
International Association of Labour History Institutions

NEWSLETTER

August 1999

New Series - No 3

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XXX Annual Conference Preliminary Program

The conference is organized by the International Institute of Social History.

Wednesday, 8 September

15:00 -- IALHI Co-ordination Committee Meeting (Committee members only)

18:00 -- Reception; registration

Thursday, 9 September

09:00 -- Coffee; registration

10:00 -- Annual Meeting; IALHI Projects Meeting; IALHI on the Web

13:00 -- Lunch

14:00 -- Labour Archives and the Internet. With: Barbara Richter (Archiv der sozialen Demokratie); Jenneke Quast (IISH); Andrew Lee (Tamiment Institute)

17:00 -- Drinks

Friday, 10 September

09:00 -- Coffee

10:00 -- Labour History and Documentation Worldwide. Recent developments in labour history in India, Australia, North America

13:00 -- Lunch

14:00 -- La Liberté et la Mort: Socialism and Death. With: Donald Weber (AMSAB), General Introduction; Urs Kälin (Schweizerisches Sozialarchiv), August Bebel's Funeral; Dennis Bos (University of Amsterdam), The Early Labour Movement in the Netherlands; Antonis Liakos (ASKI), The Greek Civil War

17:00 -- Drinks

Saturday, 11 September

10:00 -- Boat Tour

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This is the third issue of the Newsletter to be derived from the electronic edition that first appeared on the World Wide Web in May 1997. The latter can be found on the server of the IISH at the address <http://www.iisg.nl/~newsletter>. It is regularly updated throughout the year. The paper version of the Newsletter is sent free of charge to all members of IALHI as well as to those who request so from IISH. The IISH server also hosts IALHI's website, at the address <http://www.iisg.nl/~ialhi>. In addition to the general information and the text of IALHI's constitution the site contains the addresses of all members and up-to-date information on IALHI's conference and other projects.

News from the Institutions

De Burcht (Amsterdam)

The National Trades Union Museum announces a change of name. From now on it will be known as De Burcht (The Fortress), a name chosen to honor the splendid building it is housed in: the former headquarters of the diamond workers' union built in 1900 by the famous Dutch architect Berlage. Two institutions reside under De Burcht: the Trades Union Museum, which organizes exhibitions and other cultural activities, and the Henri Polak Institute, which carries out scientific and research projects.

These changes in organization coincide with the appointment of a new director, Arie Stolk. He succeeds Willem van der Stokker, who retired on May 1, 1999. One of his first tasks will be the project to restore of the building, for which substantial funding has been found. The main element of this restoration will be the large meeting room, which will be brought back in the state of 1907. Here the original, monumental cycle of wall paintings will be restored.

Nordic Archives and Libraries of Labour History (Scandinavia)

The labour movement in the Nordic countries has always attached great value to its history. Before the end of the first decade of this century, all the four Nordic countries, Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden, had established labour movement archives.

The close cooperation between the Nordic labour movements made it equally natural for the archives to establish close relations. The cooperation between the labour movement archives started as early as 1912, and survived all divisions and splits between parties and organisations within the labour movement.

Starting as rather small and anonymous institutions, the Nordic archives have all grown in importance, and established themselves as central institutions within the national library and archive services in their respective countries.

A new brochure aims to give a short presentation of these archives. We invite those of you who plan to visit us, to write or phone for more detailed information. The text is available from IALHI's Web site

(<http://www.iisg.nl/~ialhi/nordic.html>) or as a brochure from any of the following institutions:

- Arbejderbevægelsens Bibliotek og Arkiv (The Labour Movement Library and Archive, Denmark)
- Työväen Arkisto (The Finnish Labour Archives, Finland)
- Kansan Arkisto (People's Archives, Finland)
- Työväenliikkeen Kirjasto (Library of the Labour Movement)
- Ammattiyhdistyarkisto (Trade Union Archives, Finland)
- Arbeiderbevegelsens Arkiv og Bibliotek (The Labour Movement Archives and Library, Norway)
- Arbetarrörelsens Arkiv och Bibliotek (Archives and Library of the Swedish Labour Movement, Sweden)

Salt Lake Society for Labour Studies (Calcutta)

The Salt Lake Society for Labour Studies (SLSLSC), Calcutta /India, is a non-profit association of professionals involved in academic projects on varied histories and cultures of labouring classes in eastern India during the colonial and post-colonial periods. Founded in 1993 by the late Dr. Sudhi Pradhan, the society has been organizing seminars, lectures and annual conferences on thematic issues confronting the labouring poor and their middle class compatriots during the last couple of years.

