

trayed gender relations between Serbian men and women, emphasizing patriarchal roles infused with fascist ideals of masculinity and femininity.

The final thematic unit, “Fashion of Our Days: Fashion and Clothing on the Pages of the Collaborationist Press” (295–320), by historian Milica Borojević, explores clothing worn by residents of occupied Serbia through articles in *Novo vreme*, *Obnova*, the illustrated weekly *Kolo*, and the German magazine *Signal*. By analyzing both written and visual content, such as practical advice on maintaining clothing and information on the production and distribution of basic garments, Borojević contrasts this with texts on high fashion in Germany, occupied Europe, and Serbia. The chapter highlights the distinction between propaganda promoting idealized fashion and the harsh realities of life in occupied Serbia.

The release of the third and final volume of *Collaborationist Press in Serbia*

1941–1944 brings an important scholarly project to a close, filling a huge gap in Serbian historiography and setting new standards for the study of collaborationism and propaganda in occupied Serbia during the Second World War. Conceptualized by Aleksandar Stojanović, this monograph offers a comprehensive, contextualized, and methodologically rigorous research into a complex historical phenomenon. It is a valuable resource and fundamental book for historians, sociologists, and scholars interested in the history of media and propaganda. The monograph improves understanding of the occupation administration and collaborationist regime, offering broader insights for European historiography, while its completion marks a significant contribution to Serbian historiography and demonstrates the capability of domestic researchers to undertake ambitious projects.

Andrija MIHAJLOV

*Нови човек: Конституисање српског и југословенског друштва 20. века кроз идеологију и јавне политике*, ур. Александар Стојановић. Београд: Институт за новију историју Србије, 2023.

The Institute for Recent History of Serbia published in 2023 an edited volume titled *New Man: The Constitution of Serbian and Yugoslav Society of the 20th Century through Ideology and Public Policies*. This book includes eight thematically cohesive papers that are both chronologically and spatially connected to the history of the Yugoslav state. They analyze the efforts of different ideological perspectives and political parties in shaping and constructing the concept of the “new man“, a paradigm of identity and civilization that reflected the era’s fundamental political developments.

Following the introduction by Aleksandar Stojanović, which outlines the book’s objectives, the volume includes a contribution by Aleksandar Lukić entitled “Serbian Republicans in the Yugoslav Monarchy of Karadorđević: New People in the Old Era.“ The origins and development of the Yugoslav Republican Party in the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes have been fully addressed in Lukić’s paper. He analyzes the political views promoted by the party leadership and examines the position of republicans within the context of Yugoslav democracy. The issue of social solidarity is analyzed, as dif-

fering views on this matter separated the Republicans from other left-wing parties, particularly the Communist Party of Yugoslavia (KPJ). At the core of their political ideology was the creation of a “new man”—a republican who moved beyond traditional achievements. The cooperative, as a model of the traditional rural family community (*zadruga*), played a key role in the Republicans’ vision for a more just society. In addition to local figures like Jovan Žujović and Svetozar Marković, the author notes that Yugoslav republicans largely based their ideas on the French republican ideal.

With an emphasis on the cultural and educational establishments founded by the working class, Jelena Lalatović’s paper explores the repression of both material and immaterial cultural heritage within the Serbian trade union movement until 1940. She cites the political struggle between Yugoslav communists and socialists, as well as the current perception of the functions of trade unions, as the reasons for the paucity of research on this subject. In addition to fighting for workers’ rights throughout the interwar years, trade unions were crucial in educating employees and preparing them to oppose the status quo. Following the war, the triumphant Communist Party of Yugoslavia (KPJ) considered unions primarily as instruments of revolutionary struggle, whereas the Socialist Party of Yugoslavia’s (SPJ) trade union achievements were met with skepticism and distrust. Lalatović identifies the Central Office for Workers’ Education (1928-1938) as the most notable trade union educational institution, organizing around one hundred lectures on diverse social issues. She also emphasizes the role of the press in worker self-education, especially through work-

er calendars and journals such as *Ujedinjeni sindikati* (*Sindikalni arhiv*).

