News from the Institutions

AMSAB (Ghent)

* IFUICFTU 50 years — Although Geert Van Goethem, collaborator of this project, has unexpectedly left AMSAB in order to assume his duties as a senator, he keeps in touch and is following further developments.
* The Centre Louis Major, AMSAB’s branch in Antwerp, is opening its new, enlarged premises on September 1 in the Lamorinièrestraat 233, 2000 Antwerp

Irish Labour History Association (Dublin)

* Background: The Irish Labour History Society is a voluntary organisation committed to the study and preservation of records relating to the history of the Irish working class. It was founded in 1973 by trade unionists, academics and archivists. The society is an all-Ireland organisation, non-sectarian and non party-political.
* Aims: The ILHS encourages interest in and study of labour history; the economic and social formation of Irish labour, the labour movement and Irish working class culture and the experience and role of Irish labour overseas. The ILHS organises lectures and conferences to reflect scholarly progress in these areas.
* Saothar: The Society’s annual journal publishes articles, essays, sources notes, reviews, bibliographies, reminiscences and historiographical work. (Saothar is the Irish for “Labour”). This journal costs 15 Sterling, 36 DM or $21 and is available from the society).
* IILHS Museum & Archives: The Society set up Ireland’s first Labour History Museum and Archive in 1990. It provides a centre for the visual display of Irish Labour History, together with an accessible archives and library.
* Current activities: The Society is celebrating its 25th birthday this year and a programme of activities is being planned. 1998 is also the bicentenary of the 1798 Rebellion which the society hopes to commemorate in appropriate ways. Last year, was the 50th Anniversary of the death of Big Jim Larkin, one of the major figures in the Irish labour and trade union movement. The Annual Conference and other events were devoted to commemorating this.

H-Net List on Turkish Studies

* Sponsored by the Turkish Studies Association and H-Net, Humanities & Social Sciences On-line, Michigan State University
H-TURK is a moderated Internet discussion forum for humanists and social scientists in the general area of Turkish studies [including the Ottoman past and more general Turkic present--Central Asian Turks as well as Middle Eastern and Balkan Turks]. It is owned by the Turkish Studies Association [TSA] and affiliated with H-Net. TSA currently has more than 350 subscribers in 18 countries and has been on-line for four years. TSA was founded in the early 1970s, publishes a bulletin, and meets annually in conjunction with the Middle East Studies Association, of which it is a member. H-TURK is free and open to everyone with a mature and abiding interest in Turkish studies. Scholars, writers, teachers, and librarians professionally interested in the subject are particularly invited to join. Like all H-Net lists, H-TURK is moderated by the editors to filter out inappropriate posts.

The H-TURK list is co-edited by:

- Alan Fisher, Michigan State University
  fishera (at) pilot.msu.edu
- Andras Riedimayer, Harvard University
  riedimay (at) husc.harvard.edu
- Amy Singer, Tel-Aviv University
  asinger (at) post.tau.ac
- Mark Stein, University of Chicago
  st4e (at) midway.uchicago.edu
- Hasan Kayali, University of California, San Diego
  ir711 (at) sdc3.ucsd.edu

It is advised by a board of scholars. Logs and more information can also be found at the H-Net Web Site, located at www.h-net.msu.edu/

About H-Net

H-TURK is part of H-Net, an international network of scholars in the humanities and social sciences that
creates and coordinates electronic networks, using a variety of media, and with a common objective of advancing humanities and social science teaching and research. H-Net was created to provide a positive, supportive, egalitarian environment for the friendly exchange of ideas and scholarly resources. H-Net sponsors dozens of e-mail lists and Web sites for them in a variety of disciplines and fields, publishes reviews of scholarly books and articles on the Internet, and provides a wealth of the Museum's Guide. Our host is Michigan State University. More information can be obtained by sending an e-mail message to h-net (at) h-net.msu.edu or by browsing our Web site at www.h-net.msu.edu.

National Museum of Labour History (Manchester)

Banner survey underway
Work has started on the National Banner Survey, the first part of the National Banner Initiative. This was the one part of the Museum's Heritage Lottery Fund bid to receive funding. A team has started a programme of research by questionnaire of all museums in Britain, asking for information about their banners and facilities for their conservation and care.

The work will build on a pilot study which was carried out in the north west during 1996, which we had hoped would convince the Lottery to fund the much needed conservation, storage and display facilities for banners.

Sarah Gore and Ruth Stevens have been employed as Survey Curators and Karen Thompson is the Textile Conservator/Photographer. They are joined by Administrative Assistant Ian Murray. The information gathered through the survey will be recorded onto a computerized database and we hope a CD ROM of banner images will eventually be available.

The National Banner Initiative is a partnership of 14 institutions caring for historic banners. The survey is due to end in May 1999 and will be followed by a renewed bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund by the NTL for support for the next stages.

The Marx Memorial Library (London)

The Marx Memorial Library has been closed from 1st March until the end of the year. As has been previously announced the Library is undertaking extensive refurbishment. This work includes replacing all the heating, lighting and ventilation, fitting new shelving, repairing the roof installing a book hoist and coffee bar. This work necessitates emptying the Library. On completion of this work the Library will be undertaking a three year cataloguing project which will result in the catalogue being available on the Internet. The total cost of the four year project is £478,000 of which the Heritage Lottery Fund is contributing £359,000. Donations towards the remaining £119,000 are most welcome and should be sent to the Marx Memorial Library, 37a Clerkenwell Green, London, England EC1R 0DU Tel & Fax 0171-253-1485. The Library apologises for the inconvenience this will cause, but is confident that the long term improvements will be welcomed by members old and new.

North West Labour History Group

The North West Labour History Group was formed in the early 1970s to promote greater awareness of our labour history. We publish an annual journal (up to #22 now) and hold occasional conferences. Our membership includes trade unions, academics, labour activists, libraries etc.

We have just published a special pamphlet in memory of Eddie Frew, co-founder of the Working Class Movement Library who died in May 1997, aged 91. It includes many details on Eddie's long life as a Communist, trade unionist and labour historian. It costs 5.50p and can be ordered from the North West Labour History Group, Jubilee House, 51 Crescent, Salford, England M5.

Recent Accessions

AMSAB (Ghent)

The documentary funds of the AMSAB have been enriched by the following collections:
* the Algemene Centrale der Openbare Diensten (ACOD) (the socialist union of public workers and civil servants, 1945-1975)
* Wilfried De Vlieghere (member of parliament of the green party, Apalev)
* Sirène Bleick (one of the leaders of the socialist women's movement)
* Fonds voor Ontwikkelingsammenwerking (FOS) (Fund for development and cooperation)
* *ABVV*-St. Niklaas (local socialist trade union, 1945-1975)
* *ABVV*-Deinze (local socialist trade union, 1944-1997)
* *Algemene Centrale (AC) - Kortrijk* (local socialist trade union, 1945-1964)
* Links (leftist group inside the socialist party, 1962-1979)
* Société Coopérative Les Socialistes Réunis, (1929-1958)
* Amedée Velleman (socialist militant, Zelzate, 1924-1950)
* *CMB*-Temse (local socialist metal workers union, 1945-1971)
* *MJA*-Deinze (local mutualist youth, 1920-1988)
* Louis Deltour (communist artist, Tournai)
* André De Smet (leader of the peace movement "Vrede-buVV" and communist militant in Ostend, 1944-1995)
* Jef Turf (communist leader in Ghent, 1922-1995)
* Osoby Archive (Moscow) on microfilm: Louis Bertrand, Jean Nihn, Cesar De Paepke, Léon Delinsinne, Arthur Wauters, anarchist colony "L'Expérience"
* Library of FEBECOOP: documents and periodicals from the former Maison du Peuple (Brussels) and periodicals of the international cooperative movement, 1890-1980
* Library of Denise De Weerdt (feminist and militant of the socialist women's movement, Ghent)
* Links (leftist group inside the socialist party, 1962-1979)
* Société Coopérative Les Socialistes Réunis, (1929-1958)
* *ABVV*-St. Niklaas (local socialist trade union, 1945-1975)
* *ABVV*-Deinze (local socialist trade union, 1944-1997)
* *Algemene Centrale (AC) - Kortrijk* (local socialist trade union, 1945-1964)
* Links (leftist group inside the socialist party, 1962-1979)
* Société Coopérative Les Socialistes Réunis, (1929-1958)

The Image and Sound department has acquired some very fine poster collections: a collection of peace posters from all over the world from the organization Vrede (Peace), a collection from SAGO about the Third World and a collection from the designer Willy Wolsztajn. AMSAB has also acquired the complete video archives (over 3,000 copies) of the som (socialist broadcasting organization). Most interesting was the
International Institute of Social History (Amsterdam)

In 1997 the Institute received over 300 gifts, standing loans, and additions to established collections. Here is a selection:

* Occasio, our endeavour to archive relevant parts of the Internet in cooperation with the Antenna Foundation, made good progress. At year's end, documents of countless newsgroups, mainly from the Association for Progressive Communications and on the conflict in the former Yugoslavia, had been collected, for a total of close to 2.5 Gb disk space.

* The collections on Turkey, Iran/Caucasus, South and Southeast Asia, and Egypt/Sudan continued to elicit substantial interest. In Turkey we were delighted to obtain the papers of Vâ-Nû (the pseudonym of Vâlâ Nurettin, 1901-1967). After studying in the Soviet Union for three years, Vâ-Nû began working as a journalist for various journals in 1926. He wrote a few plays and novels, including Bu dünyadan Nazım geçti [Nazım passed by this world] based on the memoirs of Nazım Hikmet. Vâ-Nû's papers consisted largely of letters from the Turkish intelligentsia, typescripts of his books, and clippings of the articles he published. Over 100 of the letters were written by Nazım Hikmet from various prisons to Vâ-Nû and his wife, Mûzehher Vâ-Nû, also a journalist. In addition to about 500 letters, the archive comprises photographs, three Ottoman passports, and other personal documents that belonged to Vâ-Nû and Mûzehher Vâ-Nû.

* The papers of the German journalist Lissy Schmidt (1959-1994), which had been donated to the Institute earlier, also arrived. Lissy (Elisabeth) Schmidt was a well-known journalist (under the pseudonym Milena Atiyya), which had been donated to the Institute. In addition to about 500 letters, the archive comprises photographs, three Ottoman passports, and other personal documents that belonged to Vâ-Nû and Mûzehher Vâ-Nû.

* The Institute further expanded its activities in Southern Asia. The items we procured include a collection of documents about the National United Party of Arakan (NUPA, 1995-1996), a movement that has been waging a guerrilla war against the Burmese regime for many years. Other noteworthy items were several journals, pamphlets, and posters from the Indian Communist Party (m-l) and progressive movements in Pakistan. In addition, the successful Naxalbari Movement oral-history project yielded video-taped interviews with adherents to this movement, which were organized uprisings in 1950 and 1967. Of major historical significance in India, the movement was the first and most successful manifestation of the Maoist revolution's influence outside China.

* Several important acquisitions came from or addressed Indonesia, such as journals, brochures, and pamphlets of The International Office of the National Democratic Front of the Philippines and a file on the trial of the union official Muchtar Pakpahan. They also included twenty audio cassettes containing interviews with Oei Tjoe Tat, Sukarno's former minister and advisor. The interviews were recorded in 1991 and 1993. We received over fifty other audio tapes containing interviews with former political prisoners for the Taporal project. The project 'In Search of Silenced Voices', continued with a grant from the Ford Foundation, involved interviewing leftist exiles in Europe and Asia. Hersri Setiawan, who is carrying out the project, donated to the Institute a collection of documents related to this project.

* Our collection on international organizations was expanded by additions to the archives of the War Resisters' International, the Postal, Telegraph and Telephone International, the European Trade Union Confederation and World Crafts Council, the Chilean Communist Party, and the World Peace Council. Mrs Hanna Papanek donated the papers of her father-in-law, the social-democratic educationalist, Ernst Papanek (1900-1973), containing correspondence, manuscripts, notes, diaries, publications, photographs, etc.; the subjects addressed included his activities in the Austrian youth movement before 1934 and in the youth international, as well as his work as a director of homes for Jewish refugee children in France (1938-1940), but predominantly covered his activities following his emigration to the United States in 1940.

* The Institute received four boxes of records of the Rocca, a Florentine family, including documents regarding a joint project with the Antenna Foundation, the National Foundation for Political Music as well as a series of microfilm recordings dated last year.

* Our agreement with the British Council furnished that of the legal archives of the World Peace Council. The collection of Fernando Gómez Peláez (1915-1995) regarding a joint project with the Antenna Foundation, the National Foundation for Political Music as well as a series of microfilm recordings dated last year.

* Our collection on international organizations was expanded by additions to the archives of the War Resisters' International, the Postal, Telegraph and Telephone International, the European Trade Union Confederation and World Crafts Council, the Chilean Communist Party, and the World Peace Council. Mrs Hanna Papanek donated the papers of her father-in-law, the social-democratic educationalist, Ernst Papanek (1900-1973), containing correspondence, manuscripts, notes, diaries, publications, photographs, etc.; the subjects addressed included his activities in the Austrian youth movement before 1934 and in the youth international, as well as his work as a director of homes for Jewish refugee children in France (1938-1940), but predominantly covered his activities following his emigration to the United States in 1940.

* The Institute also received ten letters to Caroline Schmalhausen (1846-1927) written in 1867. Eight are from her mother Sophie Schmalhausen-Max (1816-1886), Karl Marx's elder sister, who married in the Netherlands in 1852-1922 and one from her brother Benno (1857-1906).

* In our exchange agreement with Moscow's Roččidožni we received several collections on microfilm, among them Wilhelm Dittmann's vast archive and a series of Menshevik archival funds concerning the period 1903-1920. In addition, 80 files collected by the organization Vozvrashchenie [Return], which is like Memorial - studies the history of the gulag and 20th century totalitarianism in general, were on microfilm for the Institute.