In view of the progressive decline of both workers' living standards and their potentials for collective bargaining in the organized and informal sectors of various Third World economies following the current structural adjustment processes which the IMF and the World Bank have successfully induced their governments to implement, SLSLSC has now decided to concentrate on two interrelated documentation exercises: (a) Macro and micro aspects of experiences of domestic and casual labour; and (b) industry and farm-level activities of trade unionists and labour activists.

Address: Salt Lake Society of Labour Studies, Sreeram Estate, Block-A1, Flat-A1m 129, Ho Chi Min Sarani, Calcutta 700008, India
E-Mail: Lafunds (at) usa.net

Schweizerisches Sozialarchiv (Zürich)

The Schweizerisches Sozialarchiv announces its

Recent Accessions

AMSAB (Ghent)

AMSAB recently acquired the archives of:

- Jean Van Lierde (Pacifism, Congo, Algeria), 1974 - 1995.
- Harmonie Vooruit (socialist band), 1961-1965.
- Multatulitheater (socialist theatre company), 1955-1987.
- Flemish Guatemala Committee, Central America Committee (Third World Solidarity), 1979-1996.
- Jan Olsen (community work, anarchism, North-Ireland) 1975-1999.
- Book and Paper Federation (socialist union of the graphical sector), 1910-1970.
- Hugo Van Mierlo (family and divorce issues), 1975-1988.
- Flemish centre for migrant integration (migrant problems), 1975-1998.

The Deltour collection

This concerns the depot of the recently deceased Belgian artist Louis Deltour. With the painters Roger Somville and Edmond Dubrunfaut, Deltour established in 1947 the collective 'Forces Murales'. Their purpose was creating art with the life & work of the man in the street as central theme.

On the principle 'Art for the people', they exposed, united in 'Art & Travail' (in the mean time, Forces Murales had fallen apart), in cafes, factory canteens, youth centres, instead of in museums.

The fund contains over 200 paintings, 8000 drawings, sketches and preliminary studies of paintings, cardboard for tapestries, etchings, wood engravings, watercolours, gouaches and charcoal, pencil and pen drawings.

There is a complete archive with proper notes about, amongst others, the relationship between art and politics and a library with regard to the work of the artist.

IISH (Amsterdam)

Burma Archives Project

"In the early morning on the day of my house arrest [July 20 1989], a hundred or so armed

military personnel surrounded my house. Why they didn't immediately enter the compound I don't know, but those extra hours gave my wife and other family members the time to tear up and flush down the toilet every NLD document, letter and address that was in my office."

Last summer a group of Burma related librarians, scholars, journalists and activists, together with IISH' Asia Department launched the Burma Archives Project. The Burma Archives Project exists to support and actively encourage the compilation, collection and safe preservation of documentation -in written and audiovisual form - particularly, but not exclusively, of material on Burma deriving from the 1980s onwards. A coordinated effort is needed to seek out material such as posters, photographs, pamphlets, diaries, correspondence, memoirs, political and ethnic groups' records. The creation of archives that preserve what has been called the 'collective memory of development' - material documenting social movements and social transformation, minority peoples and other subjects relevant to civil society - is essential to Burma's future development. The International Institute of Social History (IISH) in Amsterdam offers a safe archival repository for the preservation of such material.

Members of the Burma Archives Project (academics, librarians, and independent scholars and researchers) are concerned to use their contacts and expertise to help locate material and to ensure, on behalf of the individual or group from which it emanates, that it is safeguarded. It is planned that, as material accumulates, archival and conservation training and assistance can be given to those from whom the material originates, and that research, documentation and publication projects will develop.

The Burma Archives Newsletter is designed to keep BAP members in touch with latest developments and to become a forum for the exchange of ideas and reports on progress. For more information, please visit our website at <http://www.iisg.nl/asia> or contact the Asia Department at [asia.department \(at\) iisg.nl](mailto:asia.department@iisg.nl)

The Welsh Political Archive

(The National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth)

Lord Cledwyn Papers

Lord Cledwyn of Penrhos has added two extensive groups of papers (one from Anglesey and one from London) to the substantial archive of his material already held by the WPA. These deposits include files of material relating to the University of Wales, the Labour Party, Welsh affairs and constituency issues. A large group of photographs has been transferred to the custody of the Department of Pictures and Maps, and nineteen cassettes, mainly of Lord Cledwyn's speeches, to the Sound and Moving Image Collection. The many distinguished individuals who feature among the correspondents include Lord Callaghan, Lord Denning, Jo Grimond, Sir Edward Heath, Robert Rhodes James, Neil Kinnock, John Major, Sir Wyn Roberts and Lord Shinwell.

