censuses listed Czechslovak is a single nationality, but estimates are that Czechs were about 5 percent of the population and Slovaks about 15 percent" (p. 194). There is no mention of Churchill's famous "percentage agreements" with the Soviet Union during World War II nor are the Yalta Agreements discussed. This enumeration, and the list could easily be increased, is indicative of the type of omissions that are made.

Walters resorts to many "see below" and "see above" references but does not give the pages, and the sketchy index is no great help in finding these. For allowing this abominable practice the press should be censored. Complete bibliographical references are given in the footnotes the first time a book is cited, but there is no bibliography to help check on the abbreviated titles which are used later. There is a list of suggestions for further readings, for the book is basically designed to be used as a text.

The author ranges widely in his account. He discusses the economy, land reform, industrialization, political parties, types of government, the educational systems, the churches, and other pertinent subjects. He presents more material on some topics than is given in most accounts, for example the Béla Kun regiment in Hungary, the Katyn Forest Massacre in World War II, the Holocaust in various states, and Albanian affairs. His style is very readable and his generalizations and comments challenging. In an appendix there are twenty-one clear outline maps, eight of them on the Habsburg Empire at various periods of its history.

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Anyone who has, either as teacher or student, tried to cope with the complexities of Balkan history will be aware of the scope of the task which Fred Singleton has set himself in A Short History of the Yugoslav Peoples. To attempt to do justice to the history of the various peoples inhabiting the present-day state of Yugoslavia in a mere 300 pages seems nothing short of foolhardy—and yet necessary, especially for students approaching Eastern Europe for the first time or for interested readers outside academia who want to know more about this fascinating country. Singleton has the qualifications to attempt to cross this minefield of nationalist passions; and on the whole he has succeeded quite well.

Beginning with the survey of the geographical features of the different regions of the country, the book then proceeds to discuss the early Slav settlers, the states which eventually emerged and created mutually exclusive traditions of great historic empires, and their decline and conquest by the
Ottoman or Habsburg Empires. Developments under foreign rule follow, and then the story of the gradual liberation of the various nations, and their linking together at the end of World War I. In these chapters, Singleton does not ignore cultural developments, the growth of literary languages, oral folk traditions, and the role of literary intellectuals in the national movements. In the chapters covering the history of the state of Yugoslavia in the twentieth century, the focus quite understandably shifts much more to political and economic developments. Yet one misses the continuation of the story of the cultural developments affecting the Yugoslav peoples, the more so as it was not ignored in the previous sections. Perhaps considerations of space and the fact that the more recent period demands rather more detailed treatment dictated this decision. The lack is partly made up for by a section in the bibliography listing available works in English on Yugoslav literature. In the final eight chapters (three on pre-war Yugoslavia and World War II, five on socialist Yugoslavia), Singleton brings his history down to the post-Tito era, closing with his affection for the various peoples of Yugoslavia and his hopes for their future undimmed by the dark chapters of the tale he has told.

Anyone with a more than nodding acquaintance with the subject of a short history is likely to find something to criticize in it. A feature of this book which seems out of keeping with its avowed aim is its tendency at times to introduce technical terms without adequate explanation. For example, Major Vojin Tankosic, one of the arms suppliers for the assassination of 28 June 1914, is described (p. 118) as having been associated with the cetnik bands in the Balkan wars, but there is no discussion of what a cetnik is until page 187, in the analysis of the complicated situation in Yugoslavia during World War II. Surely an undergraduate student or interested non-academic would find this sort of thing confusing. There are also some other points which might, in the opinion of this reviewer, cause confusion for the reader. Prekomurje and Medjumurje are referred to as "areas with Magyar-speaking populations" (p. 138) in the context of the settlement of Yugoslavia's frontiers after World War I; but in the aftermath of World War II, Prekomurje is called "Slovene-speaking." (p. 210) There are two references to some sort of deal at Yalta between Churchill and Stalin on spheres of influence in postwar Yugoslavia (pp. 221 and 239)—does this refer to the Churchill-Stalin talks of October, 1944 (which were not held at Yalta), or to the Crimean Conference of February, 1945 (at which Roosevelt was also present, and no such agreement was reached)?

These reservations about possible confusions for readers should not be taken to mean that Singleton has not done an admirable job at sorting out what is by its nature a confusing story. In most cases he has done well at balancing between bewildering complexity and distorting over-simplifications, as in his treatment of the history of the Yugoslav nationalist movements, for example, where he preserves a praiseworthy even-handedness. It may seem perverse, then, to fault him in at least one case for not making