* The collection of Fernando Gómez Peláez (1915-1995) enriched our documentation on Southern Europe. It features a vast selection of periodicals and archives about Spanish anarchists in France from 1945 on. Less extensive but equally important acquisitions included the papers of Roger Louis, an addition to those of Eugène and Jeanne Humbert, and a few papers from Harry Domela.

* Our agreement with the British Council regarding a joint project with the Antenna Foundation, the National Foundation for Political Music as well as a series of microfilm recordings dated last year.

* The Image & Sound Department obtained the archive of negatives of Joh. de Haas. This is a large and wonderful addition to our collections on Dutch trade unions and labour from about 1937 to about 1977. Accessions of flags and banners, as well as audio and video materials, were especially abundant. In addition to the results of the oral history project the Institute is involved, we received audio tapes from the National Foundation for Political Music as well as a series of recordings from China during the Cultural Revolution, recent CDs, a large video collection of the PYDA, antecedent video archive from Raiton Interact.

* We try actively to collect original drawings and prints, despite the limited means available. In this field we obtained originals by Cliff Harper and four exceptionally
valuable prints by Gerd Arntz, among many other things.

Fundación Pablo Iglesias (Madrid)

Following are major accessions received in 1996-1997 through gifts, acquisitions and interchanges.
* Donation of the Partido Socialista de los Trabajadores Archives (1979-1996) containing proceedings of the congress, correspondence, reports, printed material (newspapers, brochures, pamphlets, posters) and audio tapes.
* Documentation of the treasury of Partido Socialista Obrero Español in Paris (1972-1974) belong to Julio Sopeña Sánchez. It was donated by Fundación José Barreiro (Oviedo).
* Papers of Tomás Álvarez Angulo, Manuel Muñoz Arroyo, Madeleine Kosmann, Antonio Mesa Cors and Antonio Palacios Martos, prominent members of PSOE.
* Memoirs of Francisco Largo Caballero "Notas históricas de la guerra de España 1917-1940" donated by Benito José Calviño Teijeiro, José Calviño's son, to whom Largo Caballero gave up this copy in Paris, 1941.
* As a result of the appeal to families of the socialists members of Parliament during the Second Republic, our center has also received papers of José Aliseda, Aurelio Almagro, Manuel Alonso, Inocencio Burgos, Isidro Escandell, José Antonio Junco Toral, Federico Landrove and Luis Romero Solano among others.

Modern Records Centre (Coventry)

The Centre's Report 1996-97 has just been published and is available free on application. As well as including Richard Storey's 'Retrospect' on 24 years of collecting archives, it also includes brief outlines of accessions received. There are many additions to archives already in the Centre, for example:
* Post Office Engineering Union
* Trades Union Congress,
* Confederation of British Industry.

New depositors include:
* Local Government Management Board,
* British Association of Social Workers's predecessors' archives,
* Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen.

The Pump House: People's History Museum (Manchester)

* The picture library of the former Communist Party of Great Britain has been acquired. Enquiries on this important collection have already been taken on subjects including the 1939 unemployment camps in England, anti-women's suffrage cartoons, Paul Robeson and Black people in the UK. The Museum is grateful to Nina Temple and George Mathews of the New Democratic Left for their help.
* Another recent addition is the collection of papers of the late Margot Kettle (née Gale), which were kindly deposited by her son, Guardian journalist Martin Kettle. The collection consists of manuscripts and research materials for two unpublished books. The first is an oral history of the lives and motivations of youth and student activists in the 1930s. The second is a biography of John Gollan.

The National Museum Archive Centre (Manchester)

The National Museum Archive Centre has received a number of collections, which include:
* London Region Communist Party of Great Britain; papers of Eric Heffer, the Labour Member of Parliament and former Communist;
* papers of the National Federation of Old Age Pensioners' Associations;
* papers of J.T. Murphy the Communist activist.

The installation of mobile shelving has meant the Centre now has the space for receiving further collections. These are going to include the Labour Party Socialist Campaign Group papers the papers of Judith Hart, the Labour Party MP, and government minister and the papers of Jim Mortimer, the former General Secretary of the Labour Party and trade union official.

Stephen Bird
Archivist/Librarian

TUC Library/ University of North London

Marjorie Nicholson Collection
Marjorie Nicholson was an ex-employee of the TUC, and at the time of her death in 1997 was working on the second volume of her book on the TUC and international affairs. The first volume, The TUC Overseas: the Roots of Policy (Allen & Unwin, 1986) covered the period 1916-1945. In her will, she left her research papers to the TUC. The collection is primarily concerned with the TUC's relationship with international organisations and with political and trade union development in the ex-colonies. There are 200 files, relating to specific countries, or enclosing personal papers, plus a large collection of press cuttings and printed publications. The files contain printed material, TUC internal documentation, correspondence and other manuscript material. There is also a chronology of events since 1918 on cards. Ms Nicholson was collecting material to add to the files until shortly before her death. As currently shelved, the collection occupies 11.5 metres. Extensive research in this area is taking place now, and a great deal of interest has already been expressed in the transfer of the papers here. We hope to make the collection accessible by the beginning of the next academic year.

Workers Educational Association
The Library and Archive of the WEA will transfer to the University in July. More details on this acquisition will be available later.

TUC Museum Collection
This was originally part of the TUC Library, but was retained by the TUC when the main collections moved to the University of North London. The TUC has decided to disperse the Collection. Most of the artefacts (including the important badge collection) and visual materials will transfer to the National Museum of Labour History in Manchester. The archival and printed paper collections will join the Library at the UNL.

The Welsh Political Archive
(The National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth)

Ivor T Rees: Political Papers
Through the Kindness of the Revd Ivor T. Rees of Swansea, the Archive was extremely pleased to receive a large group of election addresses and political literature dating from general and by-elections after 1945. These include an array of pamphlets published by all the major political parties and some of the many minority parties.

Although the Archive has been assiduous in collecting addresses and leaflets published in general
and by-elections since 1983, holdings from earlier elections were rather patchy, and the present group of papers helps to fill many a gap. The Library also holds microfilm copies (MFL36) of the extensive set of British general election addresses, 1892-1931, held in the Special Collections Department of Bristol University Library. These addresses, originally in the custody of the National Liberal Club, derive from all parts of the United Kingdom and include a large number from Welsh constituencies.

Mr Rees has also donated an extensive collection of index cards comprising details of many of the candidates who stood in British parliamentary elections between 1910 and 1983. These include valuable information on background, education, occupation and the political records of the candidates, and some also include copies of press photographs of the candidates.

Newport West Tories
The Archive already holds several important groups of the records of the Newport West Labour Party.

Recently, through the good offices of Mr Peter Davies, the Library has received the minute books and financial other records. 1917-89, of the Newport West Conservative Association.

These include the papers of numerous women's sections, Young Conservative groups and numerous committees, together with ward minutes, account books and electoral registers. Records less than twenty years old are subject to an embargo.

Dafydd Orwig Papers
The Archive has received a substantial group of papers spanning the 1890s to the 1990s accumulated by the late Mr Dafydd Orwig (1928-96). Most relate to Plaid Cymru, but there also minutes and pamphlets concerning nationalism and Welsh and Irish politics and culture.

An interesting file of papers concerns the conduct of the Parliament for Wales Campaign of the 1950s, while others relate to the Welsh Economic Development Council, the status of Monmouthshire, bilingualism, the use of the Welsh language in the law courts, Tryweryn, electricity and water.

Monmouth Socialists
In 1990 the Archive was delighted to receive a remarkably complete set of the records of the Monmouth Conservative Association from 1903 to 1988.

Now, through the kindness of Ms Ginny Blakey of Monmouth, two minute books, 1961-86, of the Monmouth and District Branch of the Labour Party have come to hand. They have been designated n.w ex 1814-15.

The Hoover Institution (Stanford University)
The papers of Imre Pozsgay
The Hoover Institution has acquired the papers of Imre Pozsgay, former politburo member of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party (MSZMP) and a key participant in the recent peaceful transition of that country from communism to democracy.

The archival collection documents the career of Pozsgay and provides a wealth of information on political developments in Hungary during the four decades beginning with the 1956 revolution. For more information see the Hoover site: www-hoover.stanford.edu/pubaffairs/newsletter/97spring/pozsgay.html

New Means of Access
IALHinet
IALHinet, the network of the International Association of Labour History Institutions, has set up a page with address and subscription information about current labour history periodicals from 19 countries. The list was produced by Gerd Galles (Copenhagen). It is not necessarily complete, but as up-to-date as possible. Take a look at: www.isg.nl/~ialhi/lab_per.html
IALHinet is also offering tables of contents of many of these and other serials at www.isg.nl/~ialhi/serials/

AMSAB (Ghent)
AMSAB has published the inventory of the archives of the Belgian section of the Fourth International (AMSAB-Werkinstrumenten nr. 6, by Rik De Coninck). The main focus of these archives is the period 1950-1980, during which the Trotskyist movement followed an "enist" strategy (until 1964), and later formed separate political parties: the Revolutionaire Arbeidersliga (RAL) and the Socialistische Arbeiderspartij (SAP).
In addition to this inventory, a comprehensive database of periodicals, books and leaflets of the Belgian section of the Fourth International has been made up by Luc Lievains as nr. 7 of the AMSAB-Werkinstrumenten.

AMSAB has also published a consolidated bibliography of the translations into Danish of works, articles, and letters by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels from 1848 to 1996. The bibliography registers 981 numbers: the earliest entries were published in 1848 and were taken from the Neue Rheinische Zeitung, the most recent entry is a new edition of the Communist Manifesto.

In addition to the bibliographical details, whenever possible, the bibliography registers the name of the translator, the original price, and the number of copies printed - e.g. the Manifesto was printed in over 230,000 copies and in 46 editions. Furthermore it is indicated for the individual items where in the Marx-Engels-Werke, Marx-Engels-Gesamtausgabe, and the Marx-Engels Collected Works the original text that has been translated can be found. Together with the title index this feature greatly enhances the usability of the bibliography. An English language version of the preface translated can be found. Together with the title index this feature greatly enhances the usability of the bibliography. An English language version of the preface translated can be found. Together with the title index this feature greatly enhances the usability of the bibliography. An English language version of the preface translated can be found.
Bibliothek der Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (Bonn)

Online delivery of articles from academic journals
The library of the Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation has initiated a new service: online delivery of articles from academic journals or excerpts from monographs (up to thirty pages). The library will send you the material either via normal mail, fax or e-mail (scanned images in TIFF G-4 format). The library charges 10 DM for normal mail, 15 DM for Fax and 5 DM for e-mail. These prices may change as the library learns if these prices cover its actual costs.

Unfortunately at the present time the library is unable to establish customer accounts. Payment must accompany each individual transaction.

The form for ordering materials via this new service can be found under the following address: www.fes.de/library/index_gr.html

The library of the Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation, with over 500,000 volumes, is one of the largest social-sciences libraries in Germany. The collection, although varied, is extremely rich in the fields of industrial relations and party politics. The library receives financial assistance in many different froms from the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft. You can find out more about the library at the web address listed above, where there is a link to our OPAC.

Fondazione di studi storici Filippo Turati (Florence)

* A short description of some archives owned by Fondazione Turati and relative to personages, has been included in Guide agli archivi delle personalità della cultura tra ’800 e ’900. L’area fiorentina, edited by E. Capanneli and E. Insabato (sovrintendenza archivistica per la Toscana), Firenze, Olschki, 1996.

Fondazione Giangiacomo Feltrinelli (Milan)


International Institute of Social History (Amsterdam)

* The Institute has made an index of its archival collections available on the Internet. Every entry in the index is linked to a description of the collection in question. Over time, most descriptions will in turn be linked to a more detailed finding aid. See www.iish.nl/archives/
* As an experiment, the Institute presents its (small) William Morris manuscript collection on the Web, see: www.iish.nl/archives/scans/morguide.html
* The Guide to the International Archives and Collections at the iish, Amsterdam, edited by Alie van der Horst and Elly Koen, was first published in 1989. A description of recently acquired archives and collections as well as major accruals to archives received by iish is published annually to keep this survey up to date. From 1994 on a list of microfilms of archives or collections held in other repositories, of which iish has received a copy, is added to this survey. See: www.iisg.nl/acquis.html

* In 1997 the Institute published inventories of the papers of Pierre Ramus, Boris M. Sapir, Wolfgang Abendroth, and Henk Sneevliet, and of the records of the icftu and Henri Curiel’s Groupe de Rome.

National Museum of Labour History (Manchester)

* The museum gratefully acknowledges the support of The British Library, which has awarded a grant of £7,800 towards the surveying, reboxing and listing of the Judith Hart papers, whose acquisition was reported in the last newsletter. The assistance comes through its scheme of grants for cataloguing and preservation. Archivist Brenda Lees, who was working parttime, has now been taken on full time in order to work on the collection.

Archivist Stephen Bird has been elected Secretary of the United Kingdom Political Parties Archive Network. The committee was set up in March 1997 for archivists of the political parties represented in the House of Commons. The committee has discussed questions of access to political party archives, location of records, its relations with International Council on Archives Parliaments and Political Parties Sub-Committees.

