of covered wooden sheds that blend harmoniously with the scene (No. 14).

Slovenia never existed for any length of time as an independent nation. It came under the domination of Austria and remained there until World War I. Today traces of Germanic influence are evident everywhere, in the carved and gabled mountain chalets, the hearty food, the short leather pants worn by little boys and older ones alike, and the fact that most of the older people speak German as well as Slovenian. Even Ljubljana (pronounce the "lj's" like the ll in million and you'll get it



Over 12 per cent of Yugoslavia's population is Moslem. In towns and hamlets throughout much of Macedonia and Bosnia-Herzegovina the landscape is pierced by lofty minarets, such as you see in this picture.



14. DRYING HAY IN THE JULIAN ALPS

A pleasing silhouette against Slovenia's emerald upland pastures are these covered drying racks, their rungs spread with new-mown hay—can't you almost smell it in the bracing mountain air?

right—Lloo'bllah na), Slovenia's capital, looks very much like an Austrian town. It is a charming old city in miniature, with a castle surveying the view from its hilltop perch in the center of town (No. 11).

Horseshoes and Beehive Slats

SLOVENIA is the most highly industrialized region of Yugoslavia, and only about half her population is engaged in farming. There is a large new aluminum plant in addition to older iron and steel works. Not far away, up a hidden valley, blacksmiths work as they have for centuries, using water from the mountain streams to power their bellows. The secrets of their craft have been handed down from father to son,

and to be accepted as a member of the guild a smith must prove his skill by forging a horseshoe to fit an uncooked egg, without cracking the shell! Another product of old folk crafts still to be seen in parts of Slovenia is the painted slats of beehives. Each panel is decorated with a scene from the Bible, folk tales, or nature, according to the whim of the peasant artist (No. 23). In the ethnographic museum in Ljubljana are examples of some especially amusing slats, one of them, for instance, is painted with a huge, smiling face—the bees flew into their hive under the canopy of a great walrus mustache!

A Perfect Wooded Island

A FAVORITE VACATION SPOT in Yugoslavia and one of the most enchanting places in all Europe is Lake Bled. This serene mountain lake is rimmed by a band of dark evergreens and by towering mountains. In the distance is mighty Triglav (The Triple-Headed), Yugoslavia's



11. AN OLD CASTLE DOMINATES SLOVENIA'S CAPITAL

Ljubljana is a Central European type of city in miniature, with baroque public buildings and a maze of narrow old streets. A diminutive river flows for a while beneath the city and appears again in a sun-dappled canal, alongside fine old house-fronts.



23. APARTMENT HOUSE FOR BEES

Unique Slovenian frames for bee colonies have a delightful feature—individually painted hive fronts, each slat decorated with a scene from nature, fantasy or the Bible. And beekeepers claim that each bee knows its own “apartment” by the design on the front door!

highest peak. A medieval castle overlooks the water from its height on a great craggy bluff. There is one perfect wooded island in the lake, with a tiny white church in the center, its red spire rising above the screen of delicate foliage. Bled has been the site of many international conferences, such as the meeting of the nations of the Balkan Alliance in 1953.

Many people think nearby Lake Bohinj is even more beautiful. A graceful church stands alone on the shore, against the enormity of mountains, sky, and water. The Slovenian Alps region is famous as a mountain-climbing and winter sports area, with one of the world's highest ski jumps at Planica.

Caverns and Grottoes

IN SLOVENIA begins the system of limestone rocks which cover so much of western Yugoslavia. Long ago this porous rock had a mantle of vegetation, but after trees were cut down and animals pastured, nothing remained to hold the soil in place. Then, little by little, the eroding action of water—raindrops and rivers—on the soluble limestone wore into the surface, leaving bare, grotesque shapes. Beneath the surface the

rock became honeycombed with caverns and grottoes, with underground rivers flowing through. This is known as karst land, from the Slovene word *kras*. The best example of karst in our own country is the Mammoth Caves region of Kentucky. The most famous cave in Yugoslavia is at Postonja, where a tiny electrified railway takes us through part of the caverns.

The Secret of Their Poise

LET'S CONTINUE ON NOW over the northern lowland plains, the rich farm areas of the country. On market days the roads leading to the towns are thronged with peasants, most of the women wearing full-skirted costumes embroidered with red and black designs. With grace



The blacksmith's shop is an important place in every small town and village. In this picture a cow is being shod while it is held in position, front and hind legs lashed to a raised supporting pole.

and dignity they move through the crowds, balancing on their heads huge baskets of vegetables, laundry, or their purchases. The secret of their poise is the balancing cushion each sets above her starched kerchief before placing the basket on her head. It is made of soft rags and looks rather like a large doughnut (No. 20).

Storks on the Chimney-Tops

ZAGREB is the capital of Croatia and second-largest city in Yugoslavia. Its most interesting quarter is Gornji Grad, the Upper City, dominated by St. Mark's. Parts of this church date from medieval times, when the square before it was the marketplace and center of activity of the old town (No. 19). Today, however, there are modern fair grounds just outside the city, where international industrial exhibitions are held each September.

Out in the country, log cabins form one of the more picturesque types of peasant cottages (No. 25). In the most level regions, where there is neither rock nor wood for building material, village homes are made of sun-baked brick plastered with mud and whitewashed. Many cottages



19. TILED EMBLEMS ON ZAGREB CHURCH

An extraordinary roof is the one crowning Sveti Marko (St. Mark) Church. Colorful tile inlay depicts the coat of arms joining the traditional units of Croatia and, on the right, the shield of the city of Zagreb.



20. CONVENIENT WAY TO CARRY THINGS

Basket loads of cabbage or laundry—both are balanced with equal confidence by the peasant women of the northern and coastal regions. Erect and graceful, they often travel on foot from village to town in this manner.

have a family of storks nesting on the chimney top. The peasants here are devoutly religious, most of them Catholics, and their roadside shrines add to the charm of the peaceful landscape (No. 10).