Aberdare Nationalist

Mr D. Leslie Davies of Aberdare has deposited a substantial group of additional personal papers relating mainly to the energetic activities of the local Plaid Cymru group within the Rhondda Cynon-Taff area during the 1980s and 1990s. Many of the papers relate to local, parliamentary and European elections. They remain under embargo until the year 2020.

Conservative Party Wales

The Archive was delighted to receive the first group of the records of the Conservative Party Wales. This includes twelve informative minute books chronicling the proceedings of various committees, and covering the period from 1937 until 1986. The deposit also includes a group of leaflets, pamphlets and posters deriving from the Conservative campaigns during the 1992 and 1997 general elections.

The WPA now has custody of the central archives of all the major political parties in Wales - a major goal ever since the establishment of the Archive back in 1983. Further groups of the records of the Conservative Party Wales are expected shortly.

New Means of Access

IALHI

A new IALHI project: Programmatic Documents of

the Socialist International and the European Trade Union Confederation at the Library of the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung.

In co-operation with the International Association of Labour History Institutions the Library of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation documents the topical programmes of the parties of the Socialist International (SI) and the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) in full text. The source edition shall support those who have a critical look at the programmes of the democratic socialism and the free trade union movement. If possible an English edition is presented, otherwise the text is presented in its original language.

Traditionally the parties of the labour movement have a party programme. This tradition is not common everywhere in the trade unions movement. We tried to document the latest action programme that outlines the position of the organization.

The electronic edition is restricted to topical programmes and trade union federations. An enlarged edition with historical texts and documents of single trade unions is possible. The texts have either been loaded down from the Internet or scanned and converted with OCR software or have been newly recorded. They are presented in different data formats which are obvious from the respective documents.

For more information, see
http://www.fes.de/library/ialhi/ial_start.html

From IALHInet: an overview of current labour history periodicals established by Gerd Callesen (and reviewed by the Scout Report for the Social Sciences). See
http://www.iisg.nl/~ialhi/lab_per.html

Updated: IALHInet's Serials Service, tables of contents of tens of labour history journals around the world. See <http://www.iisg.nl/~ialhi/serials/>

AMSAB (Ghent)

Bert Boeckx, *Inventory of the Archive of SV Ontwikkeling and Excelsior NV Publishing and Printing Company of the newspaper Volksgazet*, AMSAB-Tools 9, Gent: AMSAB, 1999, 308 p. It concerns the papers of the publishing and printing company of the Antwerp socialist newspaper Volksgazet.

IISH (Amsterdam)

The collections of the International Institute of Social History, a member of the Research Libraries Group, are currently made accessible through RLG's RLIN system. Part of the monograph records have already been made available. In the course of this summer all monograph, serial, audiovisual and archival records will progressively be loaded.

The Research Libraries Group is a not-for-profit membership corporation devoted to the mission of "improving access to information that supports research and learning." Founded in 1974 and incorporated in 1975 by Columbia, Harvard, and Yale universities and The New York Public Library, RLG became and is today a pioneer in developing cooperative solutions to the problems that research collections and their users face in the acquisition, delivery, and preservation of information. Today RLG is an international member alliance, including universities and colleges, national libraries, archives, historical societies, museums and independent research collections, and public libraries.

Research

AMSAB (Ghent)

50 years ICFTU

AMSAB participates in the research and co-ordinates, together with IISH, this project leading to the publication and an international conference in 2000. This project was ordered by IALHI.

The Flemish Interregional of the Book and Paper Federation (CBP)

CBP has decided to make AMSAB study its long history. The project 'History of the CBP' will however be more than a monograph of the union and pay more attention to the evolution of the graphical industry in the 19th and 20th century. The social relations between the graphical unions and the employer's organization in the sector will be points of particular interest as well.

Project Publishing with regard to 'Relationship between doctors and mutual benefit societies

Collections Now Accessible Through RLIN

during the period between the two wars in Antwerp'

The research is focused on the doctor, his work area, his relationship to his patients, his professional associations and the covering organisations, and his relationship towards the different mutual benefit societies.

Project Inventory of the Hendrik De Man Archive

This archive, which is owned by the Archive and Museum of the Flemish Cultural Life (AMVC, Antwerp) is temporarily transferred to the Antwerp AMSAB branch, since AMSAB will draw up an inventory of this fund. The opening up of the Hendrik De Man archive will supply a full tool in the examination of the life and work of this Belgian socialist party leader and ideologist.