School of Slavonic and East European Studies (London)

Map Collections
Thanks to the allocation of a Non-Formula Funding (Follett) grant, a notable map collection at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University of London (SSEES), has now been catalogued. The collection comprises maps published in Russia and Western Europe. The maps cover Russia and the countries of Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe. They date from the sixteenth to the twentieth century and the eighteenth century is particularly well represented. Among the 219 bibliographical items (representing 238 sheets) are maps published by the Imperial Academy of Sciences in St Petersburg showing the Baltic and the Crimea and an exceptionally fine range of maps of Hungary and Transylvania. Many of the Russian maps were probably purchased by the School in 1958 as part of the stock of V. V. Baratchevsky’s Russian Bookshop (located first in Hanway Street and later in Tottenham Street, London W1). The portfolio of maps of Hungary was donated some thirty years ago by Mr E. J. Groom who had learned Hungarian at the School. The source of other maps is unknown. However, the entire collection was professionally preserved between 1973 and 1975 and all sheets are now in excellent condition.

Probably one third of the SSEES collection is not held by the British Library Map Library. The highly important map of Hungary by Nicander Philippus Fundanus (1595) is held by the British Library in facsimile but SSEES has an original. Within the limits of its area coverage, the SSEES collection has a particularly comprehensive representation of the works of the major early cartographers: Mercator, Jansson, L'Isle, Moll, Senex, Blaue, de Vaugondy, Sanson, Wit, Visscher, Homann, Hondius, Seutter and Jaillot. The collection is particularly useful in that it brings together maps for a given region.

The maps are included in the Library’s on-line catalogue: consult.uil.ac.uk or via the School’s Web Page at www.ssees.ac.uk/ and searches by cartographer, title or subject will reveal them. The School is indebted to Ms April Carlucci and Mr Colin Bruce for their work in cataloguing the collection. Without Ms Carlucci’s valuable report on the project this note would have been considerably less informative.
J.E.O. Screen Librarian, School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University of London Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU, England 

i-screen (at) sees.ac.uk tel: 0171-637 4934 ext. 4023, fax: 0171-436 8916

Sophia Smith Collection at Smith College

Providing Access to Key 20th-century Women’s Manuscript Collections

The Sophia Smith Collection at Smith College has recently kicked off a two-year project, "Agents of Social Change: Providing Access to Key 20th-century Women’s Manuscript Collections," which will allow the processing of eight contemporary manuscript collections documenting 20th-century U.S. social reform and political activism, areas of intense interest among historians.

Included in the project are the papers of six social activists: Dorothy Kenyon, judge and urban social reformer; Jessie Lloyd O’Connor, labor journalist; Mary Kauffman, labor and civil rights lawyer; Constance Baker Motley, civil rights lawyer and judge; Frances Fox Piven, welfare rights activist and writer; and Gloria Steinem, journalist, editor and feminist leader. Also to be processed are the records of the Women’s Action Alliance, a national anti-sexism advocacy group; and the National Congress of Neighborhood Women, a grassroots organization that provides support and education in poor and working-class urban communities.

Funded by a $107,800 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and a $35,000 grant from Smith President Ruth Simmons, the project will include both processing and the creation of descriptive inventories and electronic catalog records on the Internet. When completed, an exhibition from the collections will be mounted at the Smith College Museum of Art, with an electronic version on the Sophia Smith Collection’s web site.

The Sophia Smith Collection is a repository of personal papers, organizational records and other material relating to the history of women in the United States.

Portions of the collections involved in the project may be closed to researchers while processing is under way. Further information is available from the Sophia Smith Collection, 413-585-2970 or from the web site at www.smith.edu/libraries/ssc.

Sophia Smith Collection
Smith College Northampton, MA 01063
Phone: (413) 585-2985 Fax: 413 5852886 email: mjessup (at) library.smith.edu

Research

AMSAB (Ghent)

* Pierre De Geyter. The composer of the International was born 150 years ago. A publication and exhibition on his life and times are planned for October 1998. On the 8th of October 1998 it will be 150 years since De Geyter was born in Ghent. In order to remember this special day, the AMSAB, in collaboration with the Masereel Fund, has planned both the publications of the book Pierre De Geyter and the exhibition "Pierre De Geyter" in its own museum. The Socialist Movement of Ghent plans to put up a statue of De Geyter which will be officially unveiled on 10 October 1998.

* Socialism and Sexuality. This project focuses on socialist ideas on various aspects of sexual behaviour, in the past as well as today. The result of this project will be a publication, an international conference, and an exhibition in 1999.

* 50 years ICFTU. AMSAB is participating in the research and is coordinating, together with IISH, this project that will lead to a publication and an international conference in 1999 and 2000.

* Ongoing research: the Belgian socialist party and the foreign policy, the trotskyst movement in Belgium, the relations between doctors and the socialist mutual insurance company, the Belgian trade unions,... Le PSB et la politique étrangère: recherche sur les socialistes belges, membres du Parlement européen et ses antécédents historiques

Stalin-Era Research and Archives Project

(University of Toronto, Canada)

The Stalin-Era Research and Archives Project (SERAP) is a collaborative, multidisciplinary undertaking based at the Centre for Russian and East European Studies at the University of Toronto. With support from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the Project seeks to stimulate the reinterpretation of politics and society in the USSR under Stalin through the use of newly declassified archival materials.

For more information on the project, on-line documentation and resources see www.utoronto.ca/serap

Central European University (Budapest)

Curriculum Resource Centre

The Curriculum Resource Center at the Central European University endeavours to assist university professors teaching at universities in Central and Eastern Europe as well as the former Soviet Union by facilitating academic exchange, course development, and curriculum reform activities. The CRC was established as the CEU’s outreach and academic development program for the teaching of the social sciences to assist academics overcome the financial and material limitations to course development and curriculum reform in the region.

We are currently in the process of collecting model syllabi (preferably syllabi relevant to the teaching of the social sciences in this region) for our syllabi collection as well as other course development materials useful in assisting professors in the region with their curriculum development needs. We intend to maintain this collection in the CEU library for CRC visitors and also make all syllabi and course development materials available on the WWW.

To further enrich the CRC’s curriculum collection, we invite scholars to submit course descriptions and syllabi as well as other program descriptions and brochures to the CRC. Submitted syllabi and curriculum resources will be deposited in the CRC’s resource room in the CEU library and will be placed on the CRC’s home page. Please send all documents to the CRC in an electronic format as either a text document or word document by e-mail to: crc (at) ceu.hu.

For further information regarding CRC activities, please visit our Web site at: www.ceu.hu/crc. You may also contact Sharna Brockett, CRC Co-ordinator, brockets (at) ceu.hu, tel: (36-1) 327-3189 or 327-3000 fax: (36-1) 327-3190

International Institute of Social History (Amsterdam)

Projects of the Dept of Turkey
* One important project, which continued in 1997, was Philologiae Turcicae Fundamenta V, a reference work on the twentieth century history of Turkey, to which over thirty specialists from seven countries are contributing as authors. Roughly two thirds of the articles have now been received in draft. Although the project is behind schedule, it is expected to be finished within a year.

* A second project was the joint organization with the Middle East Department of the University of Nijmegen of a workshop on Conspicuous Resistance in the Middle East. Nine specialists from five countries presented papers which ranged in time from the late eighteenth century to the nineteenth decades and in space from Bosnia to Egypt and Central Asia. This rich and stimulating workshop, which took place in early October, will result in the publication of a special issue of the International Review of Social History in August 1998.

* In November the department, together with its sister, the Asia department of iish, organized a workshop sponsored by the Asia Committee of the European Science Foundation in Antalya (Turkey). The workshop, entitled "Opting out of the Nation", was attended by fourteen scholars from eight European, American and Asian countries who presented papers on different aspects of identity politics in the Caucasus, Central Asia, the Middle East and the Indian subcontinent. The proceedings will be published in early 1999 by I.B. Tauris in London. Erik Jan Zürcher acts as editor of the publications resulting from the first two projects mentioned above, while the editorial work of the third is being done jointly by him and Willelm van Schendel, the head of the iish's Asia department.

* An older project now nearing fruition is that on European Trade Unions and Migration. Thanks to the efforts of RinusPenninx and Judith Roosblad at Amsterdam University's Institute of Ethnic and Migration Studies, a definitive text of the proceedings with introduction and conclusions provided by the editors will appear in 1998 with Berg publishers.

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Recent Publications

AMSAB (Gent)

* Brood & Rozen. Tijdschrift voor de Geschiedenis van Sociale Bewegingen: three-monthly periodical: (1997) 1, 2, 3, 4; (1998) 1, 2, 3, 4; (1999) 1, 2; (2000) 1, 2. IISH


* D. De Weerdt, De dochters van Marianne. 75 jaar SVV. Gent: AMSAB/Hadewych, 1997, 352 p., ill. 75 years of a socialist women's organization.


* Within the framework of the Museum van de Vlaamse Sociale strijd, the release on 17 March 1999 of the publication about "socialism and sexuality" with the following authors and subjects: Bracke, Nele - Women between cultural offensive and wage work Celis, Karen - The attitude of socialists toward abortion and contraception De Mulder, Brigitte - Creation of images in socialist iconography Deneckere, Gita - Mass psychology around the turn of the century Ganzwoort Anne - Homosexuality Geysen Wis - Sex education Pittomvils, Kathlijn - Prostitution Verbruggen, Paule - The image of the "new sex" among 20th century socialist leaders Vermandere, Martine - Youth movement and coeducation De Nil, Bart - Flemish social democracy in literature around the turn of the century Deseyn, Guido - Red cinema De Wilde Bart - Sex on and beside the shop floor Moors, Hans, and Luc Peiren - Socialist theories "From De Paepe to De Man"

Institut zur Erforschung der europäischen Arbeiterbewegung (Bochum)

* Detlev Kohler, Reiner Tosstorff (Hg), Forschungen zur Arbeiterchaft und Arbeiterbewegung in Spanien, Mitteilungsblatt 17, Essen: Klartext Verlag, 1996.


* Torsten Tupfer, Sozialdemokratie im Freistaat Anhalt (1918-1933), Bd. 5, Köln-Weimar-Wien: Böhlau Verlag, 1996.


International Institute of Social History (Amsterdam)

* Two Research Papers concerning archives in Russia and Eastern Europe: Patricia Kennedy Grimsted, Archives of Russia Five Years After: 'Purveyors of Sensations' or Shadows Cast to the Past?", 221 pp; Leo van Rossum, The Former Communist Party Archives in Eastern Europe and Russia: A Provisional Assessment, 20 pp. Electronic versions of both papers are available on our ftp-server. See www.iisg.nl/ftp.html

* Among other titles published in iish series in 1997:

1. Angélique Janssens (ed), The Rise and Decline of the Smarties' or 'Shadows Cast to the Past?'? 221 pp; Leo van Rossum, The Former Communist Party Archives in Eastern Europe and Russia: A Provisional Assessment, 20 pp. Electronic versions of both papers are available on our ftp-server. See www.iisg.nl/ftp.html

2. Jan Lucassen, Leo Lucassen (eds), Migration, Migration History, History: Old paradigms and new perspectives, Bern: P. Lang, 454 pp.
* Tom Brass, Marcel van der Linden, Free and Unfree Labour: The debate continues, Bern: P. Lang, 603 pp.

Fundación Largo Caballero (Madrid)
* El exilio español en la guerra civil: los niños de la guerra - Catalogue of the exhibition with the same title which was on show in 1996. With contributions of Alicia Alfred, Josefina Cuesta and Miguel Angel Villanueva.
* Jesús Rodríguez, Francisco Largo Caballero 1869-1946 - Chronological survey of the life and works of Francisco Largo Caballero.
* Nuria Franco, Ester Ramos and Jesús Rodríguez, 20 años avanzando en libertad 1976-1996 - Describes the history of the Unión General de Trabajadores, from its first conference in Madrid up until now.

Modern Records Centre (University of Warwick)
* Two new Sources Booklets have been published: The Confederation of British Industry and predecessor archives, £5, and The personal papers of Sir Victor Gollancz, £3 (prices include inland postage).

Microfilms

Spanish Labour Newspapers
An Overview of the Collection of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung
The library of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation has recently finished cataloguing its collection of Spanish working-class newspapers on microfilm. This collection itself is the fruit of a project organized by the Fundación Pablo Iglesias and the library of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation. Working together we have microfilmed the most important Spanish labour newspapers up till the end of the Spanish Civil War. This itself is part of a larger project in which the library of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation has tried to obtain a microfilm copy of the most important labour newspapers in Germany and in Europe. All of these materials can be ordered via Interlibrary Loan.

We hope that our collection will encourage and assist those working on Spanish labour history. The catalogue Spanische Arbeiterpresse auf Mikrofilm: Ein Bestandsverzeichnis der Bibliothek der Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung can be obtained at the following address: Bibliothek der Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Godesberger Allee 149 D-53175 Bonn

The Socialist Revolutionary Party
The archives of Russia's Socialist Revolutionary Party (sr) are now available in convenient, fully-indexed microfilm format from IISG Publishers. This collection, held by the International Institute of Social History (iish), Amsterdam, contains minutes of party congresses and documents of local party organizations in Russia and Western Europe, original correspondence, leaflets and proclamations, documents of and about Socialist International, Russian Ochranka and many other organizations.

The Partiia Socialistov-Revolutionerov (in Russian, abbreviated to 'esery') occupies a special place in Russian history. Together with that of the Mensheviks and the anarchists, this history belongs to the victims to the left of the Bolsheviks. The Amsterdam archive remains the best source for information concerning the party's history. When the sr was founded, the personal library of Petr L. Lavrov, the most important theorician of the narodchhestvo, was given the status of party library. Likewise, the 'Fonds Lavrov' became part of the party archive. We may assume that the party archive was located in Paris, certainly during the period 1907-1914. From the early twenties onwards the sr archive was located in Prague, as was the Lavrov library, supplemented by the libraries of M.R. Goc (1866-1906) and E.E. Lazarev (1855-1937).