Breadbasket of Yugoslavia

AS FAR AS SCENERY, the Vojvodina is probably least interesting of all the places in Yugoslavia, but it is of great significance economically, for it is the breadbasket of the country even though half the crop may dry up and die for lack of rain in a bad year. It is actually a continuation of the Great Hungarian Plain and was formerly part of the Hapsburg Empire. Today there are entire villages of Hungarian, Rumanian, Czech, and Slovak groups, each with its own language, folk costumes, and traditions. In Subotica, near the Hungarian border, most people speak both Serbian and Hungarian, and there are Hungarian newspapers and theaters. Incidentally, Subotica is Yugoslavia's fifth-largest city, but it is really just a delightfully overgrown village, with dirt lanes and thatched cottages a few blocks from the gingerbread municipal buildings. The flat, fertile farm area, so different from the rest of Serbia, was made an autonomous region within the republic proper.

Practically every farmer keeps cattle, pigs, and poultry. Fields of wheat, corn, sugar beets, and gigantic, nodding sunflowers stretch endlessly toward the horizon.



25. LOG CABIN WITH THATCHED ROOF

Roof of straw, smooth logs striped with pale blue caulking, a pot of geraniums blooming in the window and a grape arbor near by—this tranquil cottage is home for northern lowland farmers.



This fellow, with warm sheepskin hat pulled down around his ears, is busy reinforcing his thatched roof as protection against biting winter winds that blow over the northern plains.

Religious shrines are seen on roads and lanes all over Croatia and Slovenia. Some are humble, just a carved wooden cross by the wayside, and some are niches tinted pink or orange or blue, filled in with soft-toned frescoes.



10. CATHOLIC ROADSIDE SHRINE

A Disputed Territory

LET'S SWITCH now to the Yugoslav coast, most of it known as Dalmatia, where we'll find a completely different life and landscape. Starting at the northern end and working our way down, the little triangle of land projecting from the mainland between Italy and Yugoslavia is called Istria. Long a disputed territory, it formerly was part of Italy although most of the rural people were of Slav origins. In contrast, the very vital port city of Trieste is inhabited mainly by Italians, and the whole region has been a bitter bone of contention between the two nations. After World War II Trieste was made a Free Territory controlled by the Allied Powers, and Istria, along with the seaport of Rijeka, the former Italian Fiume, became part of Yugoslavia. The problem was finally resolved in 1954, when some new borders were drawn, largely

along ethnic lines. At the tip of the peninsula is Pula, with its magnificent Roman amphitheater, almost as impressive as that imposing landmark in Rome, the Colosseum.

Ideal Vacation Spots

IN A NEWLY-BUILT STEAMER we'll cruise down through the coastal islands. There are Krk—go ahead, you can say it; just sandwich a strongly rolled "r" between two "k's"—and the more pronounceable isles of Rab, and Pag, known for its fine lacemaking. There are hundreds of ideal vacation spots for swimming in the clear waters of the Jadran, the Yugoslav name for the Adriatic, and for basking in the warm Dalmatian sun. Summers are hot and dry, with mild, rainy winters. Orange, lemon,



13. TROGIR, TREASURE-HOUSE OF ARTS

This remarkable isle was settled in the third century B.C. and was colonized by Greece, Rome, Byzantium, medieval Croatia, Hungary, Venice, Austria, France, Austria again and finally became part of Yugoslavia. The cluster of orange roof-tops you see here, has witnessed four centuries of change!

fig, date and olive trees, grapes, cacti, sweet-smelling bougainvillea, oleander and a profusion of other subtropical plants thrive along the narrow coastal fringe. But there are only small patches of land suitable for farming, many of them cleared of rocks by hand, so that most Dalmatians have turned to the sea for their livelihood.

Colonists and Conquerors

THE HISTORY of the coastal strip and offshore islands has been a seesaw of events since prehistoric times—colonists and conquerors, changing boundaries, changing rulers. One of the best ways to unscramble Dalmatian history is to stop off and visit the remarkable isle of Trogir. If ever a place can be called a living museum—of archaeology, history and architecture—this is it. The island's settlement dates back to the third century B.C. when it was a Greek colony. The Roman Empire, then the Byzantine Empire, followed through the centuries by medieval Croat and Hungarian kings, Venice, Austria, France, and Austria again are all part of her past. Finally this tranquil island hugging the shore of the mainland became part of Yugoslavia. Monuments from all periods of its checkered development can be seen, from a fragment of bas-relief

depicting Greek mythology to the ornate Gothic belfry rising above the huddle of orange rooftops (No. 13).

The most outstanding art treasure of Trogir is the great portal of the Cathedral, considered to be among the finest in Europe and made in the



22

REMAINS OF ROMAN EMPEROR'S PALACE, SPLIT

Along the palm-bordered quay small shops and dwellings are built into a venerable façade—the original great line of columns on the seaward wall of Diocletian's Palace, constructed between 295 and 305 A.D.!

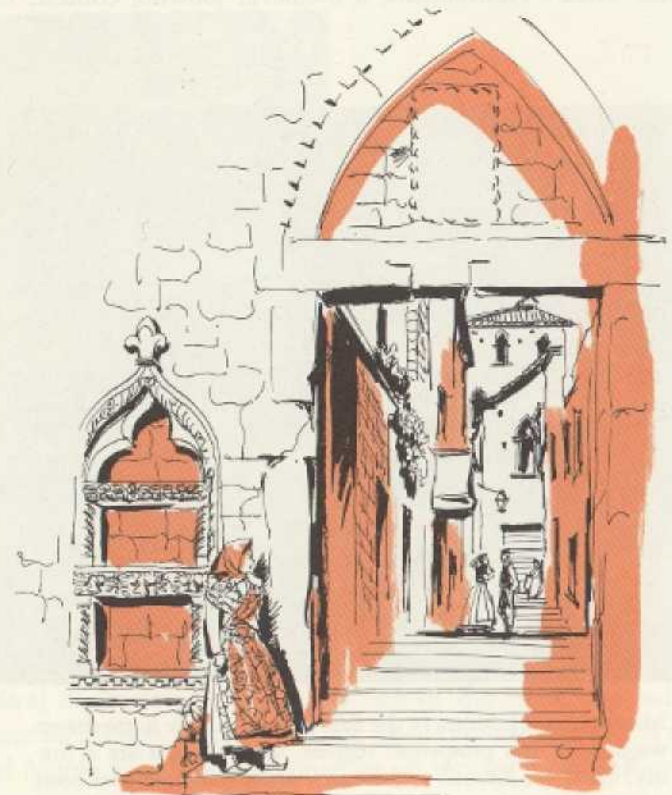
year 1240 by the Croat master, Radovan. It has two life-sized statues of Adam and Eve, each standing on a lion, surrounded by an amazing array of saints, allegories, zodiac signs, people, animals, flowers, and imaginative decorations.