Ivana Pantelić and Stanislava Barać, in their co-authored research, analyze the KPJ’s conception of the “new woman” during the interwar period. The study examines two prominent figures in the Yugoslav feminist movement: Sara Grand and Aleksandra Kolontai. Following the KPJ’s ban, considerable changes happened within the party and its affiliated women’s movement. Since 1921, the USSR and the Comintern’s impact on the Communist Party’s programs, and hence on its feminist ideology, has increased dramatically. In accordance with the Party’s strategy of maintaining its presence and influence through “legal work,” communist women began to use the Youth Section of the Women’s Movement as a forum for their activities. The magazine *Žena danas* had a crucial role in disseminating feminist ideas as part of the Party’s political mission.

In his contribution, “A New Man in the Perception of Serbian Collaborators during the Second World War,” Aleksandar Stojanović analyzes the socio-political project of Milan Nedić’s government, with Serbian collaborators attributing the country’s decline to a loss of tradition and spiritual and moral decay among the people. The creation of a “new Serbian man” was regarded crucial one who would reflect Serbian identity and heritage while simultaneously fitting with the objectives of the new European rulers. The task was assigned to the Ministry of Education, which, in an attempt to cut links with the prewar system, launched an educational “reform” based on the collaborators’ ideological concepts. In addition to the educational system and the press, ideological indoctrination was spread through both voluntary and coerced labor.

Ljubinka Škodrić's work explores the role of women in ideology and propaganda of the Ravna Gora movement. In contrast to the opposing national liberation movement, the author observes that the Ravna Gora ideology's rapid growth was hampered by the movement's lack of a strong organizational structure and military focus. Although the movement's ideology became more defined during the war, concerns surrounding women's rights and emancipation were not adequately addressed. Instead, women were viewed primarily through traditionalist lenses, as mothers and housewives. Efforts to emancipate women in the Kingdom were criticized by leading Chetnik ideologues, who believed such movements separated women from their families. Škodrić highlights that the views of the "Egalitarians" on women were largely consistent with those of the collaborators, rooted in traditionalism and conservatism. The first women's organizations within the Ravna Gora movement were formed only in the war's later stages, with the primary focus on more educated women, typically village teachers.

Vera Gudac Dodić's contribution investigates the creation of female identity in Yugoslav socialism, focusing on the ideal image of a socialist woman. Yugoslavia faced abstain reconstruction following the Second World War, prompting the birth of a new kind of woman: a worker, "striker", and labor heroine. Legal initiatives ensured gender equality, with women earning same pay as males and greater social protections. However, the implementation of self-management resulted in a decrease in mass employment for women, owing to a lack of qualifications. In the media, the image of the woman as a striker eventually gave way to a

more traditional gender paradigm with socialist undertones. The ideal Yugoslav woman was portrayed as both a mother and a worker.

The edited volume concludes with the work of Sanja Petrović Todosijević, who analyze the causes that contributed to the emancipation of children and the reform of the education system in Yugoslavia after the Second World War. The great hardship endured by the youngest Yugoslavs throughout the war required the urgent provision of child support and care. Furthermore, Yugoslavia's growing openness to the West resulted in its membership in international organizations overseen by the United Nations, which concentrated on education, science, and culture. The reform of the school system and the formation of the Association of Pioneers of Yugoslavia are seen as breakthrough moments in children's liberation during this time period. The relationship between Yugoslav children's organizations and their foreign counterparts allowed Yugoslav youngsters to learn about life and prospects outside of their home country.

Each paper in this edited volume includes an abstract, bibliography, and summary in English. The book provides a structured analysis of how various ideologies, recognizing the challenges within Yugoslav society, sought to transform it by establishing a new social order based on distinct principles, in specific political and historical contexts. This volume undoubtedly offers a fresh contribution to Serbian historiography on a such an important and relevant subject area.

*Dušan MILJKOVIĆ*