Recent Publications

IALHI

Museums in Revolution

A new publication by and on IALHI members: *Museums in Revolution*. On the history of the Museum of the Revolution, the Central Lenin Museum, the Marx-Engels Museum, all in Moscow, and the Lenin Museum in Gorki Leninskiye. This richly illustrated bilingual (English/Russian) book tells the story of four Moscow museums, from the beginning of the Russian Revolution to the present day.

For a long time the British Museum was the sole museum of any note in the international labour movement, and that only because Karl Marx spent years working in its famous reading room. Museums were regarded as institutions of the ruling class. That changed after the October Revolution, when the Russian proletariat itself became the ruling class. The number of historical museums quickly grew. They were generously financed, popular, and prestigious components of the Soviet apparatus.

The events of August 1991 brought a sudden end to this situation. Museums languished or closed. *Museums in Revolution* provides a history of the Museum of the Revolution, the Central Lenin Museum, the Marx-Engels Museum and the

Lenin Museum in Gorki Leninskiye. These histories give a penetrating picture of how Soviet culture has been affected by Russia's current economic difficulties. They also constitute an appeal for international recognition of the need to preserve

Marien van der Heijden (ed.), *Museums in Revolution. Four historical museums in Moscow* (Amsterdam, IISG Publishers, 1998) ISBN 90.6861.142.9, 64 pp., illustrated, price in the bookshop: NLG 39.50. For further information, see http://www.iisg.nl/visual_archives/mir.html

The complete text of the introduction is offered at http://www.iisg.nl/visual_archives/mir-intro.html

AMSAB (Ghent)

- *Brood & Rozen. Tijdschrift voor de Geschiedenis van Sociale Bewegingen* (Bread & Roses. Journal for the History of the Socialist Movements), quarterly periodical (1998) 3,4; (1999) 1,2. Number 2 is a thematic edition, devoted to the socialist movements in Belgian Congo.

- P. Creve, B. De Wilde and others, *Pierre De Geyter. Het grote lied van een kleine man* (1848-1932) (Pierre De Geyter. The great song of a small man (1848-1932)) Gent: AMSAB-Masereelfund, 1998, 106 p., ill. Several authors focus on the person of Pierre De Geyter, the composer of the 'Internationale'. His biography, his social-cultural background, his part in the rising socialist labour movement in North-France are discussed, as well as the world-wide dispersion and impact of this famous song.

- B. De Wilde, 'Vereenigd zijn wij alles, onvereenigd zijn wij niets'. *100 jaar socialistisch textielsyndicalisme (1898-1998)*, ('United we are all, apart we are nothing'. 100 years of socialist textile syndicalism (1898-1998)), Gent, AMSAB-Ludion/ABVV-Textile, Clothing, Diamond, 1998, 128p.ill

- D. Weber, L. Peiren, T. Dobbelaere, *Vaandels ruisen, vuisten groeten. Geschiedenis van de socialistische beweging in het Waasland*, (Banners flutter, fists greet). (History of the socialist movement in the Waasland), part II, 1945-1975, Sint-Niklaas-Gent: ABVV-AMSAB, 1998, 160p. ill.

- B. Van Causenbroeck, *Rode daken. De Goede Werkmanswoning 75 jaar*, (Red roofs. The good labourer's house 75 year,) Gent: AMSAB, 1998, 144p., ill. This study treats the socialist social

this cultural heritage for the future.

This book has been produced in collaboration with the International Association of Labour History Institutions (IALHI).

housing company in Ghent and the province of East-Flanders.

- *Begeerte heeft ons aangeraakt. Socialisten, sekse en seksualiteit*. ('Desire touched us: on socialists, gender and sexuality.) Gent: Provincial Government of East-Flanders - AMSAB, 1999, 498 p., ill.

The Museum of the Flemish social struggle of the Province of East-Flanders, led to a book and an exhibition about the relationship between socialists, gender and sexuality. 14 historians, each with his or her speciality, participated to this voluminous and well-illustrated publication.

Themes that were discussed for years between the ideological movements are treated in detail, such as the position of women on the labour market, contraception, abortion, homosexuality, prostitution, man/woman on the work-floor, etc. The exhibition (Gent, 1999, March 24 - May 2) illustrates the discourse of the socialist movement about sex, gender and the division of roles. As third component, the AMSAB organized the international colloquium "Gender and class in the 20th Century. (See conferences).