Imperial Splendor

OUR STEAMER glides across the placid Bay of the Seven Castles, near Solin (Salonae, the ancient Roman capital of Dalmatia)—now the site of a large cement plant—and we stop off to visit Split. Just as Trogir

is an ancient town, preserving its character behind venerable walls, Split is very much an active, bustling place and the second-largest seaport in the country.

It is more famous, perhaps, as the site of the palace of the Roman Emperor Diocletian, who happened to have been born nearby. The great palace, with its monumental seaward-facing portico, massive buttresses and columned inner court, was built around 300 A.D. and is still very much intact. The modern city of Split has grown up within, above, around, alongside, and through the very foundations of this imperial splendor (No. 22)! Surveying over sixteen hundred years of activity in



the center court is a black granite sphinx which Diocletian brought back from Egypt. It forms a silent, stony backdrop to the barefoot, tanned children of Split, playing happily in the sun and shadows on the steps of the Cathedral.

Medieval Jousting Contest

UP ABOVE Split a fortress defended the entrance to a narrow defile in the impenetrable mountains. But in the early 1500's the Turks, pushing ever westward, *did* capture the fort, gaining control of the region it guarded. To commemorate the day when it was finally won back, a thrilling spectacle occurs each year, in mid-August, at a place called Sinj. This is the "Alka" Tournament, a medieval jousting contest. Dashing



Many peasant families in the flat Vojvodina have horse-drawn wagons. In less prosperous regions, where horses are a luxury, cattle are hitched to the carts—often the same poor cows who pull the plow and who are expected to give milk, too!

costumed knights on beribboned charges, lances tilted, gallop to the fray. Trumpets sound, banners wave, and the pomp and excitement of other times comes to life in the mountain village.

Birthplace of Marco Polo

ANOTHER outstanding folk pageant occurs each summer, at the end of July, on the island of Korčula. The "Moreska," a folk ballet, dates from the twelfth century and symbolizes a struggle between the Moors



15. HARBOR OF ANCIENT WALLED CITY

Dubrovnik's time-washed ramparts once enclosed an independent city-state rivaling Venice. Hundreds of years ago the picturesque old harbor was home port for rich merchant vessels. Today it is a playground for pleasure craft.

and the Ottomans to win Korčula, allegorically represented as a bride. Black-costumed Moors and the forces of the Ottoman Sultan, in red outfits, clash and parry with real sabers, all the while executing intricate, rhythmical dance steps. It is surely one of the most impressive sights anywhere in Europe. Korčula has one more claim to fame—it is the birthplace of Marco Polo, although once he set out for his adventures in the East he never saw his native place again.



A uniformed postman makes his rounds through the quiet, meandering streets of Zagreb's Upper Town. To descend to the modern lower level of Croatia's two-story capital, you can ride down a small funicular railway.

Sun-warmed Ramparts

EACH RUGGED ISLAND, each tradition-steeped old town, each humble fishing village has its own special charm. Yet certainly among the beauties of the Dalmatian coast one place, Dubrovnik, remains outstanding. Viewed from a distance the outline of its sun-warmed ramparts rises from the sea, framed by a grove of dark cypresses in the hills beyond. Sea-green waves splash against the venerable rocky foundations and turquoise- and jade-colored waters lap at the bleached stone shore of a crescent beach just outside the city walls. In spite of the many invaders who threatened her security, for seven hundred years Dubrovnik was a thriving, independent city-state and a rival of Venice. She was a shipping

center for merchant fleets trading with the Orient and the West. The old name of Dubrovnik is Ragusa, and it is from it that we get our word "argosy," meaning a merchant vessel laden with treasures and goods from afar. Today the old harbor houses a terrace café where we can sample Dalmatian wines and look out over the water (No. 15).

A Civic-minded City

PROSPEROUS AND CULTURED, Dubrovnik's diplomats, merchants, and nobles devoted much money to works of art and science. Dubrovnik is credited with the first public doctors, about 1300 A.D.; the founding of a pharmacy several years later—this ancient drug store can still be



So what if electric wires dangle from their sockets and the plumbing sometimes doesn't work?—for about \$1 you can spend the night at the hotel Yugoslavs proudly call the biggest in the Balkans. Huge and white, it rises from half-constructed Titograd, the new capital of Montenegro.



Dignified stone houses border the vegetable and flower market. In the center is a statue of Ivan Gundulić (Goon' doo litch), Dubrovnik's distinguished seventeenth-century poet.



21. MEDIEVAL MARKETPLACE, DUBROVNIK

visited, in Dubrovnik's Franciscan monastery; a hospital for the old and poor in 1347; prohibition of slave trade in 1416; and the establishment of an orphanage in 1432!

Yugoslavia's Most Beautiful Women

A STATUE of her distinguished seventeenth-century poet stands in the market square (No. 21), where each week peasants from the

Konavle Valley come in on foot and on donkeys, to sell their vegetables and fruits. Said to be the most beautiful in Yugoslavia, the women of Konavle are lithe and tall, with finely chiseled features. They wear long linen robes, embellished at the neck with squares of embroidery and large yellow tassels. Woven black, blue, and green sashes encircle their tiny waists, and maidens wear small red caps perched on their braids. Crisp kerchiefs, folded over the head like starched white wings, are the sign of married women.

Stout Protective Walls

THE MOST impressive monuments of the town itself are the stout city walls which during the Middle Ages girded and protected all life



These cobblers are carrying their wares to market, where the sturdy, handmade leather sandals are bought by the peasants. Factory-made shoes are considered very elegant, but they are quite expensive and are generally worn only by city people.



On market day the crooked, cobblestoned alleys of Skoplje's Old Quarter are crowded with colorful folk from the surrounding plains and mountains. Trading over, a trio has stopped to chat in front of the wood-dyer's shop before the long trip home.

within. Their total length is about a mile, and we can walk over them and behold the self-contained community, with its drawbridge entrances, steep, cobble alleys descending symmetrically onto the *Placa*, great many-sided fountain, tall watchtower, quiet monastery cloisters and all the famous buildings—the Rector's Palace, the Sponza, the Cathedral and many tiny churches and chapels.