As a result of disagreements within the party, the archive was transported to Belgrade in 1934. From April 1938 negotiations were carried on between ish and sr to deposit its library and archives in Amsterdam. In November 1938, the iish Librarian, A. Adaman van Scheltema, seeing the impending German annexation, travelled to Prague and Belgrade with the aim of rescuing the library and the archive by moving them to the Netherlands. She and curators V.S. Minachorian and F.E. Machin of Belgrade agreed to have the papers deposited at ish. In December 1938 the archive arrived from Belgrade. In April 1939 the collection was shipped to England to escape a possible German attack on the Netherlands. The archive was returned to Amsterdam in 1946.

The collection consists of two groups of documents: the populist legacy narodnichestvo (including the 'Fonds Lavrov'), and the sr archive. The documents concerning narodnichestvo 1870-1900 comprise correspondence (primarily of Petr L. Lavrov with Grigorij Z. Eliseev, German A. Lopatin, Lev A. Tikhomirov and others), manuscripts and memoirs (of V.K. Debobogory-Mokrievich, Petr L. Lavrov, Nikolai K. Sudzhilovsky and others), leaflets, documents of Vestnik Narodnoi Voli and of the `Gruppa Staryhh Narodovol'tsev' and others.

The sr archive is by far the largest part of the collection. The party archive before 1917 comprises different categories of material: documents from the regional and local committees in Russia, minutes of party congresses and conferences, correspondence between the Central Committee and the Organization Abroad, documents of local groups in Western Europe, (mostly of the period 1908-1909), proclamations and files on agitation, instructions to members of the second Duma 1907, correspondence by and other documents of and about party leaders such as M. Chernov, K. Breshko-Breshkovskaja, A. Gershuni, V. Volkovsky and others, editorial records of Znamia Truda and other publications, files on agents provocateurs (including Evno A. Azey), documents of and about the Okhranka and trials, sr publications and press clippings.

The history of sr after 1917 is reflected in documents of the ninth and tenth Party Council (1919 and 1921),
minutes of meetings of the Central Committee, a few
documents of regional and local committees in Russia
and abroad, (including the Prague group), documents of
the Far East Bureau 1920-1921, the dossier of SR trial
1922, and a file relating to the Labour and Socialist
International (LSI/SAI).
Collection price F21,000 (including printed inventory).
Number of reels 145. Size of reel 35 mm. Film type
Positive silver halide. Reduction ratio Varies according
to size of the original. Order number PSR-1. Reels
can be bought separately at f150 each.
External finding aid: Printed inventory by Hermien
van Veen, Inventory of the archives of the Partija
Socialistov-Revolutioncerov (PSR), (1834)-1870-1934.
Related IDC Project
A microfiche collection of serials and monographs
containing works written by and about well-known
leaders of the Socialist Revolutionary Party, as well as
publications dealing with the party itself. Among the
authors, you will find the names of Chervov,
Spiridonova, Gershuni, Savinkov, and many others.
Furthermore, this collection contains prominent journals
and newspapers published by the SR in Russia and
abroad.
35 serials on 455 microfiche, price: f3,310. 45
monographs on 116 microfiche, price: f1,205
For more information please contact any of the following
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The Netherlands:
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NY 10463
Phone 718 432 1400, Toll free 800 757 7441, Fax 718
432 0020
Email idc-us (at) mindspring.com
Comintern Archive
The Comintern archive, held by the Russian Centre of
Conservation and Study of Records for Modern History
(former Central Party archive) in Moscow, is now for the
first time available in convenient, fully indexed microfiche
format from IDC Publishers. We offer you this archive
collection on microfiche together with an electronic guide
in four languages.
According to the plans of those who founded the
Communist International in March 1919, the
organisation was to act as the 'General Staff of the
Worldwide Revolution'. Even today, traces of this
organisation can still be found in every country
throughout the world. As with all such semi-secretive
organisations, Comintern became surrounded by
rumour, conjecture and myth. In the past, being unable
to distinguish reliably between fact and fantasy,
historians had to resort to guesswork. This was because
the archive of Comintern was hidden away in the
inaccessible repositories of the central archive of the
Central Committee of the USSR.
The archive of Comintern (the Third Communist
International) holds documents in different languages of
more than 35 Communist and Left Socialists parties as
well as other international organisations from 21
countries. It covers the whole period of the Communist
International, that took place from 1919 to 1943 (when
the Comintern was closed down).
The microfiche collection includes thousands of
documents of the seven congresses of the Comintern
and 13 plenums of the Executive Committee of the
Comintern (ECCI). This also includes material from
preparatory and working commissions. The original
documents contain personal corrections by famous
figures in the international labour and communist
movement. There are transcripts and minutes of the
meetings, theses, lists of delegates, mandates and
questionnaires filled by delegates, etc.
The documents are systematised chronologically:
Preparation for the Congress; Sessions of the Congress;
Mandate (Credential) Commissions; Texts of radio
broadcasts on the work of the Congress; Greetings to
the Congress and Newspaper clippings, etc. The
previously available Congress Proceedings, which were
produced in 1920 and 1930, had been heavily censored
by the Executive Committee. Now, following the reforms
in Russia, you have the opportunity to read about the
real history of Comintern, from the original documents.
This microfiche collection reveals the 'behind the
scenes' history of this 'Party of Worldwide Revolution'.
The archive material, which was previously
unobtainable, is now available to researchers all over
the world.
Merging technologies make it possible to support
microfiche collections with modern retrieval functionality.
For the Comintern collection IDC is transforming the
complete Archive indexes (opisi, compiled by the staff of
the Russian Centre of Conservation and Study of
Records for Modern History) into a simple but very
useful full-text database format.
The database records contain the following fields:
- fond number, opis number, number of archive folio,
description of folio contents, date and year, number of
pages, language of publication, microfiche number of
the collection.
The original Russian text of the opisi has been
translated into English, German and French.
Collection price: f144,140. All congresses and
plenums are available separately. Number of fiche
14,569. Size of fiche 105 x 148 mm. Film type Positive
silver halide. Reduction ratio 1 : 24. Order number KOM1
+ KOM2. Individual fiche available at a price of f15 per
fiche. Minimum order f150. For a flexible purchase plan
please contact IDC at the address quoted above.
External Electronic index in four languages on
CD-ROM. Internal finding aids: Archive indexes (compiled
by the staff of the Russian Centre of Conservation and
Study of Records for Modern History) filmed on separate
fiche. Eye-legible headers on each fiche (stating congress/plenum
number, year, fond number, opis number, and document number with range of pages).

International Transport Workers Federation and Fascism

Microform Academic Publishers have recently released
the first title in a series of microform editions of material
in the ITWF archives on deposit at the Modern Records
Centre, University of Warwick Library.

Fascism 1933/4 - 1945
From 1934 to 1945, the International Transport Workers' Federation devoted its energies to publishing Fascism
(entitled Swastika in its first year of publication), a
fortnightly periodical in English, French, German,
Swedish, Spanish and Dutch, describing conditions in
Nazi Germany and to a lesser extent, Spain and Italy.
Designed to give information about social policy, and
based on analyses of newspapers and periodicals of the
day, as well as reports from illegal cadres, this title gives
a unique insight into life under Fascist regimes, focusing
in particular on the working class movement, organised
labour and the growth of trades unions.
The present microfiche edition has an introduction by
the German historian Dieter Nelles, and consists of the English language version of the periodical.

For more information contact the publishers: Microform Academic Publishers, Main Street, East Ardsley, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF3 2AT, England
Tel: +44(0)1924 825700 Fax: +44(0)1924 871005
e-mail: map (at) netcomuk.co.uk, www.microform.co.uk

Origins and Development of the Labour Party in Britain at Local Level

Interested in examining and comparing the characteristics of individual local Labour parties, or for the opportunity to investigate the effects of National party decisions upon the local organisations? In association with Stephen Bird of the National Museum of Labour History, Manchester, England, we have made available on microfilm (and are continuing to do so) local CLP records that give a cross-representation of local party history from areas and regions throughout the United Kingdom.

The core of each publication comprises Minute books, supplemented by other material such as Annual reports, Account books, Election results, correspondence and other surviving records. Each microfilm is also accompanied by a scholarly introduction, together with a detailed listing of material included.

For more information, or to receive a copy of our recent labour history newsletter, contact: Simon Shaw, Editor, Microform Academic Publishers, Main Street, East Ardsley, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF3 2AT, England.
E-mail: map (at) netcomuk.co.uk www.microform.co.uk

The Journal of Women’s History

The Journal of Women’s History is soliciting essays for a special issue on women, poverty, and political economies. We seek manuscripts that address a wide range of topics, diverse geographical locations, and all historical eras. Stephanie J. Shaw will serve as guest editor, and the issue will appear early in 2000. The deadline for submissions is 15 August 1998. Send four double-spaced and one-sided copies of your manuscript (no more than 10,000 words, including endnotes) to Poverty Issue, Journal of Women’s History, c/o Department of History, The Ohio State University, 106 Dulles Hall, 230 West 17th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43210-1367 U.S.A. For more details on our submission policy, see the Notice to Contributors in the most recent issue or e-mail jwh (at) osu.edu.

Book Reviews

Archives in Russia

Arkhiivy Rossi: Moskva i Sankt-Peterburg. Spravochnik-obozenie i bibliograficheskiy ukazatel’ Russkoe izdanie.
This is by far the most comprehensive survey (directory) of archival repositories in Moscow and St. Petersburg ever published. There are more than 260 entries ranging from the 15 federal main repositories to the less referenced archives of various academic institutions, manuscript sections of major libraries and documentation centers of social organisations (such as Memorial or the Russian Nobility Assembly). In addition, the directory contains substantial entries on repositories that are virtually closed, for example, the Central Archive of the Federal Security Service which houses secret police files. Each entry provides information on the history of the repository in question, describes in general terms (1-3 pages) the contents of the holdings, indicates accessibility and lists published and unpublished reference works. This information is preceded by data on the address, name of the director, telephone, fax and email (if available), opening hours and nearest public transport station.
The directory is a print-out of a computerized database called ArcheoBiblioBase (ABB) that has been assembled and edited in parallel English-and Russian-language versions as a joint American-Russian project. It was Dr Patricia K. Grimsted who as a result of her decades-long research and publishing guides about Russian archives took the initiative. From 1991 onwards Russian institutions joined in. An official agreement of cooperation was signed in 1992 between the State (now Federal) Archival Service of Russia (Rosarchiv) and the (American) International Research & Exchange Board (IREX). Much of the work of collecting data, in addition to those already collected by Grimsted, was done by the State Public Historical Library in Moscow, the St. Petersburg Branch of the Archive of the Russian
Academy of Sciences and Rosarkhiv itself. The Americans contributed money, software and of course the expertise of Patricia Kennedy Grimsted. A must for anyone dealing with Russian history.

Lien van Rossum
ISH, Amsterdam

Some sections of the directory are available on the Web. The OpenWeb server in Moscow, at the State Public Historical Library, reproduces data (in Russian) on the major federal archives under Rosarkhiv and the municipal and provincial repositories in the Moscow and Leningrad oblast.

www.openweb.ru/koil8/rusarsh or www.openweb.ru/windows/rusharsh

The isw website, which is more up-to-date, reproduces the same data in English: www.isw.nl/—abb

Poverty in Russia


In light of the reappearance since 1991 of overt material hardship in Russia, Professor Adele Lindenmeyr's excellent monograph on charity in the imperial period is welcome for the perspective it affords on Russia's current social problems, but more importantly for the light it sheds on a long-neglected area of its history. She is careful to distinguish between the long-lived tradition of private charity and the autocracy's efforts to alleviate poverty and beggar in the initial chapter—one devoted primarily to Russia's "culture of giving." Noting that the Russian Orthodox Church neither condemned nor celebrated wealth, but instead subscribed to the concept of the stewardship of God's gifts, she stresses too the tradition looking for guidance to idealized men and women—lay and religious—who were renowned for their feats of charity. In fact, her discussion of the role of gender in the elaboration of the Orthodox charitable ideal (pp. 13-16) is an important one. She suggests, for example, not only that men who educated themselves to the religious life were encouraged to learn the "feminine" qualities of tenderness and compassion in acts of charity and that Russian women were considered especially suited by nature to nurturing and serving others, but also that the traditional culture of direct, personal giving even enjoyed favor by women of the Westernized intelligentsia of the later imperial period. One might, therefore, expect that the role of women in the evolution of Russian charitable practices would constitute an enduring thread in this history. Unfortunately, while it is a repeated one, it is not a major one—a theme to which I will return below. In addition, Professor Lindenmeyr hints in her initial chapter at the appearance of harbingers of civil society's concern with charity in the form of the physician-philanthropist, but takes care to devote the final portion of this first chapter to history from below: the popular beliefs and customs used to aid the "unfortunate" (pp. 24-25).

Professor Lindenmeyr's narrative approach is an effective one, devoting Chapters Two through Four, for example, to a roughly chronological treatment of the autocracy's approach to poor relief from the seventeenth century through Emancipation: the posture of the Estates and local government to poor relief from Emancipation to the outbreak of the Great War; and the autocracy's fluctuating policies toward revision of the poor laws between 1891 and 1914. There is such a wealth of information and analysis in these three chapters alone that the reviewer is hard-pressed to choose what to emphasize. However, several themes stand out. In her discussion of the autocracy's developing posture toward poor relief, for example, the author places special emphasis on the state's emerging perception of poverty as a problem of national rather than religious significance and the fact that this secularization of the problem undercut the Russian Orthodox Church's legal responsibility for poverty relief. She further adds that the state-building activities of Peter and Catherine thus included creation of new administrative bodies to prevent mendicancy and provide relief for the deserving poor. This categorization is especially interesting since it reflects the dichotomy between "deserving" and "undeserving" poor that was emerging in most of Western Europe's states and would receive its fullest expression in nineteenth-century England. It also implies, naturally enough, that in this area at least, Russia was fully abreast of Western Europe—with the important distinction (one noted by Professor Lindenmeyr) that in the latter, estate organization and local authorities were well developed, whereas in Russia the local bodies for poor relief were creations of the Autocracy, artificial transplants of Western models with little or no recognition of Russian tradition or capabilities. In this, as in so many things, the message is that Russia was always seeking to modernize through slavish imitation of the West and according to a bureaucratically-conceived model of the process at that.