Microfilms

National Museum of Labour History (a.o.) (Manchester)

Origins and Development of the Labour Party at Local Level Series II, published by Microform Academic Publishers

- Barrow-in-Furness 1914-1969 [Cumbria Record Office]

- Coventry Trades Council 1890-1992 [Modern Records Centre]

- Faversham 1918-1994 [The Centre for Kentish Studies]

- Frome & North Somerset 1918-1983 [Somerset Record Office]

- Greenwich 1920-1987 [Greenwich Local History Library]

- Hendon 1924-1992 [National Museum of Labour

History]

- Tottenham 1918-1983 [National Museum of Labour History]

- Salford 1920-1986 [National Museum of Labour History]

For more information, see

The Poalei Zion archive, held by the Russian Centre of Conservation and Study of Records for Modern History (RTsKhIDNI, formerly the Central Party archive) in Moscow, is now available for the first time in convenient, fully indexed microfiche format from IDC Publishers. We offer this archive collection on microfiche together with an electronic guide in two languages. This archive material, which has been inaccessible for the last 70 years (being assigned to the category of secret documents), is now available for research.

Poalei Zion was one of the organizations in the worldwide Zionist movement which, unlike the others, made active use of the slogans of Socialism. The Poalei Zion groups emerged in Russia in 1890 as clandestine organizations, were legalized following the revolution of 1917, and were active in the USSR until 1928 when the NKVD (forerunner of the KGB) arrested many members of these organizations. Their basic goal was to create a Jewish national state and to move Jews from all over the world to Palestine. In order to fulfil the emigrants' political aims, the Jewish Social-Democratic (from 1923, 'Communist') Labour Party of Poalei Zion organized a vast network of Jewish Poalei-Zionist clubs, libraries, schools, trade unions, cooperatives and cultural centres, and published numerous newspapers, journals, brochures and books in the printing houses of Moscow, Petrograd, Kiev, Minsk, Odessa and Berdichev.

The Poalei Zion documents now in the Central Party Archive were received from the Archive of Revolution and Foreign Policy in the 1930s, and from the Kiev Provincial Historical Archive in the 1940s. Part of the material came directly from the KGB Archive in Lubianka in recent years. The NKVD confiscated the documents of Poalei Zion for use as evidence in the 1920s, when many members of this organization were arrested. For years, fond 272 "Poalei Zion organizations in the USSR (1917-1928)" was not processed and the documents were kept simply in unordered piles. Only in 1987 were the documents completely systematized in 758 files and described in three inventories (opisi). However, even then the fond did not enter scholarly circulation, since it was still assigned to the category of secret

<http://www.microform.co.uk/>

RTsKhIDNI (Moscow)

Poalei Zion Archive on microfiche

documents. Only since 1990 have researchers been able to study the documents of Poalei Zion.

The Archive of Poalei Zion sheds light on various issues of social history: the emigration of the Jewish population of various countries to Palestine and the activities of various Jewish parties and organizations. It includes the documents of Jewish political parties and organizations such as the Jewish Social-Democratic (from 1923, 'Communist') Labour Party of Poalei Zion (Russian abbreviation: ESDRP - EKRP Poalei Zion); the Jewish Communist Party of Poalei Zion (EKP Poalei Zion); the United Jewish Socialist Labour Party; the Jewish Party of Socialist-Territorialists; the Jewish Socialist (from 1923, Communist) Union of Working Youth (Ugend Poalei Zion) affiliated with the first two parties listed above; the Central Jewish Club, and also of the Palestine Labour Foundation, etc. The archive includes works and correspondence of prominent leaders of the World Zionist movement, among them two Israeli presidents (born in Eastern Europe) Ben Gurion and Ben Zvi; B. Borokhov, the ideologist of Russian Zionism; as well as by other figures active in the Palestine movement. The archive contains a large collection of national and local newspapers and journals, which now have great rarity value. In addition to political literature, there are also works of creative artistic writing, for instance a collection of poetry by the well-known poet David Hofstein, with illustrations by Marc Chagall (1922).

Volumes or other collections of documents located in the central state archives of the USSR; works prepared for publication in 1926-1927, including *Iz istorii Evreiskoi kommunisticheskoi rabochei partii* ('From the History of the Jewish Communist Labour Party'), and *O poalei-tzionistskoi mysli za 20 let* ('On Poalei-Zionist Thought over 20 Years'). Special sheets of signatures have been preserved, as have postage stamps, lottery tickets and receipt books showing specific sums received from organizations and individuals. Most of the material (55-60%) is in Yiddish, 20-25% in Russian, and 15-20% in Hebrew. There are several documents in either German, French, Arabic, Ukrainian or

Polish. The Yiddish documents have been annotated and the annotations are attached to the corresponding materials. There are no Poalei Zion documents from before 1917 in RTsKhIDNI.