From mid-June through mid-September Dubrovnik sponsors an annual Summer Festival, with guest artists from all the Yugoslav theaters and concert halls. A traditional feature is the outdoor performance of *Hamlet* at the Fortress of Lovrenac.

Skillful Sailors and Navigators

STILL further down the rugged coast, the great gray rocks suddenly open up to enclose an arm of the sea. We are at Boka Kotorska, the Bay of Kotor, considered throughout history as the home of the most skillful sailors and navigators in this part of the world. From the quay at Kotor, so Venetian with its coats of arms and little balconies on the stone house fronts, a road leads up and over towering Mount Lovćen. This is surely one of the most breath-taking rides in the world, not only for the scenery but because of how the road spirals its way up the face of the mountain in a series of hairpin turns. As the hair-raising ride continues, winding dizzily up and up until the Pass is reached, we can crane our necks for one last view of the Adriatic, now blue and misty, far below.

Proud, Brave, and Very Tall

THE ROAD LEADS into the hinterland of Montenegro, that smallest of Yugoslav republics, which, high and secure in its mountain homeland, managed to hold off the Turkish invaders more successfully than did any of the other South Slav peoples. Montenegrins are good woodcutters and sheep raisers, and they are proud, brave, and very tall. They are, as a matter of fact, the tallest people in Europe, averaging 5 feet 8 inches, although scientists are not exactly sure why.



Each town has its own special character. In Andrijevica, in eastern Montenegro, pine-shingled roofs slope down to shield the balconies and pastel-tinted house fronts along the winding road.

The Montenegrin cap, still worn by most of the men, is symbolic of their struggle. It is a round red pillbox with a band of black around the crown and a semicircle of gold; the red represents all the blood spilled in the fight to remain free, the black those who fell under the Turkish yoke, and the gold, independent Montenegro.

Ruler, Churchman, and Poet

WE CALL this republic by its Italian name, but the real name, Crna Gora, means the same thing—black mountain. The writer recognized as greatest in all the Yugoslav languages, Petar Njegoš, came from Montenegro. Ruler, church official, and poet, he lived in the nineteenth century and wrote the stirring drama-poem, *The Mountain Wreath*,

which has been translated into many languages. Until World War I this tiny mountain kingdom was one of the smallest nations of Europe and its modest capital at Cetinje was host to embassies and legations of all the world powers! The royal palace was large and solid, more like a sturdy barn or barracks than the residence of the head of state, and the King met with his Council of Elders under an oak tree in the courtyard.

Will That Train Catch Up with You?

TRAVELING in Yugoslavia is really an adventure. The trip over Lovćen Pass is only one example, and even ordinary bus travel can be pretty exciting. For one thing, there are apparently no schedules or reservations, and busses leave when every passenger has squeezed aboard. Destinations



The streets of Peć are faced with tall poplars and with open drainage streams flowing along in shallow ditches. On the main street is this fine example of the thick-walled, fortress-like Albanian houses, with tiny windows and living quarters on the uppermost story.

are rarely reached without minor catastrophes, ingenious on-the-spot repairs, and much camaraderie and singing of folk songs. In third-class train compartments friendly peasants will share chunks of coarse dark bread and dried meat or offer you a swig of *šljivovica*, plum brandy, from a huge, wicker-covered flask.



7. CHINESE BUCKETS FOR SALE

These wooden casks are carefully handmade and bound with flexible willow rods, to serve village housewives as tubs for making special cheeses, marinating cabbages and storing food. They can be bought in peasant markets all over Yugoslavia.

Down in Macedonia is the slowest, narrowest narrow-gauge railroad ever—for about one hundred miles across the mountain country near the Albanian frontier the little carriages creep up the slopes panting like a cartoon train and slide down the other side trembling with relief. Local folk tell how they hop out and stretch their legs a bit on the uphill parts and wait for the train to catch up with them at the next station!

You can go down the Danube in a century-old paddle-wheel steamer,

through the Iron Gates, paralleling the Rumanian shore, almost to Bulgaria. The most novel trip, though, is down the River Drina on a raft of logs, through swirling eddies and waterfalls, camping out on shore each night, until the timbers drift into calmer waters almost two hundred miles downstream.

Youth Labor Brigades

BUT ALL THIS is fun and not a necessity—you can travel by more conventional means if you wish, for international wagons-lit go through the country, and JAT (pronounced “yacht”), the Yugoslav Airlines, has regularly scheduled flights between all larger cities and many points outside the country. Since the war, when so many communication lines were wrecked, voluntary youth labor brigades from Yugoslavia, from other European countries, and even from America, helped rebuild and lay new railroad lines and roadbeds. One of their main achievements is the smooth Brotherhood and Unity Highway between Zagreb and Belgrade, although the only cars on it are those of the government, diplomats, and foreign visitors.

Two Worlds Come Together

IF YUGOSLAVIA is a meeting-place of East and West, the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina is the very spot where the two worlds come together. This is strikingly illustrated in market towns throughout the area. Peasants stream in at daybreak to trade some beans, a basket of eggs, or a squawking chicken for the few necessities of life—salt, kerosene for lamps, and perhaps some sugar. Craftsmen line up to display wooden casks for making cheese (No. 7), earthenware jugs, shepherds’ flutes, or some hand-forged plowshares. Catholic women, their hands tattooed with geometric designs—a remnant of an ancient pagan cult—barter and sell next to Orthodox peasants in tall fur hats, red-turbaned Moslems, and Moslem women in billowing, tight-cuffed oriental pantaloons.