In the realm of local government and poor relief in the post-Emancipation period, Professor Lindenmeyr omits the same pattern of failures and inconsistency: failures to define respective responsibilities and jurisdictions of communes, _zemstva_, and municipalities; the proclivity of each to pass the burden of poor relief on to the next lower administrative level; and, finally, the lack of resources of funding that plagued so many areas of social policy and public health in pre-revolutionary Russia. Recent monographs on other areas of social policy and public health in fact show numerous closures that paralleled this struggle, replete with the same "deserving" to "undeserving" poor as the message is that Russia was fully abreast of Western Europe, which the reader is struck by their depressing similarity. In the final chapter of this chronological section, Professor Lindenmeyr turns to the Autocracy's efforts to reform Russia's poor laws—efforts that were compressed into a period of less than a quarter century and encompassed the usual welter of bureaucratic proposals (in this case for the creation of special agencies or Guardianships to administer public assistance to the poor and organized at township, district, town, and provincial levels [p. 79]), official commissions with heavy bureaucratic representation to study these proposals and, inevitably, the creation of sub-commissions of even more refined purviews. It is an interesting narrative and, again, certainly no fault of Professor Lindenmeyr's research or writing, that much of this activity is the generally depressingly familiar Autocratic routine toward most of its pressing social and public health problems. Familiar, too, is the opposition to these proposed reforms by the Ministry of Finance—although S. Iu. Witte's role here as the chief culprit is surprising in view of his reputation as an "enlightened" bureaucratic "modernizer." Anticipating the remaining 60 percent of the monograph, however, Lindenmeyr does note the essence of the debate that raged in these bureaucratic enclaves and, indeed, immobilized them while at the same time anticipating a wider and more important phenomenon: the conclusion of the Grot Commission that an acknowledgment of the state's responsibility for poor relief was tantamount to socialism, whereas Western practice had shown it that aiding the needy was properly the responsibility of "society"—parishes, communes, and other local, self-governing bodies (p. 85).

It is with this concept that the author introduces the emergence of a civil society concerned with charity and poor relief in Russia before the 1917 revolution. Indeed,
the remaining six chapters are arranged not so much chronologically as topically—all centering around the kind of civic society or _obshchestvennost_ posited in the Russian context in the Clowes, Kassow and West collection of essays in 1991. Thus, the author's chapter “Charity and Civil Society” is a crucial one, for it posits the rise and development of that kind of voluntarism that was central to the emergence of a civil society in the West. Aided and abetted by discussions in the press and especially on the theatrical stage, this was the Christian version of the "social movement" and Civil Society reform in the 1860s and 1870s, Lindemeyr argues that this voluntarism led ineluctably to the rise of "scientific charity" in Russia—ie., the desire to put relief on a rational basis, as typified by the bureaucratically-connected charity known as the Philanthropic Society and the Petersburg Society for Visiting the Poor. It is in this context that the author observes that the Russian definition of a civil society introduced by the 1899 model rules issued by the Ministry of Interior for municipal guardianships of the poor was a narrow one—ie., allowing only those with appropriate property qualifications to vote in the municipal elections to these bodies (p. 153). However, Professor Lindemeyr also makes the point that some felt that this narrow definition and adds, somewhat parenthetically in this reviewer's opinion, that it was parish guardianships of the poor that thus contributed directly to the development of a "truer" civil society than that espoused in the secular professional one exclusively, Professor Lindemeyr describes the Orthodox clergy—or at least a segment of it—as having played a prominent role in this area of social policy. In fact, the clergy has been (with the exception of Rosenthal's periodical, and a first-rate, comprehensive bibliography of archival, primary and secondary materials, this monograph is an absolutely necessary work for anyone interested in the rise (and the failures) of civil society in Russia and the vexing problem of charity that it faced. The only complaint is, again, the relatively brief treatment of the role women played in these anti-poverty efforts and organizations. One is left wishing for more than the less than thirty pages devoted to this particular subject in the monograph. Perhaps it will be the subject of a future work by Professor Lindemeyr that goes beyond even her ground-breaking article in Signs in 1993. If so, it is to be eagerly anticipated. This aside, however, this is a work that will surely stand as a benchmark of Russian and European social history and the emergence of a civil society against which future monographs must necessarily be measured.

Bolsheviks in Russia


The Russian Revolution and Civil War—The New Revisionism? In the introduction to The Bolsheviks in Russian Society: The Revolution and the Civil Wars, Vladimir Brovkin points out that the collapse of Communism in the Soviet Union has revived interest in the revolutionary period, which has now become "not just a matter of the past but a matter of the present and future" (p. 2). Historians are posing new questions about the revolution and the civil war, especially with respect to the forces of opposition and possible alternatives to the Bolshevik regime. The opening of the Russian archives also has encouraged scholars to search for a variety of "smoking guns." The introductory remarks, however, make clear some of the problems with this collection that Brovkin argues will establish "a new scholarly agenda" for the revolutionary period (p. 4). A rather tendentious survey of the historiography follows. While certainly marred by political constraints, the enormous Soviet historical literature on the revolutionary period cannot be described as "worthless" (p. 1). Brovkin is equally if not more dismissive of the revisionist historians of the 1970s and 1980s, whom he
characterizes as apologists for the Soviet regime. The politics of this collection, or at least that of several contributors, profoundly compromises its value. In this context, one might speak of a "Pipes school," as Pipes himself is a contributor: Brovkin and Anna Geifman are obviously intellectually indebted to him, and Jonathon Daly, Leonid Heretz and Scott Smith were all his graduate students (this accounts for nearly half of the contributors). The reader has the impression that, for some of these young writers at least, the newly opened archives are simply a cudgel to be wielded against the revisionists rather than an opportunity to increase our knowledge of the revolutionary period.

The best of the articles do contribute to a serious, scholarly reassessment of the revolution and civil war by addressing a number of previously neglected subjects. This is exemplified in Michael Melancon’s piece, "The Left Socialist Revolutionaries and the Bolshevik Uprising." Through extensive and painstaking archival research, the author persuasively overturns the traditional image of the Left SRs as naive dupes of the Bolsheviks. Instead, as the majority voice within the Party, they reflected the sentiments of an increasingly radicalized populace in the summer and fall of 1917. Their decision to ally with the Bolsheviks was based on a shared demand for an end to the war, the timely redressing of popular grievances, and the creation of an all-socialist government. Despite the strength of Melancon’s analysis of the Left SRs, however, the question of political determinacy remains obscure, as the leadership of the various parties, rather than their rank-and-file constituencies, decided the final outcome of events in 1917 and beyond.

Taisia Osipova, in "Peasant Revolts: Origin, Scope, Dynamics, and Consequences," presents a careful and provocative work on a little-studied topic. In this case, the peasant response to the policies of the Bolshevik regime. She employs an impressive array of archival materials to construct an overview of peasant attitudes and actions after October. Having obtained land and peace, O sipova maintains, peasants initially adopted an essentially neutral posture toward the regime. Opposition arose in response to grain requisitioning and military conscription, and the Bolsheviks in turn employed massive force against the peasantry. While widespread by late 1918, peasant revolts were localized (in the strength of Melancon’s analysis of the Left SRs, however, the question of political determinacy remains obscure, as the leadership of the various parties, rather than their rank-and-file constituencies, decided the final outcome of events in 1917 and beyond.

The reader is similarly frustrated by Read’s "Values, Substitutes, and Institutions: The Cultural Dimension of the Bolshevik Dictatorship." In a very brief piece, Read proposes nothing less than a complete overturning of the traditional understanding of Lenin and the Bolsheviks as pragmatists concerned only with power. Instead, Read argues that Lenin and others were as weak and disorganized (concluding that "one should not be too sanguine" about the prospects for the SRs and Mensheviks," p. 99). The author’s reach here is too broad, and the piece is fractured between a consideration of party politics and election results; perhaps in a forthcoming monograph Smith will provide answers to the questions raised in this piece. Ultimate responsibility for this sort of problem lies with the editor, who should have cautioned Smith against attempting to cover too much in a short article. At the same time, Heretz on "The Psychology of the Whites" and pipes on "The Psychology of the Whites and Reds respectively, should have been advised to develop their arguments further. In "The Psychology of the White Movement," Heretz uses memoirs and fiction to explore the mind set of the Whites, who conceived of the civil war as an apocalyptic struggle in which one must be willing to sacrifice oneself to save the nation. Heretz proposes a new, cultural approach to the White movement, which could in turn help to illuminate a number of political issues. For example, the ambiguous attitude toward the narod, who are alternately seen as innately good but misguided and fundamentally base and therefore in need of strict control (pp. 112-13) must have shaped their policy decisions, yet Heretz does not address this question.

The same cannot be said of several other articles, which at times cross the line from scholarship to polemic. While perhaps the study of the revolution has never been free of political biases, the collapse of Communism in Russia should have helped matters somewhat. Instead, for some of the contributors, it seems to have provoked a smug triumphalism. This is especially evident in the articles by Pipes and Brovkin. In less than ten pages of text, Pipes cites several archival documents from RSKHODI, all of which are intended to confirm his longstanding depiction of Lenin as evil incarnate. A number of the most debated questions about the Bolsheviks and the revolution are resolved in a paragraph or less, from the proximate causes of the Red Terror, to Lenin’s views on Stalin and Trotsky’s importance in the victory of the Red Army (on the last of these points, Pipes cites one document in which Trotsky erroneously predicted reverses against Denikin’s forces in order to claim that his role was negligible). Such a scatter shot, unfocused approach stands in sharp contrast to the careful research of those contributors discussed above. Any lingering doubts about Pipes’ intentions are dispelled.
when he identifies the Bolsheviks with the Nazis at both the start and close of the article (a similar comparison is drawn by both Daly and Shlapentokh and is equally unconvincing).

Brovkin’s own contribution, “Mobilization, Utilization, and the Rhetoric of Liberation: Bolshevik Policy Toward Women,” is little more than a diatribe against the Bolshevik regime. Brovkin’s criticism that much of the scholarship on women in the early Soviet period has focused on the influence of the Workers’ Party, the PPS (Polish Workers’ Party and Polish Socialist Party), which later merged to form the PPR, or Polish United Workers’ Party in Poland, is engaging in this section are the two chapters on contrasting labor relations in the cities of Lodz and Wroclaw. Kenney describes the workers in Lodz, the manufacturing center of Poland in many respects, as having a strong class and community identity which had only been strengthened by the war. Poor living conditions, bitter winters, and little help from the nominal government resulted in wave after wave of strikes, as workers united to express the moral economy of the community through their tradition of strikes. Kenney shows how workers incorporated the new rhetoric of the communist state into their protests, however, subverting the ideological appeals of the state and forcing officials to take action to address the conditions.

Unfortunately, the most notable and sippple contributions undermine the collection’s value. The time for a serious reappraisal of the revolutionary period has arrived, but this volume will not set a new scholarly agenda. The strongest pieces point the way to new approaches, and several others hold the promise of doing so. Others, however, distort rather than improve our understanding of the revolution and civil war. Perhaps the lesson to be learned is that nothing is to be gained by continuing to politicize study of this period.

Reviewed for Z-Russia by Susan Zayer Rupp rupp (at) wfu.edu, Wake Forest University © 1998, H-Net. All rights reserved.

Communists in Poland


Rebuilding Poland, by Padraic Kenney, revisits the 1945-50 process of communist takeover in Poland from a fresh perspective—that of the actions and reactions of Polish workers.[1] Kenney focuses on the ways in which workers both resisted and cooperated with the emerging regime, and while workers perhaps not did shape broad regime policies, he shows how some important concessions were won. This nuanced approach adds much to our understanding of the evolution of communist rule in Poland, as most literature on this subject takes a “top down” approach which assumes that the people of Poland had little agency during the Stalinist era. Kenney uses newly available archival materials from, among others, the Security Apparatus, factories, and trade unions, as well as his own interviews with workers, to paint a complex landscape of warring interests. The author views the struggles of both workers and the state from below. On the one hand, he deconstructs the “state” and the “party” to show how the many layers of bureaucracy held conflicting interests and positions, illuminating the inner workings of what seemed to be a monolithic totalitarian system under Stalinism. On the other, he documents rifts among workers based on gender, age, skill, regional identity, and class background.

Kenney argues that there were two distinct phases of transformation from the post-war situation through to the total dominance of communist power by 1950: economic and social transformation was most important from 1945-47, and then Stalinist political and social transformation from 1948-50. The book thus is divided into two sections. The first, Revolution in the Factories, 1945-1947, gives an overview of the post-war situation in Poland, including the mass looting and destruction of industry by German and Russian troops and the subsequent tasks of rebuilding homes and industry and providing basic subsistence needs. Kenney sketches the conflict between the two political parties, the PPR and PPS (Polish Workers’ Party and Polish Socialist Party), which later merged to form the PPR, or Polish United Workers’ Party in Poland, in Poland.

In the next two chapters, he then turns his attention to two prominent programs used by the state to shape workers’ labor and ideology: campaigns of labor competition, contests in which workers attempted to surpass production quotas for bonuses and prizes; and the introduction of “cultural” themes for the purposes of recreation and class integration, such as plays, concerts, and factory-organized vacations. The conclusion recap the larger struggles over moral community, labor, and society, and the change in the base of legitimacy of the state from the reconstruction efforts of the immediate post-war years to the grand communist plans of the 1950s.

