

*Indogermanisch und Europa.* By VITTORE PISANI. (Ars Grammatica, 2) München: Fink. 1974. 56 pp. DM 14.80.

*Synchronie, Diachronie und Geschichte: Das Problem des Sprachwandels.* By EUGENIO COSERIU. (Internationale Bibliothek für allgemeine Linguistik, 3) München: Fink. 1974. 250 pp. DM 36.

*The Phoneme: Introduction to the History and Theories of a Concept.* By JIŘÍ KRÁMSKÝ. (Internationale Bibliothek für allgemeine Linguistik, 28) München: Fink. 1974. 242 pp. DM 36.

Pisani's work covers theories on the spread of Indo-European, from Schleicher to Krahe, and pays particular attention to substratum, suggesting that its influence has been sadly underestimated. He makes his own particular points on this subject, which cover accent, verbal differences, numerals, and agricultural terminology, and puts forward tentative modifications to isoglosses so far conjectured. However, the image created on the whole is that Pisani's approach lacks system, and that his subject matter does not in any case warrant expansion into book form.

Sohre's translation of Coseriu's *Sincronía, diacronía e historia* (Montevideo, 1958) immediately places one in a pre-Chomsky world of reinterpretation and correction of de Saussure's analysis of linguistic system and change. Coseriu generally keeps his discussion abstract. Linguistic data, when they are brought forward, are generally taken from Spanish and its dialects. Here and there one catches sight of socio-linguistic ideas which have come in for development after 1958, but in the main Coseriu does not fully explore the potential of these, and the whole work is restricted to the problem of the development of Latin into its modern forms — without, however, much mention of the incentives for linguistic change that were present in the social structure itself.

Krámský's book is easily the best of the three. It is a very successful attempt to link together all major theories of the phoneme, from ancient Greece to modern times, although, of course, most space is given over to the period which begins in the 1870s, with Baudouin de Courtenay's Kazan school of 'anthropphonics'. Trubetzkoy and the Prague school are dealt with at length, as also is the London school of Daniel Jones, the American school of Sapir and Bloomfield, and the Copenhagen school of Hjelmslev. Emphasis throughout the book, however, remains largely on eastern Europe, although this does not by any means lead to an imbalance. For scholarship after 1945, Krámský concentrates on Jakobsen, and the influence on Jakobsen of Harris and Hockett in the U.S.A. After this, Firth, Chomsky, Halle, Postal, and Shane are each given their due, and even figures who stand outside the major schools, such as Pilch in Germany, Martinet in France, and Rossetti in Rumania, are discussed. The book is therefore one of the most useful surveys specifically on the phoneme which have so far appeared in English.

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SHEFFIELD

*The Classical Text: Aspects of Editing in the Age of the Printed Book.* By E. J. KENNEY. London: University of California Press. 1974. 174 pp. £4.50.

The sub-title of this book indicates the reason for a review in this journal. Anyone who has prepared a critical edition of a text in a modern language or who intends to do so, would do well to read it: the former will find some explanation and comfort for the difficulties and illogicalities of his past experience, and the latter will be the better prepared for his future enterprise. The book is based on the lectures given by Professor Kenney at the University of California, Berkeley in 1968 as Sather