About one third of the population here are followers of Islam, and until recently all Moslem women had to veil their faces when they



9. WOOD-SHINGLED MOUNTAIN HOUSE

Houses like this hug the forest-clad slopes of Bosnia. This Moslem home has an outdoor wooden stairway leading to the family's living quarters upstairs. Inside, floors are scrubbed clean and sleeping mats are neatly stacked away till nighttime.

stepped outside their own homes. They still wear large printed kerchiefs draped low over the forehead and bound just under the mouth (No. 24). In the wooded hills of Bosnia steep-roofed village houses (No. 9) center on the mosque, the Mohammedan place of worship. From its



24. WOMEN SOMETIMES DO THE PLOWING

This Moslem woman works in the fields and is no longer forbidden to show her face in the presence of men, although she still covers her head with a large draped kerchief. Less than 10 years ago all female followers of Islam were veiled, and such a tradition is not quickly forgotten.

slender minaret the muezzin circles a narrow balcony several times a day, to summon the faithful to prayer. Here the earth is relatively fertile and the land can be cultivated, but the southern part of the region is once again bare, sun-baked, rain-pelted limestone. There are only small scraps of soil for farming, and sheep graze on the tufts of scrubby bush growing among the rocks.

The town of Jajce looks like a travel poster. A cluster of sloping rooftops, pierced by a white minaret and crowned with the ruins of a medieval castle and catacombs, forms a pleasing picture on the hill above a tumbling waterfall. Jajce was important as the seat of the old Bosnian Kings and, in recent times, is significant as the place where the foundations of the new government were laid in 1943.

The Spark That Started a War

SARAJEVO is a name which may well be familiar, for it is described in grade school history books as the "tinderbox of Europe," the place where a Bosnian student assassinated Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria, setting off the spark that resulted in World War I. The exact spot where this occurred is marked by a stone tablet, and there is a memorial museum honoring the conspirators. Franz Ferdinand, who represented foreign domination, is not even mentioned.

There are many public buildings in the Austrian style, but a few steps through another street leads to a whole new world, the Baš Čašija or Oriental Bazaar. Craftsmen tap away at copper trays and coffee pots, carve the wooden sandals worn by Moslem women and steam red fezzes on round, high-crowned blocks. We can duck into a side alley specializing in Oriental sweets and eat halva and Turkish delight, or try some *burek*, rich pastries filled with savory cheese, spicy chopped meats or creamed spinach. Despite the constant activity in the Čašija, one of the main occupations is to sit sipping Turkish coffee in the companionship of friends. Brewed in a special long-handled brass and copper pot, Turkish coffee is deliciously strong and sweet. And if you are interested, fortunetellers will read your future in the pattern of the coffee sediments turned out from the tiny cups.

One of the sights is a visit to Begova Džamija, the largest mosque in Sarajevo—and there are said to be a hundred of them—with its ancient copy of the Koran. The city's fine National Museum has outstanding exhibit rooms arranged in the style of a prosperous Moslem town house of the nineteenth century, complete with lavishly costumed mannequins.

Birthplace of Alexander the Great

MACEDONIA is a name which has survived since the times of classic history, as the birthplace and kingdom of Alexander the Great,



2. SEE THE LONDON BUS IN SKOPLJE'S MAIN SQUARE!

Across the River Vardar from the romantic old Turkish Quarter, Macedonia's bustling capital city has sprung up in the past 35 years. Around the People's Square are government buildings, the state department store and, above it, an excellent museum.



5. A MACEDONIAN BRIDE

A village bride wears her dowry—strings of coins around her neck and across her apron. Her long hair, plaited into minute braids, is weighted down her back with more coins and amulets, "so she will have a long and productive life."

and later as a province in the Roman Empire. As a result of the Balkan Wars of 1912-13, ending 520 years of Turkish rule, the area was divided between Serbia, Greece, and Bulgaria. Macedonia was under the Turks longer than any of the other South Slav regions, and today in the Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia there are large numbers of Moslems—both



true Turks, who still speak Turkish, and converted Slavs, who speak Macedonian, a language intermediate between Serbian and Bulgarian.

Handsome Folk Costumes

THE CAPITAL, Skoplje, is really two distinct towns, the modern one (No. 2) and the old Turkish settlement across the River Vardar, where delicate silver filigree jewelry is a renowned art. We can enjoy our Turkish coffee at a sidewalk café on either side of the river, and watch a constant parade of handsome folk costumes pass by. You can recognize the region of the peasant by the costume and tell a person's

position in life by the type of headgear. There goes a woman from the upland villages, with her long linen robe, stiff with tightly-stitched black and dark blue embroidery, and her low-hanging woven apron. She must be a married woman with children, for she wears two white scarves bound loosely around her head and chin, with a topknot of braids between them. And there is a man from Galičnik, in his short-sleeved, wide-collared jacket, great maroon and white plaid sash, and round black cap, tipped at a rakish angle. Here come some maidens from the plains villages, wearing gay red and yellow striped tunics belted with woven sashes and brilliant wool aprons. One is spinning as she walks. A carved distaff is tucked into her waistband and she pulls out tufts of fluffy wool, twisting them deftly into yarn and twirling it onto the spindle rotated in her right hand. It is fascinating to watch the women nimbly spinning as they graze their sheep, against a background of pastures and mountains, so much like a scene from the Bible. This exciting display of costumes is everyday dress. For holidays and special occasions strings of coins are arranged in necklaces or headdresses, to advertise a maiden's dowry to would-be suitors (No. 5).

In contrast to the Old Quarter's many pointing fingers of white minarets is the low wooden steeple of Sveti Spas (Holy Savior). This Orthodox church was built partially below ground level, for the Turks had ordered that no Christian place of worship could be higher than their housetops. It has an exceptionally beautiful carved wooden altar-screen. Look closely at one corner of it, and you will find carved self-portraits of the three craftsmen themselves, creating the rich designs!

Community Weddings

IN THE BROAD RIVER valleys of Macedonia rice, tobacco, and cotton are raised, but in the upland regions land is scarce and life is hard. That is why many Macedonian men became migrant laborers going out to other parts of Yugoslavia, the Near East, Western Europe—and some even to America—to work at various trades and send home money to their families. In Galičnik, a village clustered on a mountainside, it was traditional that as many men as could returned home for a visit in July. On St. Peter's Day, in the middle of the month, most of the bachelors



1. MONASTERY PERCHED ON CLIFF ABOVE LAKE OHRID

In the Lake Ohrid region, cradle of Slav Christianity, there are dozens of early medieval monasteries, many of them outstanding for their frescoes. Tiny Sveti Jovan (St. John) rests on a promontory overlooking the water.

got married in a community wedding festivity. The following year, when they returned home again, many found that they were fathers. The old custom of village marriages on this one day is still followed.