Kenney has written a detailed, comprehensive book, which will be useful for labor scholars, scholars of the former Soviet regime, and perhaps also for those who study authoritarian regimes elsewhere. A more grandly theorized contextualization of his discussions of class, moral economy, and the production of national identity would have added greatly to the usefulness of this volume for comparative scholars. Overall, this book is a clear success. Kenney’s treatment of the micro-technologies of power, and the ways in which they may be successfully resisted and shaped, is thoroughly convincing and a strong contribution to the social history of communism.

[1] I follow the author’s usage of “communist” and “Stalinist.”

Reviewed by Brian Kelly. Florida International University. Published by H-Labor (August, 1998)

Some thirty years ago, the late Herbert Gutman lit the fuse to an inter-racial labor history with his ground-breaking exploration of the "chronic, intense, and wide-ranging conflict" between "white miners" (p. 38). Nevertheless, Letwin argues, "chronic, intense, and wide-ranging conflict with the operators over material conditions and power relations carried into the mines by workers themselves. Letwin notes the "pathetic language that framed calls for interracialism" (p. 62) and suggests that while practical collaboration could occasionally spur exceptional breaches of Jim Crow racial protocol, and while miners of both races developed a keen "awareness that the color line was artificial" (p. 89), working class interracialism very often accommodated itself to, rather than directly challenged, Jim Crow.

Letwin's narrative chronicles the fortunes of interracial unionism through four successive periods: the years between the collapse of Reconstruction and the late 1880s, when the Greenback-Labor Party and the Knights of Labor in turn provided district miners with an arena for bi-racial collaboration and a vehicle for resisting the power of the operators; the Populist period, during which the operators resorted increasingly to an explicit divide-and-rule strategy, importing black strikebreakers to frustrate UMWA efforts to establish a foothold in the district; the years between the turn of the century and the First World War, when a temporary truce between union miners and their employers gave way to conflict and the decimation of the union after 1916; and the wartime revival of interracial unionism which began in 1916 and culminated in a massive confrontation in the coalfields in 1920-21.

In the years before black Alabamans lost the franchise in 1901, state Democrats faced a number of independent electoral challenges in the mineral district. The local variant of Greenbackism was notable for the way that miners adapted the party's more abstract national program to immediate, local concerns: demands for abolition of the convict lease system, stricter...
enforcement of health and safety regulations in the mining, and protection against being cheated out of their wages all figured prominently in local campaigns. Also exceptional, by Alabama standards, was the willingness of white Greenbackers to work closely with their black counterparts, not in the spirit of “upcountry Republicanism,” which “viewed blacks as pawns in their contest with the Black Belt elite,” writes Letwin, but as “central actors”: “ interracial collaboration was a formative experience in the making of the operators to Bourbon rule” (p. 66).

Both the Greenbackers and the Knights of Labor defended black political rights at the height of their influence, Letwin writes, but the Bourbons’ ability to spur the populacion changed to an evident potential for a labor-aligned electoral challenge and, notably, to the weakening of interracialism. Black Greenbackers had frequently complained that their white counterparts “could not bring themselves to break with the Democratic Party even as they urged blacks to stand by the Greenback ticket” (p. 63), and white labor paid dearly for its silence in the face of disfranchisement. Their reluctance to confront Jim Crow directly deprived them of the exceptional for them closest allies, narrowing the possibilities of mounting an electoral challenge to white elites and leaving white workers to choose between contending factions of a Democratic party fully committed to safeguarding the interests of their employers.

While Letwin has perhaps underestimated the operators’ recognition of the benefits offered by a racially divided workforce in the district’s formative period,[3] he is no doubt correct that their approach to the race question represented a quality different than did the UMw’s perspective. The labor-management battle of the operators’ arsenal” (p. 116). The deliberate resort to racial provocation became a permanent feature of the UMw. Letwin devotes considerable attention to the effect of this strategy within the ranks of the UMw, a potentially paralyzing one, which the union weathered remarkably well. The union sought actively to “deflect the racial wedge” by “emphasizing the presence of white as well as black strikebreakers” and by distinguishing between “black ‘practical miners,’ who had sided overwhelmingly with the union,” and “greenhorns” who “had been shipped in without any knowledge of their role. Moreover, Letwin writes, the UMw “leaned over backwards to deny any suggestion that whites enjoyed a primary claim on work, at times even hesitating to urge the ouster of black strikebreakers lest it stoke racial divisions” (p. 93).

Despite its shrewd perception of the disruptive intent of divide-and-rule, however, and a sometimes exemplary discipline in the face of racial provocation, Letwin dispels any notion that the Alabama UMw was an oasis of racial equality sealed off from the larger society in which it operated. “White unionists,” he writes, “contested the operators’ manipulation of race from both within and outside the tradition of white supremacy” (p. 94). Resentment of the operators’ attempts to displace white labor with black after the turn of the century was often articulated as an objection to their violation of white solidarity. Discussions of black strikebreaking frequently counterprogrammed the sympathetic public into believing that the narrow breathing room available to any interracial movement in the Jim Crow era* attests to the combination of “self-preservation and genuine solidarity” [that] gave shape to
convicts were simply transferred to Pratt's Banner Mine.[5] Finally, in his discussion of the relation between black miners and Birmingham's accommodationist black middle class, Letwin cites a single speech from black UMW Vice President B. L. Greer to assert that "the philosophies (or at least rhetorical strategies) of the black middle class and black unionists in the New South were not always so incompatible as is often supposed" (p. 145). Yet it is worthwhile distinguishing between rhetorical style and substance here. Greer's admittedly curious assertion that blacks "have been given suffrage, it has been justly said, too soon," was likely intended to express concerns antithetical to those weighing upon Booker T. Washington and his followers. Washington's embarrassment regarding the franchise derived from the frustration that so many blacks had deserted the "better class of whites" to vote with white riff-raff in the populist and anti-redeemer movements. It is not likely that Greer, a veteran unionist, viewed the problem from a similar perspective: more likely he shared the sentiment, widespread among white ex-Populists, that too many blacks had been duped into voting for Bourbon reactionaries.

It is very difficult to measure the resonance which accommodationist "race leaders" found in the coal camps. Scraps of evidence can be found in NAACP branch reports, in federal reports on wartime surveillance of Birmingham's African American community, and in the Urban League's Early Migration Surveys, sources which are underutilized in Letwin's rendering of wartime developments. During the heyday of racial paternalism—in the years between the UMW's defeat in 1908 and the resurrection of the UMW in 1916--black middle men constituted a captive audience for the middle class "race leaders," who toured the camps under the sponsorship of leading anti-union operators. They spoke to packed audiences mainly because the operators had the upper hand, and miners risked their livelihoods if they did not attend. Their admonishments to black miners to "stop grumbling about the white man not paying us what we're worth" certainly would not have gone over well.

The extent that these individuals did gain a hearing among black miners, it was their espousal of a variant of racial pride and not their lectures on thrift, sobriety or devotion to the employers that won it for them. And operators proved themselves amenable to a certain brand of racial separatism. From the mid-1890s through to the postwar period, leading operators attempted to prod black miners into organizing separate "unions," but their plans were singularly unsuccessful. It is significant, as well, that race leaders attempted to stem black miners away from the UMW by stigmatizing it as a "white man's union." Their diatribes against collaboration with poor whites, of course, did not preclude deference towards the most powerful whites in the district, who were attacking the UMW for the (real or imaginary) crime of advocating racial equality. Whatever relationship existed between accommodationists and black miners in the non-union years after 1908, we do know that as soon as black miners were presented a viable alternative, they deserted race leaders en masse to the district, who were attacking the unions, sources which are underutilized in Letwin's rendering of wartime developments. During the heyday of racial paternalism—in the years between the UMW's defeat in 1908 and the resurrection of the UMW in 1916--black middle men constituted a captive audience for the middle class "race leaders," who toured the camps under the sponsorship of leading anti-union operators. They spoke to packed audiences mainly because the operators had the upper hand, and miners risked their livelihoods if they did not attend. Their admonishments to black miners to "stop grumbling about the white man not paying us what we're worth" certainly would not have gone over well.

The field of southern labor history, and our understanding of the complex relationship between black and white workers, has advanced considerably since Gutman issued his call for detailed studies three decades ago. The Challenge of Interracial Unionism sets a high standard for scholars as they continue the work of unraveling that complexity.

Notes:
[3] Letwin argues that "there is no evidence that the operators' recruitment of both blacks and whites represented any sort of divide-and-rule strategy" (p. 54) in the early years even as he acknowledges that they "drew upon a rich lode of racial and ethnic assumptions" as they "sought to cobble together a [docile, efficient] workforce" (p. 24).
[4] It is entirely possible that the charge that District 20 had organized interracial auxiliaries was a complete fabrication. I have been unable to determine whether it was true or not. It is interesting, however, that during the 1920 strike, union officials felt compelled from the beginning of the strike to make clear that black and white women would be organized into separate auxiliaries. Letwin argues that "there is no evidence that the operators' recruitment of both blacks and whites represented any sort of divide-and-rule strategy" (p. 54) in the early years even as he acknowledges that they "drew upon a rich lode of racial and ethnic assumptions" as they "sought to cobble together a [docile, efficient] workforce" (p. 24).

Exhibitions
AMSAB (Ghent)
- A century of solidarity. History of the Belgian trade union movement. On the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the ABVV, AMSAB has presented a travelling exhibition at the Heysel Palace in Brussels (December 1997). The exhibition is also planned in Namur (September 1998) and Ghent (November 1998).
- August Debuinne. At the release of a publication about this eminent socialist leader AMSAB has presented a travelling exhibition (release April 1998).
- 50 Years of women's voting right. A travelling exhibition about the labour movement and women's voting right (release May 1998).
- Anne Frank. AMSAB and the CSC (the cultural organization of the Socialist Party) will present the Anne Frank exhibition from the Anne Frank Foundation. AMSAB is now making additional panels in order to illustrate the rise of extreme-right in Belgium, racism and discrimination (release September 1998).
- Pierre De Geyter, composer of the International, was born on the 8th of October 1848 in Ghent. AMSAB is organizing an exhibition about the composer and the International in the AMSAB-Museum (October-December 1998).

Socialism and Sex. Within the framework of the Museum van de Vlaamse Sociale Strijd, AMSAB is preparing an exhibition about socialism and gender themes (17 March - 2 May 1999).
Arbejdsmuseet (Copenhagen)

Permanent Exhibitions:
* "Hard Times - a flat of the 1930s" describes everyday working-class life during the time of mass unemployment in the 1930s.
* In "The 1950s - an exhibition on everyday life" you can relive pre-welfare state everyday life at work and at home. Part of this exhibition consists of a coffee bar in a genuine fifties setting where the visitors can experience what coffee substitute tasted like in the fifties.
* "The Sørensens - a working-class family 1885-1990" consists of a flat which was donated to the museum and describes the life and work of two generations.
* From 01.09: "The People's Century".  
* From ca. October 1999: "People's clothing in 1950s"

Special exhibitions 1998:
* 15.03-15.09 "La Commune" - The Paris Commune, 1871.  
* 15.10-15.02.99 "Erling Frederiksen - retrospective". Paintings.

Special exhibitions 1999 (approximate dates):
* "Paintings by Andersen-Nårnum" (ca March-September)  
* "100 years - 100 objects" - One object for every year during the 20th century, describing developments / events from a worker's point of view. (ca October 1999-March 2000).

Opening hours: Daily 10-16; November-June: Monday closed.

The National Trades Union Museum (Amsterdam)

Art to the People
To bring art to the people: that is what Walter Crane, Théophile-Alexandre Steinlen, Albert Hahn, Frans Masereel and Gerd Arntz, the five artists in this exhibition wanted. They made prints in large editions and illustrations in popular magazines instead of paintings. In this way, they could reach a large audience, and what's more: an audience that would never visit a museum.

Art not only had to reach ordinary people, it also had to contribute to social change. Crane, Steinlen, Hahn, Masereel and Arntz adapted their subjects and style to their political convictions. They depicted daily life, social problems and the struggle for a better society. Their best work is as valid today as when it was created, from the 1880s to the 1930s. For some artists, political involvement, aiming at comprehensibility and the use of cheap printing techniques are no restraints but stimuli.

This exhibition in the National Trades Union Museum in Amsterdam, organized by the International Institute of Social History. It was on show from 18 September 1997 to 1 March 1998. A digital version of the exhibition can be found at www.iisg.nl/exhibitions/art between East- and West-Germany, in recent years the Foundation has increasingly engaged in the developmental problems of labor unions and industrial relations in the countries of post-communist transformation. The goals of these new activities by the Foundation consist of scientific research and public relations concerning the development of democratic labor relations, understanding of nations, social justice, conditions of employment, and environmental protection.

The Current State and the Developmental Perspectives of Labor Unions and Industrial Relations
As part of its activities in Eastern Europe the Foundation plans a larger conference in Berlin in 1999 entitled "The Current State and the Developmental Perspectives of Labor Unions and Industrial Relations." This conference will bring together leading representatives of the new labor unions in the different states to discuss experiences and exchange views on the typical dilemmas of the unions' role in times of transformation and the transition to a market economy, German experts in the field and academic experts from the states of post-communist transformation will also take part in this conference.

Experts in the Countries of Post-Communist Transformation
In preparation for the larger conference in 1999, the Foundation organizes a smaller three-day seminar for academic experts from the transformation states in Berlin November 1-5, 1998. The goal of this seminar is twofold: Firstly, the setting up of a network of academic experts and institutes in the transformation states with a competence in issues of labor union politics and industrial relations and, secondly, the formulation of a conceptual framework for the 1999 conference.