Dokumenty po istorii i kulture evreev v arkhivakh Moskvyy (Jewish Documentary Sources in Moscow Archives) edited by Mark Kupovetsky, Evgenii Starostin, and Marek Web, is an essential resource for any scholar doing archival work on Jewish issues in Moscow, as well as an invaluable source of information on Moscow Jewish institutions and individuals. The book is the first in a series of guides to be published jointly by the Russian State University for the Humanities in Moscow, the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, and the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research in New York. Future volumes will focus on St. Petersburg and provincial archives within Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus. The volume under review contains an introduction in both English and Russian, briefly outlining the history of the project, surveying other archival collections relating to Russian-Jewish history, and describing the criteria used to select archival collections for inclusion in the volume. Essentially, all records of Jewish provenance, such as those originating from Jewish communities, Jewish educational institutions, charitable institutions, cultural institutions, commercial institutions, professional institutions, political parties, social movements and individuals were selected, as well as governmental and municipal records, archives of public institutions and associations, and personal papers relating to Jews or Judaism.

The breadth of material covered is exceptional. The book contains descriptions of archival holdings dating from as far back as the sixteenth century (fonds relating to early Jewish settlements in Lithuania and Poland in RGADA) and as recently as 1991 (The Central Committee of the CPSU in RtsKhIDNI). Most archival collections, however, date from 1917-1953. Of particular note are the records of the German Reich seized from Berlin, which can be found in the Center for the Preservation of Historical Documentary Collections. The guide also contains an appendix listing collections that met the criteria, but were, for unstated reasons, not included. Although other editors would, perhaps, have chosen to include many of these entries, their inclusion in an appendix nevertheless

Book Reviews

Jewish Documentary Sources in Moscow Archives

provides important information for those seeking simply to verify that a collection exists and to locate it.

The archives surveyed are divided into five sections: 1) Central state archives, including the Russian State Archives of Early Records, the State Archives of the Russian Federation, the Russian State Military-Historical Archives, the Russian State Archives of Economics, the Russian State Archives of Literature and Art, the Russian State Archives of Film and Photo Documentation, the Russian State Archives of Phonographic Documentation, and the Center for the Preservation of Historical and Documentary Collections; 2) former Communist Party archives, including the Russian Center for the Preservation of Documents of Contemporary History, the Center for the Preservation of Documents of Youth Organizations, and the Center for the Preservation of Contemporary Documentation; 3) Institutional archives, including the archives of the Russian Academy of Sciences, the Institute of History at the Russian Academy of Sciences, and the Russian Imperial Ministry of Foreign Affairs; 4) Moscow municipal archives, including the Moscow Central Historical Archives, the Moscow Central Municipal Archives, and the Moscow Central Archives of Social Movements; and 5) manuscript divisions in libraries and museums, including the Russian National Library, the State Historical Museum, the State Literary Museum, the Glinka State Central Museum of Music, the Bakhrushin State Central Theatre Museum, and the Museum of the Revolution. The project was unable to gain access to the archives of the President of the Russian Federation, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and the KGB.

Each entry contains several paragraphs of explanation. Although the editors could have set more precise guidelines for their contributors giving the entries a more standardized appearance, the individual entries do share some characteristics. They usually outline the history of the archival collection, describe its content, and provide a brief history of the organization or individual under examination. In many cases, the historical sketch of the organization is so

informative, that the book can actually be used as an encyclopedic source as well. Comprehensive indexes organized according to subject, name, and geography in both English and Russian enhance the guide's usability, and allow for extensive cross-referencing. Not only is this archival guide an essential tool for researchers and a model for future guides to emulate, but it can also serve as a miniature encyclopedia of Russian Jewry. One can only hope that the forthcoming guides in this series will be of equal value.

Mark Kupovetsky, Evgenii Starostin, and Marek

Exhibitions

AMSAB (Ghent)

Pierre De Geyter

In line of the exhibition 'Pierre De Geyter. Het grote lied van een kleine man (The great song of a small man) (1848-1932) (see IALHI-Newsletter August 1988) a statue of Pierre De Geyter, composer of the 'Internationale', was inaugurated by the Socialist Common Action Gent-Eeklo on 1999, March 7. The statue is a design of the sculptor Tom Frantzen and it is installed in the garden of the Museum for Industrial Archaeology and Textile (MIAT) in Gent.

Begeerte heeft ons aangeraakt

'Begeerte heeft ons aangeraakt : sekse, seksualiteit en socialisten' ('Desire Touched Us: on Gender, Sexuality and Socialists') (Gent, March 24 - May 2, 1999). The exhibition illustrated the discourse of the socialist movement on sex, gender and the division of the roles. Themes that were discussed for years between the ideological movements are treated in detail, such as the position of women on the labour market, contraception, abortion, homosexuality, prostitution, man/woman on the work-floor, etcetera.