Magnificent Frescoes

SLAV CHRISTIANITY developed in the Lake Ohrid region, down at the tip of the Macedonia-Albania border (No. 1). In the old town sprawled on a hill by the lake shore, there are mazes of narrow streets lined with Turkish-style houses, with their overhanging second stories.

They say you can lean out the window and shake hands with your neighbor across the street! The town and surrounding region have many early churches, most of them dating from the twelfth to fourteenth centuries. They are the sites of exciting hunts for buried treasure, for beneath hundreds of years of dust and plaster lie magnificent frescoes. With the help of a UNESCO commission, work began in 1951 to bring the art treasures to life, revealing wall after wall of the paintings made so long ago.

Further down the lake shore, past a peaceful fishing village (No. 16), is Sveti Naum Monastery, built around the year 900. It has an idyllic setting, near a grove of willows and a bubbling river that feeds the lake, but it sits literally just a stone's throw from Albania. All the surface mail from the Free World to Albania passes through the dirt road



In the Serbian Orthodox faith it is traditional for a bereaved family to honor the soul of the deceased with special customs at the cemetery. Small candles are lit at the base of the family tombstones, and meals of meat, wine, fruit and cakes are eaten on the grave.

alongside the monastery, crossing the Yugoslav border and winding around the hill into the heart of the isolated Iron Curtain country.

Battle of Kosovo

DURING THE Middle Ages Serbia, north of Macedonia, flourished as an independent state. It was at this time that many of the famous churches and monasteries were built in Serbia as well as Macedonia. The state was based on a feudal system, where serfs were bound to large estates, some of which were owned by the Church. Many members of the ruling nobility were descendants of former tribal groups.

The traditional seat of the Serbian Orthodox Church is the Patriarchate at Peć, in the Kosmet region of Serbia. Today this area is significant as the center of the Albanian groups living in Yugoslavia. In their tight-fitting black and white wool national dress, they add to the colorful throngs of Orthodox and Moslem inhabitants.



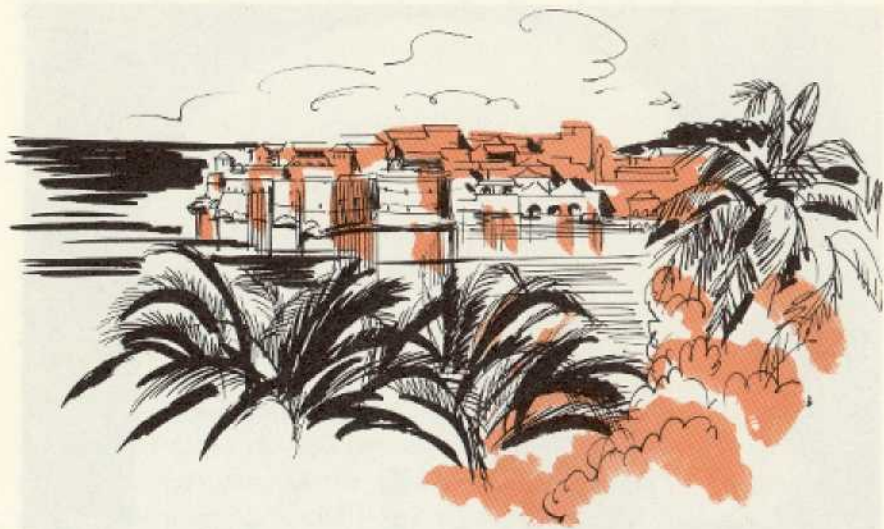
16.

FISH NETS DRYING IN THE SUN

Slender poles support the veil-like nets of the Ohrid fishermen. Beside them on the pebbly shore rest the rough-hewn, snub-nosed craft they have used for centuries. The lake is noted for its excellent trout and red caviar.



Centuries of architecture blend happily in Trogir's ancient square. The clock tower, part of a medieval courthouse porch and a corner of a ninth-century church form a congenial grouping across from the gateway to the thirteenth-century Cathedral.



This region is almost sacred to the Serbs, for Kosovo Polje, the Field of the Blackbirds, stands out in Serbian history as the place where medieval Serbia was crushed. Here, in 1389, the Serbs lost a battle to the Turkish forces, and from that date on Serbia was imprisoned in the Ottoman yoke. Actually, the final defeat did not come until some years later, but the Battle of Kosovo is symbolic of the beginning of over four centuries of Turkish rule. It is said that the flaming poppies carpeting the Field of the Blackbirds today sprang from the blood of those fallen heroes of long ago.

Heroic Ballads

THE BATTLE gave rise to a series of heroic ballads for which the Serbs have become famous. To the accompaniment of the mournful strains of the *gusle*, a one-stringed instrument played with a bow—still the traditional instrument of Serbia—wandering bards went through the land, chanting tales of the heroic deeds. The epic poems were learned and passed down through the generations, and today almost every Serb can recite them. These ballads helped keep alive the feelings of pride



17. EVERYONE HELPS AT THRESHING TIME

Bread is the food staple all over the country, and harvesting the wheat without the help of modern machines is a huge chore. Neighborhood groups pool their labor, working until all the grain is cut and threshed.



18. WASHDAY IS A SOCIAL AFFAIR

Village women gather at a stream, tuck their long skirts up above their knees, and plunge into the task of keeping embroidery-encrusted garments clean and bright. Home-made soap is used, and sunshine is still the best bleach.

and patriotism so characteristic of the people. One of the most famous combines history with legend and fantasy, describing Kraljević Marko, a sort of Serbian Paul Bunyan, who performed amazing deeds with his piebald horse and great studded mace.



The harbor city of Rijeka, Yugoslavia's most important seaport, has recovered from severe war damage. In the background the tallest building is topped with a prominent red star.

Revolt against the Turks

TURKISH CONTROL was not accepted passively by the aggressive Serbs. They had armed highwaymen who, in the tradition of Robin Hood, plundered their oppressors. In 1804 a group of peasants led by a livestock trader named Karadjordje (or Black George, as the Turks called



At the produce and livestock markets in most towns there is a section where the peasants may purchase the few items they cannot raise or make for themselves, such as one of these handmade wood-burning stoves.

him), staged an uprising against the Turks. He founded the dynasty that ruled Serbia and later the Kingdom of Yugoslavia intermittently until World War II. The last name of former King Peter II, forced into exile by the German invasion of Yugoslavia in 1941, is Karadjordjević, meaning "of the Karadjordje clan."