Proposals for themes and sessions are welcome. So far, possible topics include:
* The industrial unions and (hidden) unemployment
* The shifting functions of the labor unions
* The privatization and restructuring of communist industrial complexes
* Market economy and collective bargaining: wage policies and the modernization pact
* Organized workers and the legacy of the state unions
* Industrial unions and the integration in an all-European market economy
* A social market economy, competitiveness, and the labor unions
* Innovation and industrial policies
* Capital market or state subvention
* Solidarity and social security
* The setting up of democratic union structures and organizational reform
* The labor unions and their relations to political parties
* Globalization and international competition
* The international movement of labor unions
* More jobs or more environmental protection
* The European Union and its eastern enlargement
* The national economy and foreign investment

Networking
The Foundation would be grateful for any help in setting up its network and in establishing contact with the relevant academic institutes and/or union representatives. Please feel free to contact us or to forward this brochure and call-for-papers to anyone who might be interested.

Invitation
The Otto Brenner Foundation invites academic researchers (political and social scientists, law specialists, economists, etc.) and academic institutes in Eastern Europe and the FSU to apply for participation in the preparatory expert seminar. The selection criteria

Conferences

Labor Unions and Industrial Relations in CEE and the NIS

Berlin, November 1-5, 1998
The Otto Brenner Foundation is the academic foundation of the IG Metall, named after its first president of the industrial union IG Metall. Apart from its activities in Germany related to the reconciliation
are (apart from a working knowledge of German and/or English, the official languages of the conference, although adding Russian is an option) - a strong profile and competencies in the field of labor union politics and industrial relations. For more information please get in touch with:

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Socialist Artefacts, Places and Identities
A seminar on art, material culture and everyday life behind the "Iron Curtain"

This seminar will address the construction of distinct socialist identities, particularly through the production and consumption of art, space and commonplace artefacts, during the late-Stalinist and post-Stalinist periods. The seminar aims to promote comparison between different national contexts and different disciplinary knowledges.

The seminar is open to the public and no charge will be made for entry. However, places are limited and, for this reason, only ticket holders will be given entrance. To register for a place or to offer a paper, please write or email to the address below.

Organisers - David Crowley/ University of Brighton
dc87(at)brighton.ac.uk and
Susan Reid / University of Northumbria at Newcastle
susan.reid(at)unn.ac.uk

Address for correspondence:
David Crowley, SHACS,
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Brighton BN2 1RA, United Kingdom

Social Science History Association Annual Convention
Chicago, November 19-22, 1998

The Social Science History Association will hold its annual conference November 19-22, 1998 at the Palmer House Hilton in Chicago. The SSHA is the leading interdisciplinary association in the social sciences. Its annual conference attracts scholars as well as sociologists, political scientists, demographers, geographers, economists, and anthropologists from around the world. Sessions cover a wide range of topics and draw from a wide range of qualitative and quantitative methodologies. The SSHA strongly encourages participation from graduate students and recent PhDs as well as more established scholars. We especially welcome panels that reflect the diversity of the academy.

For Labor Network panels, please contact:
Anton Rosenhall, Department of History University of Kansas, 3001 Wescoe Hal, Lawrence, KS 6604 (785) 864-356, rosenthl(at)ukans.edu
or:
Cindy Hahamovitch, Department of History, P.O. Box 8795, Williamsburg, VA 23187-8795, (757) 221-3770, cxhaha(at)mail.wm.edu

Militancy and Militants
Brussels, 26 and 27 November 1998

Purpose and Date of the Conference
The Centre for the History and Sociology of the Left of the Free University of Brussels (Sociology Institute, ulb) intends to hold an international conference on 26 and 27 November 1998 devoted to the theme of militancy and of political militants. The conference will focus on Belgium, but contributions of a general or theoretical nature are also welcome.

Definition of the Militant
Is a militant somebody who struggles or who fights for an idea? Must he or she necessarily operate within a collective structure, or can one be an individual militant? Can a militant be paid? What are the frontiers between being a militant, an employee of a movement or a sympathiser? Is a militant the person who "remains at war even when the war is over"?

Problematic
In order to facilitate the analysis of these "obscure elites" (a term of B. Pudal), we raise here a number of questions which are far from exhaustive but to which the participants will seek to respond through their contributions to the conference:

1. How should we analyse this phenomenon of collective organisation when it is characterised by such diverse forms of militancy which is religious or political, feminist or associational, secular or working class, anti-racist or ecological? How can a typology of these different forms of militancy be arrived at?
2. Can one through these various forms of engagement nevertheless define common strata or problematics?
3. What, for example, is the underlying motivation which propels an entry into militancy? How can this motivation be described (and/or reconstructed) by the militant?
4. What role is played by written influences and by personal experience?
5. What is the investment of the militant, in terms of time, energy and money?
6. What role does family life play in militancy? Can one differentiate between generations of militants and those militants forged in reaction to their family milieu? When does the partner come to be perceived as an obstacle to engagement? And when as a collaborator? In the same way, does the family serve as an obstacle or a motivation to engagement?
7. Why are certain militants of the past remembered and others forgotten? Does the biographer focus on those "obscure elites" to whom he feels drawn by personal sympathy? Consequently, do certain categories of militants tend to be under or over-represented in history?
8. What are the areas undiscussed, either voluntarily or involuntarily?
9. Are heroic representations still possible, for example through the ideal of disinterested dedication?
10. Has the cult of the individual culminated in the death of organised social groups and therefore of the militant?
11. What difficulties are encountered in writing the history of militancy?
12. Given the impossibility of recapturing today the internal motivations which determined the militants of the past, what were the psychological determinants which propelled these engagements: the integration of internal contradictions, of individual or collective conflicts, the experiences of childhood?
13. Are there choices of professions or forms of practice of those professions which are typical of militants?
Annual meeting of the American Historical Association 1999

Washington, D.C. (January 7-10, 1999)

H-Net: Humanities and Social Sciences OnLine is now welcoming paper proposals and panel suggestions for the H-Net affiliated sessions at the annual meeting of the American Historical Association 1999, which will be held in Washington, D.C. (January 7-10, 1999). We are particularly interested in papers which will address the following areas:

* Teaching (with a particular focus on multimedia and applications of new technologies, and evaluation of multimedia tools and approaches)
* Technology and the Changing Structure of the University
  * Graduate Education
  * International Outreach
  * Cross Distance Learning and Scholarship

Please contact: Melanie Shell Weiss
Assistant Director, H-Net
e-mail: melanie (at) h-net.msu.edu
fax: (517)355-8363

Annual Conference of the Association of Industrial Relations Academics of Australia

Adelaide, South Australia from 4-6 February 1999

The Organising Committee for the next Annual Conference of the Association of Industrial Relations Academics of Australia and New Zealand (AIRAANZ), to be held in Adelaide, South Australia from 4-6 February 1999, calls for papers. Full details can be obtained from web site:

business.unisa.edu.au/airaanz/

As you may be aware, there is a very strong Labour History discipline in Australia and New Zealand. We would be delighted to hear from European based labour historians interested in presenting in Adelaide in February.

Gerry Treuren
School of Management, University of South Australia
Way Lee Building Rm. 4-41
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(08) 8302-0640
(08) 8302-0411 (fax)
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business.unisa.edu.au/management

Private Time, Private Space, Private Parts
Negotiating the Boundaries of Private and Public in History

1999 University of Delaware-Hagley Fellows Conference
Hagley Museum and Library, Wilmington, Delaware
Friday, February 26, 1999
Cowboy Acts in Europe
The Lecture Tour
Transatlantic Adaptations
Piracy, Literary and Other

Longer versions of INCS conference papers are regularly published in the affiliated journal, Nineteenth-Century Contexts: an interdisciplinary journal.

Send 200-word abstracts or complete papers (15-page limit) by October 16, 1998 to:
Clare A. Simmons and Susan S. Williams
Department of English, The Ohio State University
Columbus, OH 43210-1370
simmons.9(at)osu.edu or williams.488(at)osu.edu
Notification of acceptance will be mailed in December. INCS sessions are devoted to discussion. Papers (15-page maximum) are made available to attendants in advance; presenters make a five-minute summary of their work and respond to discussion.

Provincial Landscapes
The Local Dimensions of Soviet Power, 1917-1953
Chapel Hill on April 23-24, 1999

The Center for Slavic, Eurasian, and East European Studies at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, will sponsor a conference in Chapel Hill on April 23-24, 1999, entitled "Provincial Landscapes: The Local Dimensions of Soviet Power, 1917-1953."
The purpose of the conference is to provide a forum for both junior and senior scholars who study the political, social, and/or cultural aspects of Soviet local history between 1917 and 1953, and to publish a unique collection of essays that will help de-center standard narratives of the Soviet historical experience.

Appropriate topics might address issues such as how political events and social engineering played themselves out at the local level; the construction of Bolshevik identities, including the identities of class, gender, ethnicity, and place; the hybridization of Soviet cultural forms; center-periphery relations; propaganda, religion, etc.

Particular consideration will be given, however, to those proposals that employ non-traditional disciplinary approaches: tap local archives; focus on the connection between language and power; conceptualize local history as the product of diverse social relations that cut across specific locations in a multiplicity of ways; and/or seek to define what is "local" about local history.

Interested scholars are invited to send a one-page abstract and curriculum vitae to the conference organizer, Donald J. Raleigh, Department of History, CB #3195, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599, by October 1, 1998. Those selected to participate in the conference must submit their papers for duplication and circulation by February 1, 1999. The Center hopes to be in a position to cover all basic conference expenses. For further information contact the conference organizer at djr(at)email.unc.edu

Gender and Class in the 20th Century

Opening session of the international conference "Socialism & Sex", organized by the AMSab. This conference should be the culmination of its research on socialism and sex. The seminar aims to discuss political, social, economical and cultural aspects of the position of women in a historical and gender perspective.

Preliminary list of speakers:
* Prof. Jeffrey Weeks (School of Education, Politics and Social Science, South Bank University, London, United Kingdom) Sex, gender and society
* Prof. Catherine Hoskyns (Coventry University, Coventry, United Kingdom) Women, law & politics in Europe
* Prof. Rosi Braidotti (Universiteit Utrecht, Vakgroep Vrouwenstudies, Utrecht, Nederland) Cyberfeminism
* Mevr. Stiene Van Rie Evolution of women’s labour after WW II
* Dhr. Bart De Wilde (AMSAB, Gent) Men and women: relations on the shop floor before WW II
* Dr. Francis Ronson (Université de Bourgogne, Faculté des Sciences humaines, Dijon, France) Néo-Malthusianisme
* Prof. Brigitte Studer (University of Bern, Historisches Institut, Bern, Switzerland) Labour movement and gender
* Prof. Dr. Mary Nash (Departement of Contemporary History, University of Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain) Labour movement and gender
* Dr. Roger Davidson (The University of Edinburgh, Department of Economic and Social History, Edinburgh, United Kingdom) VD, sexuality and the state in 20th century Scotland
* Mevr. Dr. Jolande Withuis (Amsterdam, Nederland) Space-woman’s dress: about politics, culture and psyche
* Mme. Dr. Hedwige Peemans-Poulet (Université des femmes, Bruxelles) Le contrôle des naissances chez Emile Claeys: féminisme ou néo-malthusianisme?
* Mevr. Dr. Francisca De Haan (Amsterdam, Nederland) Clerks and clerical work
* Mevr. Sabine Van Cauwenberge (Gynaika, Antwerpen) Women and art
* Dhr. Dr. Marc Hooghe (VUB, Centrum voor Sociologie, Brussel) Moderator
* Dhr. Hans Moors (Nijmegen, Nederland) Moderator
* Mevr. Dr. Gita Deneckere (Rijksuniversiteit Gent) Conclusion

Gender & Class is organized with IISG-Amsterdam, Centrum voor Genderstudies Rijksuniversiteit Gent, Vakgroep Nieuwe Geschiedenis Rijksuniversiteit Gent and MIAT-Gent.

Russian Modernism
Methods and Meaning in the Post-Soviet Era

SHERA (Society of Historians of East European and Russian Art and Architecture) is organizing a series of symposia on the art and architecture of Russia and East-Central Europe. The first symposium will have as its theme "Russian Modernism: Methods and Meaning in the Post-Soviet era." The organizational committee includes Wendy Salmon, Anne Odom, Alison Hilton, and is chaired by Blair Ruble (Kennan Institute, Woodrow Wilson Center, Washington D. C.) and Jane Sharp (Department of Art History and Archaeology, University of Maryland College Park. The symposium will be held for two days in April 1999 at the University of Maryland, College Park campus and the Woodrow Wilson Center. Admission will be free.

Modernism is interpreted broadly, to include the widest possible range of issues and media in 19th and 20th-century visual arts and architecture. Sessions will be organized according to approach that will address as follows:
* the legacy of Formalist and Marxist historiography, its impact on studies of Russian modernism in Russia, East-Central Europe and the West.
* the extent to which the avant-garde defined what is understood as (Russian) modernism; how a historiographical focus on the avant-garde continues to shape the study of modernism in general (and for an
International community).

* how a renewed interest in social history that focuses on institutions and audiences has affected interpretations of Russian modernist art.
* how periodization has determined meaning/value for Russian modernist art, how redefinitions of period styles altered modernist art historiography (and why).
* how constructions of gender (or lack of attention to this) have affected interpretations of modernity/ modern art in Russia.
* how constructions of national identity have shaped Russian modernist art and/or critical discourse.
* what is the significance of media bias/specialization within the study of Russian modernism.
* how do differences in method and training, gaps in communication among international scholars of Russian modernism affect the field in general.

Jane A. Sharp
Institute for Advanced Study
Olden Lane
Princeton, NJ 08540
jsharp (at) ias.edu

Blair Ruble
Director
The Kennan Institute
Woodrow Wilson Center
370 L’Enfant Promenade, SW, Suite 704
Washington, D.C. 20024-2518
wwcem124 (at) sivm.si.edu

Creating the Other

The causes and dynamics of nationalism, ethnic enmity, and racism in Central and Eastern Europe.