Sites Brutaux

Sites Brutaux. Rencontre avec notre histoire industrielle (Liège 6 November - 19 December 1998). At the request of the insurance company P & V, AMSAB realized an art retrospective about the industrial past of our country. 100 works that represented the 'art industriel (industrial art)', a style with a certain tradition in the South of

Web, eds. *Dokumenty istorii i kultury evreev v arkhivakh Moskvy*. Moscow: Russian State University for the Humanities, 1997. 503 pp. Index. , ISBN 5-7281-0211-5.

Reviewed by Jeffrey Veidlinger, Department of History, Georgetown University.

Published by H-Russia (February, 1999)

Cited from <http://www.h-net.msu.edu/reviews/>

Belgium, (Wallonia, the French part) as from the turn of the century, were the base of the exhibition. The paintings, etchings, watercolours, drawings and posters illustrated the impact of the industrialization not only on the landscape, but on human as well. Celebrities such as Meunier and Paulus were represented as well.

IISH / Burcht (Amsterdam)

Vote! Join! Protest!

Posters are rarely meant to be collected, framed or exhibited. Social and political posters certainly not. They are produced to raise awareness concerning specific problems, to call for action or to protest. Such posters are pasted on walls or hung behind windows and then thrown away.

Still the IISH has a collection of ca. 25.000 political posters from the Netherlands alone, 150 of which were shown in De Burcht from late 1998 to early 1999 under the title *Steun! Stem! Staak!* (Vote! Join! Protest!). The exhibition offered a broad and diverse view on Dutch politics from 1870 to the present day, with subjects ranging from strikes and elections to environmental questions, international solidarity and racial discrimination. At the same time many of the posters are high quality designs, made by well known artists. From June to August 1999 the exhibition was on display at the Mundaneum in Mons (Belgium).

The virtual version of this exhibition is accessible at <http://www.iisg.nl/exhibitions/affiche/> All posters can be seen, accompanied by extensive data and explanations. The site offers possibilities to search for designers, publishers, dates and subjects. It is also possible to view them in a fixed presentation, divided in the same chapters as the 'live' exhibition, or simply to browse the list of all 150

items.

Conferences

From April 27 to 30, 1999, the AMSAB organized in Ghent the international colloquium ***Gender & Class in the 20th Century***, which was in the mean time the inaugural session of the international seminar 'Socialisme et sexualité', a French initiative (Dr. Ronsin, University of Bourgogne, The theme of the conference is 'The 20th Century: a Century of the Labour Movement?'. For more information, contact ITH, Altes Rathaus, Wipplinger Str. 8, A-1010 Wien, tel 5343601776, fax 534369901771, e-mail docarch (at) email.adis.at.

Annual Mid-America Conference on History, Springfield MO, 16-18 September 1999
The 21st Annual Mid-America Conference on History will be held on September 16-18, 1999 at the Sheraton Hawthorn Hotel and Conference Center in Springfield, MO. The Conference is hosted by Southwest Missouri State University. For details contact, Tom Dicke, Department of History, Southwest Missouri State University. E-mail: TomDicke (at) mail.smsu.edu

Southern Labor Studies Conference Biannual Meeting: ***The Politics of Labor***, Georgia State University, Atlanta GA, September 30 to October 2, 1999.

For further information, contact: Michelle Brattain and Cliff Kuhn Leslie S. Hough, Executive Director Department of History W.J. Usery Center for the Workplace.

Address: P.O. Box 4117 120 Courtland St., Suite 400 Georgia State University Atlanta, GA 30303-3083 Atlanta, GA 30302-4117 tel: (404) 651-1272 (404) 651-2250 fax: (404)651-0841 or (404)651-1745 e-mail: lhough (at) gsu.edu (queries only) mbrattain (at) gsu.edu (queries only). Further information about the conference will be available at <http://gsaix2.cc.GaSoU.edu:80/facstaff/ghickey>

National Labor History Conference, Wollongong

Human Sciences Department, Dijon). The speakers were from Holland, France, Great Britain, Switzerland, Spain, Scotland and Belgium. The central theme was the definition of masculine and feminine in the labour world in terms of exclusion and control mechanisms in the political arena, labour, the social reports between the genders, the sexual life in the world of art and information. The publication of the integral lectures (French and English) is actually being prepared.

ITH International Conference of Labour Historians, Linz, Austria, 14-18 September 1999

Australia, 1-4 October 1999. For more information, see: <http://www.uow.edu.au/commerce/econ/labcon99.html>

Annual Meeting European History Section of the Southern Historical Association

Fort Worth, Texas, November 3-6, 1999. Katharine Kennedy, Chair, European History Section Program Committee, Department of History, Agnes Scott College, Decatur, GA 30030. Fax: (404) 638-6177; e-mail: kkennedy (at) agnesscott.edu.