Slava Festival

CENTRAL SERBIA was covered with rich oak forests, and the peasants of the nineteenth century were herders, famous for their acorn-fattened swine which they drove to markets as distant as Vienna. Today only patches of the original woods remain, and the people are mainly farmers. Corn and wheat are raised on the rolling hills (No. 17) and grapes and plums, in the form of wine and brandy, bring cash into the peasant economy. In general, agricultural and household tasks are performed as they have been for generations (No. 18), and life is a cycle of hard work.

A custom found only among the Serbs and the closely-related peoples

of Montenegro and Macedonia is the *Slava*, the feast day of the family patron saint. The date of the holiday is reckoned by the Julian calendar, thirteen days behind the Gregorian system we use. Special ceremonial loaves are blessed by the village priest (No. 3), and then the fun begins! Let's join the celebration around an outdoor fire, where a whole lamb or suckling pig is roasting on a spit. Try some spicy stuffed peppers or tender vine leaves filled with meat and rice, topped with a serving of yoghurt-like cream. After the feast merrymakers link arms and move in a *Kolo* circle dance, hopping and fast-stepping to lively folk tunes. And go easy on the plum brandy—it's pretty potent stuff!



3. SERBIAN-ORTHODOX VILLAGE PRIEST

The *Slava*, or feast day of the family patron saint, is a festive occasion in all Orthodox communities. For this special event the priest dons beautiful holiday vestments. After the church service there is much dancing and feasting.

Little Things That Make a Place Interesting

OUR JOURNEY ENDS in Belgrade. It stands, as it has since the time of the Celts, when it was known as Singidunum, on a projection of land where the Sava River meets the Danube. Today it is an unimpressive city except for the little things that make a place interesting—sitting under the linden trees in an outdoor garden restaurant, eating *čevapčići*, charcoal-broiled rolls of chopped meat no bigger than your thumb, or *ražnjići*, chunks of pork grilled on a skewer, mouth-watering and juicy, served with fresh diced onions—or joining the crowds for the daily *korzo*, the automatic flow of people into the main street to walk up and down, greeting acquaintances and taking the early evening air.

If you see a sign that reads PECTOPAH, don't say "pectopah," please! You'll find that it is simply the Serbian equivalent of restaurant. Along Terazije, the main tree-lined boulevard, there are several government-sponsored stores selling national handicrafts of carved wooden objects, wrought iron, copper and brass ornaments and embroideries. Window-shopping is fun in the many bookstores, too. A good way to review Yugoslav geography is to look over cigarette displays at the tobacconist's—the large variety of domestic brands are all named for rivers, towns, and regions. By the way, most shops are open from about 7 A.M. to noon; they close during the afternoon, and reopen again about 4 P.M. for another few hours of business.

Information for the Tourist

THE MOST important place for any visitor, though, is the central Putnik office. *Putnik* means traveler, and is the name of the national agency for tourism, where people are on hand to aid in booking reservations, planning tours, and changing currency. There are branch offices in all the large towns and many of the smaller ones, so that the tourist in Yugoslavia always has a place to go for information and advice. There is usually someone who speaks English, German, or French, and very often all three.

Transportation fares, food, and hotel rates are exceedingly reasonable.

Further inducement to visitors is that holders of a tourist visa receive a 25-per-cent discount on all rail and steamer travel. Certainly this fascinating land has a wealth of excitement to offer, and tourism is becoming one of the country's main industries.



Winter in Belgrade is bitter cold, often with heavy snows. A bundled-up policeman directs traffic through a cleared intersection at 1st of May and Marshal Tito streets. The few trucks and carts are bringing in wood, fuel for the cookstoves and tile room furnaces of the capital.



The Turkish baths in Skoplje are open to the public and now house a fine art gallery! Nearby the Kursumli Han, or resting-place for merchant caravans traveling through the Balkans during the Middle Ages, has been preserved as a museum.

Millions Were Hungry

THE AMERICAN taxpayer has good reason to be interested in Yugoslavia. Since the end of World War II she has received about one and a half billion dollars' worth of aid from the West, principally from the United States; Great Britain, France, and Canada have also contributed. Of this amount almost half a million dollars were delivered



through UNRRA projects immediately after the war. The rest came after Yugoslavia's break with the Cominform. Much aid has been in the form of military equipment and shipments of our surplus agricultural products such as wheat, lard, and powdered milk, of tremendous significance during the disastrous droughts of 1950 and 1952.

Millions were hungry—even starving—in the destitute land. Today all Yugoslavs, city folk and peasants, Communists and non-Communists are very much aware of the aid they have received from America.



BELGRADE ON THE FIRST OF MAY

On the Holiday of the Workers, the Yugoslav Labor Day, the capital is bedecked with national and Communist flags, banners declaring "Long Live the First of May!" and huge portraits of Tito draped from public buildings.

Building Up Industry

YUGOSLAVIA's economy is far from healthy, with a large trade deficit. She has made an intense attempt to build up heavy industry since the war, often at the expense of agriculture and production of consumer goods. In spite of definite progress in industrialization she still imports much machinery and other manufactured goods. A lot of her trade with America is carried by a fleet of Yugoslav freighters operating between New York and Rijeka. They have limited but excellent passenger accommodations, by the way, and provide one of the cheapest and most pleasant ways to reach Yugoslavia.

Children Give to UNICEF

ONE of the charter members of the United Nations, Yugoslavia has been very active in the world organization. She has participated in the work of almost all the specialized agencies of the UN and has herself benefited from many technical assistance programs. In addition to observing her own state holidays, the most important of which is the Holiday of the Workers (No. 4), Yugoslavia celebrates UN anniversaries and her school children contribute to UNICEF.