University of Minnesota
6-8 May, 1999

The Center's 1999 symposium will be interdisciplinary, consisting of both the presentation and discussion of papers, as well as workshops. The central aim is to foster an interdisciplinary, comparative inquiry into the root causes and dynamics of nationalist, ethnic and racial enmity.

The primary regions to be examined will be Austria; the Habsburg Monarchy and East-Central Europe; and the Balkans. The symposium will be part of an ongoing project concerning the sources and resolution of national, ethnic and racial conflict in the region.

The major themes for papers and discussion will be:

1. The Basic Causes of National, Ethnic and Racist Enmity: theory and practice the historical experience
2. The functions of nationalism: psychological, cultural, political and economic
3. The functions of the Other: psychological, cultural, political and economic
4. The dynamics of viewing the Other: changes over time in particular regions and among different groups in the functions of nationalism and images of the other.
5. Imagining the Other: The creation of images of the Other; literature and discourse.
6. Comparative aspects of the problem; transnational comparisons. Central and Eastern Europe and other world regions.

Papers from the conference, as well as some of the discussion, will be published.

Center for Austrian Studies
casyah (at) maroon.tc.umn.edu
314 Social Sciences Building
University of Minnesota
267 19th Avenue South
Minneapolis MN 55455

Landscapes of Memory

Oral History and the Environment
Breaking Boundaries
11th Berkshire Conference on the History of Women
June 4-6 1999 University of Rochester, Rochester, New York, USA.

The Program Committee welcomes proposals that transcend regional, disciplinary, and cultural boundaries; that break traditional boundaries of academic presentation and explore innovative ways of presenting material and involving the audience. The Committee also seeks proposals that discuss pedagogy, public history, collaborative research, and feminist activism. The Committee encourages international participation and panels that represent a diversity of participants.

We prefer proposals for complete panels (normally two papers, one commentator, and a chair) or roundtables, especially those with cross-national and comparative themes. Individual papers will also be considered. The program Committee may rearrange panels; submission of a proposal will be taken as agreement with this proviso. No one may appear more than once on the program in any capacity.

Please submit proposals in triplicate, postmarked by January 31, 1999, in a single packet marked “Attn: Berkshire Conference” to the appropriate co-chair. Each proposal must include: 1) panel title or roundtable theme; 2) title and one-page abstract of each paper or presentation; 3) name and address of contact person; 4) one-page vita for each participant, including current address, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address; 5) a self-addressed, stamped postcard for return upon receipt of packet.

Send proposals on U.S. and Canadian topics to Nell Painter, Department of History, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ 08544-1017; on European topics to Sharon Stroczek, Department of History, Emory University, Atlanta, GA 30322; on Africa, Latin America, Asia, the Pacific, and all comparative topics (U.S., non-U.S.) to Teresa Meade, Department of History, Union College, Schenectady, NY 12308-2365.

For more information see our website at: www.berks.aas.duke.edu

78th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Historical Association
June 5-7, 1999, Sherbrooke, Quebec

The Canadian Historical Association will travel to the Sherbrooke area, in Quebec's Eastern Townships, for its 78th annual meeting, June 5-7, 1999. The host university of the 1999 CHA meeting is the Université de Sherbrooke, and most of our sessions will take place on its campus. But, in the spirit of inter-university cooperation adopted by the 1999 Congress of the Social Sciences and Humanities, the scene will shift to Bishop's University in nearby Lennoxville for certain activities.

The program committee has selected four themes for the 1999 meeting. Proposals are invited for individual papers and complete sessions, both within and beyond these thematic areas:

- Historical consciousness and historical practice today
- The material world
- The state and political culture
- Historical imagination and the historian's craft

Proposals should be sent to Steve Hussey History Department, Essex University, Colchester, CO4 3SQ, England, before 1 November 1998. Email enquiries to Steve Hussey (husss (at) essex.ac.uk)
Communications and society
From the reading revolution of the 19th century to the rise of film, radio, television and, most recently, digital technologies in the 20th, society has been continuously transformed by revolutions in communications. New media have spawned new forms of elite and mass culture, facilitated the spread of ideas and ideologies, and hastened intercultural transfers. Historians and social scientists in virtually every field have recognized the central role of communications in promoting social and cultural change. We feel it is time to highlight their work in order to broaden our understanding of the genesis of the information age.

Submissions, accompanied by a one-page curriculum vitae for each participant, should be sent to Peter Gossage, Co-Chair, CHA Program Committee, Département d'histoire et de sciences politiques, Université de Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke (QC), Canada J1K 2R1, before September 15th, 1998. Proposals will also be accepted by fax at (819) 821-7285. Contact the committee by e-mail at shc98cha (at) courrier.usherbro.ca for further information.

Working-Class Studies
Class, Identity and Nation
The Fourth Biennial Conference of the Center for Working-Class Studies at Youngstown State University Youngstown, Ohio, 9-12 June 1999

In recent years, much discussion has developed about the relationship between class, race, gender, sexuality, and national identity. While some see these "identities" as separate and divisive, others emphasize the importance of building coalitions. The Center for Working-Class Studies invites proposals for presentations, panels, workshops, performances, exhibits, and readings that address issues and/or representations of class, race, gender, sexuality, and nation in working-class life and culture. We encourage proposals that address these issues both within the U.S. and internationally.

Areas of exploration include literature of and by the working class; social, labor and oral history; material and popular culture; current workplace issues; geography and landscape; journalism; sociology and economics; museum studies; fine, graphic and performance art; multiculturalism; ethnography, biography, autobiography; pedagogy; and personal narratives of work.

Presenters should describe their projects with suggested presentation format. Submissions should be between 250 and 300 words and must be received by January 8, 1999. Address written correspondence to John Russo, Labor Studies Program, Youngstown State University, Youngstown, Ohio 44555 or fax to 330-742-1459. E-mail inquiries should be sent to Sherry Linkon at sjlinkon (at) cc.ysu.edu

Sixth International Conference of the Study Group on Eighteenth Century Russia

For further information and inquiries, contact the conference organizer, Prof. Joachim Klein, Hugo de Grootstraat 18, NL-2311 XL Leiden, Netherlands. e-mail address: j.klein (at) thuisnet.leidenuniv.nl

Class and Politics in Historical and Contemporary Perspective
Twenty-First Annual North American Labor History Conference
Wayne State University, October 21-23, 1999

The Program Committee of the North American Labor History Conference invites proposals for panels and papers on the theme, Class and Politics in Historical and Contemporary Perspective; for our twenty-first meeting to be held October 21-23, 1999, at Wayne State University in Detroit. We are interested in sessions and/or papers which examine how class and politics connect, asking not only how class consciousness and the political activism and identity of workers but how, more generally, class has shaped personal, domestic, and international politics in North America and abroad. We seek papers and sessions which will explore how we define, think about, identify, and practice politics in class terms, whether in the labor movement, working-class, middle-class, and elite political organizations, political parties, neighborhood and ethnic associations, social movements, local and national states, domestic institutions, or global politics. Comparative, cross-cultural, and interdisciplinary panels are particularly welcome as are topical sessions that intersect with race, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality.

Special workshop on Class and Sexual Politics: Some 5-6 sessions at the conference will be dedicated to the theme of class and sexual politics. We want to encourage a rethinking of the nexus of class politics and experience with that of gender and sexuality on a broad range of issues, including the family wage; labor organizing and families; domestic partners and employment rights; labor and reproduction, child care, abortion, and the effect of hazardous work conditions on reproductive health; sex discrimination, discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, and sexual harassment and the politics of labor, especially as these intersect with race and ethnicity. In addition, we would invite papers on such topics as sexuality in working-class neighborhoods, communities, families, and the implicit or explicit politics involved; how sexuality divides or brings together class communities; and the relationship of sexuality and class to social mobility, the history of emotions, and the politics of everyday life.

Please submit panel and paper proposals (including a 1-2 page paper abstracts and cvs for all participants) at the latest by March 15th, 1999, to:

Elizabeth Faue
Coordinator,
North American Labor History Conference
Wayne State University
Detroit, MI 48202
Phone: 313/577-2525

The North American Labor History Conference is sponsored by the Department of History, the Walter Reuther Library, the College of Liberal Arts, and the College of Urban, Labor and Metropolitan Affairs, Wayne State University.

Annual Meeting, European History Section of the Southern Historical Association
Fort Worth, Texas, November 3-6, 1999.

The European History Section of the Southern Historical Association invites proposals for complete panels and single papers for presentation at the annual meeting in Fort Worth, Texas, November 3-6, 1999. Panels should
consist of two or three papers, a commentator and a chair.

Papers on any aspect of European history are welcome, and presenters may include graduate students. Proposals are due by October 1, 1998. Send a one-page description of each paper and a short c.v. for each panelist to Katharine Kennedy, Chair, European History Section Program Committee, Department of History, Agnes Scott College, Decatur, GA 30030. Fax: (404) 638-6177; e-mail: kk kennedy (at) agnesscott.edu.

International Congress of Historical Sciences

The International Committee of Historical Sciences is now planning its 19th International Congress to be held in Oslo, August 6-13, 2000.

The American Historical Association’s Committee on International Activities invites potential American participants to send in proposals according to the themes listed below. These should be about two hundred words in length and accompanied by a curriculum vitae. Proposals for whole panels should include historians from other countries as well. Individual paper proposals, if accepted, will be forwarded to a designated organizer, responsible for composing a coherent panel on the specific theme.

Be sure to name the theme for which you are proposing your contribution.

The Congress wishes to encourage communication and debate among historians of different countries. To that end, its procedure will be to enhance the time for discussion and diminish that of presentation. Specifically, participants will be expected to send a half page summary of their thesis to other panel participants by January, 2000, and to make their fully written papers available for distribution at the beginning of the conference. The goal is to engage panelists and audience as much as possible. In all, 500 contributions will be chosen; 4,000 people are expected to attend.

Three major themes will each occupy a full day.

I. Perspectives on global history: concepts and methodologies

A. Is global history possible?

B. Cultural encounters between continents over the centuries.

II. Millennium, time and history

A. The construction and division of time: periodization and chronology.

B. Eschatology, millenarian movements and visions of the future.

III. The uses and misuses of history and the responsibility of the historian in past times.

Twenty specialized themes will occupy a half day each, some running concurrently.

- The media revolution and historical research.
- Memory and collective identity. How do societies construct and administer their past?
- Scientific discoveries: the transmission and reception of scientific learning.
- The theory and practice of justice: law, norms, deviance.
- Muslim societies over the centuries.
- Religion and gender.
- Christian missions, modernization, colonization and decolonization.
- Generations and inter-generational conflicts.
- Slavery and other forms of unfree labor.
- Demography: Bridging family and population; a comparison of societies in Asia and Europe.
- Regions and regionalisation: subnational and transnational entities.
- Modes of communication and information from Antiquity to the present.
- Masculinity as practice and representation.
- Totalitarianism and dictatorship.
- Changing boundaries and definitions of work over time and space.
- Minority cultures in relation to dominant majorities.
- Changing approaches to the Pacific world.
- Modernity and tradition in Latin America.
- New developments in environmental history.
- Political force and mass death in pre-modern and modern societies.

Twenty-five Roundtables will be limited to four people engaged in lively debate on the following themes:

- The teaching of history: new techniques, textbooks, and the place of history in the curriculum.
- Orientalist historians and the writing of Arab history.
- Voyages and exploration in the North Atlantic from the Middle Ages to the 17th century.
- Encounters and confrontations between European and non-European legal and judicial systems.
- Television news reports as sources for history.
- What is a human being? Definitions of "the human" over the centuries.
- Children and war.
- Gay and lesbian history.
- Family, marriage and property rights.
- Nobility in comparative perspective.
- Underground economies.
- Crime and criminality; new historical perspectives.
- Gender, race, xenophobia and nationalism.
- Athens and Rome in the culture and construction of Europe.
- The Baltic area in history.
- China and the world in the 18th century.
- Propaganda and the images of power.
- The Cold War revisited: a half-century of historical writing.
- Tourism and history.
- Visions of peace, practices of peace.
- Central Europe: unity and diversity.
- The individual and the notion of private life.
- Historical journals between "generalist" approach and extreme specialization.

Prof. Renate Bridenthal
Ph.D. Program in History The Graduate School and University Center
The City University of New York 33 West 42 Street
New York, NY 10036-8099

Personalia

Bibliothèque de Documentation internationale contemporaine (Nanterre)

Joseph Hue, the Director who, among many other things, started the recent move towards la nouvelle épic, has retired last spring. His successor is Geneviève Dreyfus-Armand, his long-time deputy and well-known as the library’s curator for the Ibero-American world.

Modern Records Centre
(University of Warwick)

Richard Storey, the Archivist of the Modern Records Centre since its inception in 1973, retired in June 1997. Christine Woodland is now Acting Archivist. Unfortunately the Centre’s professional staaf is reduced to two.
In July 1996, the Institut zur Erforschung der europäischen Arbeiterbewegung (Ruhr-Universität Bochum) organised a public seminar on ‘Arbeiterbewegung und Menschenrechte’ (Labour movements and human rights), on the occasion of the superannuation of prof Hans Mommsen. The seminar was organised with the help of the Rektorat der Ruhr-Universität and the Verein zur Förderung der Erforschung der deutschen und internationalen Arbeiterbewegung eV.

Digital Labour History

International Association of Labour History Institutions
http://www.iisg.nl/~ialhi/

IALHI’s International Newsletter
http://www.iisg.nl/~newsletter/

H-Labor
http://h-net2.msu.edu/~labor/

LabNet
http://www.iisg.nl/labnet.html

World Wide Web Virtual Library: Labour and Business History
http://www.iisg.nl/~w3vl/

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