

## BOOK REVIEWS

*Erzherzog Johann, Der Steirische Prinz*, by Viktor Theis. 175 pages, with 6 illustrations. Graz: Verlag Böhlau, 1950. Price, \$2.00.

Archduke John of Austria was born in Florence in 1782 and died at Graz in 1859. In an eventful life he was adored by the mountain peasants, whose interests he in turn protected, and this mutual regard was not lessened by hismorganatic marriage to Anna Plochl, daughter of the Aussee postmaster. Although this book deals largely with the archduke's political life, it is well to remember that he was a pioneer in the Eastern Alps. He made the first ascent of the Wiener Schneeberg in 1802 and instigated the first ascent of the Ortler by Gebhard and Pichler in 1804. He ascended Ankogel and Gamskarkogel in 1826, and Hohen Priel in 1829. In 1828 he was one of a party attempting the Gross Venediger from the west side, gaining a point 200 m. below the summit, and only desisting when Rohregger, his leading guide, fell.

J. M. T.

*Südtiroler Volksleben*, by Karl Th. Hoeninger. 104 pages, illustrated from 170 paintings and sketches by Albert Stolz. Innsbruck-Vienna: Tyrolia-Verlag. Price, \$2.50.

Albert Stolz was the artist chronicler of the southern Tyrolese people, his work done primarily in Bolzano, where it is to be seen in frescoes of public and private buildings, in inns and hotels, as well as in galleries and numerous publications. Stolz was born in 1875 and died in 1947, losing his studio and a lifetime of work in the bombing of his city in 1943. Fortunately his major compositions were widely distributed and are still extant, his gaiety recorded in the harvest frescoes for the Villa Defregger, his many studies of peasant life, and even in the remarkable Dance of Death for the churchyard of Sexten, where Sepp Innerkofler lies. The text by Hoenninger is largely biographical, with a full exposition of the artist's recording of his time.

J. M. T.

*Südtirol*, by Josef Weingartner. 170 pages, with 33 color plates,