Beautiful Land of the South Slavs

WHAT of the future of Yugoslavia? It exists today primarily because of the constant deep love the people have had for their land and because of their unerring faith in it. It is the proud, strong people who represent the most essential element of Yugoslavia, and if patriotism and faith persist, as they have for so many centuries, the beautiful Land of the South Slavs will endure, united.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

BARBARA AND JOEL HALPERN are a young husband and wife team who have worked in the American Southwest and written articles on geology and ethnology. Mrs. Halpern holds a degree in geography from Barnard College. Mr. Halpern is soon to receive his Ph.D. degree from the Department of Anthropology at Columbia University. He has traveled and worked in Canada, Alaska and Swedish Lapland. The Halperns recently spent a year in Yugoslavia doing field research and making a collection of folk costumes and implements for the American Museum of Natural History.

USEFUL INFORMATION ABOUT YUGOSLAVIA

Passport and Visa

A valid passport and a Yugoslav visa are necessary for travel in Yugoslavia. There are two kinds of visas: transit visas, for travelers just passing through on their way to another country, and tourist visas. The following must be submitted for a tourist visa: a completed questionnaire, obtained from any of the Consulates listed below, two photographs, and a \$1 fee. This usually takes only a few days, and *Turistička Viza* stamped in your passport entitles you to a 25-per-cent reduction on railway and steamer fares within Yugoslavia. A tourist visa is valid for three months from the date of entry into Yugoslavia.

Currency

The unit of currency is the dinar, and there are 300 to the United States dollar. When entering Yugoslavia foreigners must declare all foreign currency and Travelers Checks at the border.

Customs

Customs regulations are liberal, and visitors will receive a listing of reasonable personal effects which may be taken in or out of Yugoslavia tax free. In addition, specified amounts of wine, liquor, groceries, cigars, and cigarettes are duty free.

The Yugoslav government greatly encourages foreign tourists, and detailed information may be obtained from the Yugoslav Embassy, 1520 16th Street, NW, Washington, D.C. or at the Yugoslav Consulate General in New York, Chicago, or San Francisco. The Yugoslav Information Center is located at the same address as the Consulate in New York, 816 Fifth Avenue.

Important Dates in Yugoslav History

- 500-800 A.D. Arrival of the Slavs in the Balkans.
- 850-900 Acceptance of Christianity by the South Slavs, largely by the work of Sts. Cyril and Methodius.
- 1102 Croatia is united with Hungary under King Ladislas.
- 1169-1196 Independence of Serbia from Byzantium, under Stevan Nemanja; founding of the Nemanja dynasty.
- 1254 Hungary establishes sovereignty over Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- 1331-1355 Reign of Czar Dušan, mightiest of the Nemanjas.
- 1349 Proclamation of Dušan's Code, regulating Serbian feudal system; a landmark in medieval law.
- 1389 Battle of Kosovo Polje, on St. Vitus' Day, symbolizing Turkish defeat of the Serbs.
- 1400's Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro incorporated into Ottoman Empire. Only Montenegro was able to regain its independence before the nineteenth century.
- 1699 Treaty of Karlovac; Austria gains control of Hungary and Croatia; Venice strengthens her hold on the Dalmatian Coast.
- 1782-1830 Peter I, Prince of Montenegro, is ally of Russia against the Turks.
- 1804-1815 Revolt against the Turks, led by Karadjordje and Obrenović.
- 1817 Karadjordje murdered by Obrenović, beginning feud between two dynasties which lasts until 1903, with the assassination of the last Obrenović.
- 1818 First dictionary of the Serbian language by Vuk Stevan Karadžić (1787-1864), largely responsible for the creation of Serbian as a modern literature language.
- 1882 Serbia proclaimed Kingdom by Milan Obrenović.
- 1878 Treaty of Berlin gives Bosnia-Herzegovina to Austria-Hungary.
- 1913 As a result of the First Balkan War against Turkey, Serbia, Greece and Bulgaria divide Macedonia.

- 1914 Archduke Franz Ferdinand shot in Sarajevo; outbreak of World War I.
- 1918 Versailles Conference; proclamation of Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, under King Peter Karadjordjević.
- 1928 Assassination of Stjepan Radić, leader of Croat Peasant Party; culmination of internal strife between Serbs and Croats.
- 1929 Dictatorship proclaimed by King Alexander (son of Peter I); Parliament dissolved.
- 1934 King Alexander assassinated by Croat extremists while on visit to France.
- 1941 Army coup on March 27 overthrows government and repudiates treaty with Nazi Germany; on April 6 Germans invade Yugoslavia.
- 1945 Federated People's Republic of Yugoslavia proclaimed on November 29.
- 1948 Yugoslavia expelled from the Cominform.
- 1953 Balkan Alliance formed among Yugoslavia, Greece and Turkey.

MOST IMPORTANT NATIONAL HOLIDAYS

- January 1 —New Year's Day
- May 1 —The Holiday of the Workers
- November 29—Day of the Founding of the Republic

OUTSTANDING FOLK FESTIVALS AND OTHER EVENTS

- March —Ski-jumping championship contests at Planica
- June —Opatija Folk Dance and Folklore Festival
- Mid-June—mid-Sept. —Dubrovnik Summer Festival (dramatic presentations, concerts, operas, folk dance ensembles)

- Early July —Regattas at Split
 Early July —Opera Festival, Pula
 July 12 —Village weddings at Galičnik
 July 29 —“Moreska” folk pageant on the island of Korčula
 August 17 —“Alka” jousting tournaments at Sinj
 September —Zagreb International Industrial Fair

The exact dates for all events may be obtained from the Yugoslav Information Center, 816 Fifth Avenue, New York City, or from Putnik offices within Yugoslavia.

Pronouncing Serbo-Croat

Except for eight characters, the Latin alphabet used in Croatia is similar to our own. The Cyrillic equivalents, used in Serbia, are given next to them. Serbo-Croat has no Q, W, X, or Y. The nice thing about this language is that it is strictly phonetic, pronounced exactly as it is written, so that once you know how to say the letters, you are all set. Letters are pronounced similarly to English ones, except that:

- u is always like oo in food
- y is always like y in young
- c is always like ts in cats
- r is sometimes strongly rolled,
replacing a vowel—like *Krk*.

The eight different characters are pronounced as follows:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ć—like <i>tch</i> in pitcher | lj—like <i>ll</i> in million |
| č—like <i>ch</i> in church | nj—like <i>ni</i> in onion |
| dj—like <i>j</i> in jump | š—like <i>sh</i> in show |
| dž—like <i>dj</i> , but stronger | ž—like <i>s</i> in pleasure |