Social Science History Association Annual Convention, Fort Worth, Texas, November 11-14, 1999. For more information, see: <http://www.ipums.umn.edu/~ssha>

Social History Society of the UK: Envisioning the Future

The Society's annual conference will take place at Gonville & Caius College, Cambridge, 6-8 January 2000. The central theme is 'Envisioning the Future' in any historical context and period or culture. Suggested topics include:

- Forecasting the Future (prophecy, astrology, science)
- Religious Visions (including millenarianism)
- The Historiography of Political Projections (including the creation of idea states and systems)
- Economic Projections (including environmental creations, town planning, ideal housing)
- Cultural Projects (including issues relating to gender and race)
- Utopias/Dystopias in history

For more information, contact:

Mrs Linda Persson, Centre for Social History,
Furness College, Lancaster University, Bailrigg,
Lancaster LA1 4YG, UK;
fax: (0)1524 846102;
email l.persson (at) lancaster.ac.uk

Workshop on ***Subcontracting Labour in Asia:
Historical And Global Perspectives***, 22 - 24
November 1999 Bangkok, Thailand.

Background and Aim: Subcontracting labour has a long-standing history, maybe as long as the history of monetized and wage economies. Therefore, intra-Asian and Asian-European economies offer great opportunities for comparisons. These comparisons have implications for our understanding of the situation today, because unilinear predictions about the marginalization of subcontracting labour have clearly proven wrong. Our purpose here is to obtain a more integrated understanding of subcontracting labour in the past and present, Europe and Asia.

Contact Persons: Dr. Ratna Saptari or Prof. Jan Lucassen, IISH, Cruquiusweg 31 1019 AT Amsterdam, tel. + 31-20-66.858.66 fax. + 31-30-66.541.81, e-mail: rsa (at) iisg.nl; chlia (at) iisg.nl, website <http://www.iisg.nl/asia/subctr.htm>

Third European Social Science History Conference (ESSHC): Amsterdam, 12-15 April 2000.

The ESSHC is patterned on the annual conventions of the American Social Science History Association. The ESSHC aims at bringing together scholars interested in explaining historical phenomena using the methods of the social sciences. The ESSHC takes place bi-annually: in 1996 in Noordwijkerhout, in 1998 and 2000 in Amsterdam.

The conference is characterized by a lively exchange in many small groups, rather than by formal plenary sessions.

For more information:

Conference Secretariat ESSHC 2000
c/o International Institute of Social History
Cruquiusweg 31
1019 AT Amsterdam
the Netherlands
tel: + 31 20 66 858 66
fax: + 31 20 66 541 81
E-mail: ESSHC (at) iisg.nl
Website: <http://www.iisg.nl/ESSHC>

The Workshop on Subcontracting Labour in Asia: Historical and Global Perspectives will be held from 22 to 24 November 1999 at the Chulalongkorn University Social Research Institute in Bangkok, Thailand. We have selected papers focusing on labour in subcontracting arrangements in Europe and Asia, past and present, with a special emphasis on labour relations at the lowest end of the subcontracting linkage.

The Memory of Catastrophe

Conference University of Southampton (UK)

14-17 April 2000

The Department of History at the University of Southampton is organizing a major international conference on the Memory of Catastrophe, on April 14-17, 2000. The purpose of the conference is to bring together scholars from a range of academic disciplines with an interest in catastrophes in any historical period, to discuss the ways in which these events have been remembered or commemorated, and the impact these memories have had on affected communities.

Topics/panels currently proposed for the conference include: 'Doctors and the memory of catastrophe' 'Popular memories of the English Civil War' 'Memory and commemoration of the Great Irish Famine' 'America and the Vietnam War: the role of narrative in veterans' and national memory'.

For further information please contact: Dr.

Kendrick Oliver Tel. + 44 (0)1703 592243 E-mail: ko (at) soton.ac.uk

Or: Dr. Peter Gray + 44 (0)1703 592242 E-mail: pg2 (at) soton.ac.uk

or: Dr. Waltraud Ernst + 44 (0)1703 596648
E-mail: wer (at) socsci.soton.ac.uk

Or write/fax to: Department of History, University of Southampton, Highfield, Southampton, SO17 1BJ, UK Fax: + 44 (0)1703 593458

The Memory of Catastrophe conference is organized in association with the Parkes Centre for the Study of Jewish/non-Jewish Relations, and City Heritage Services, Southampton City Council.

International Congress of Historical Sciences,

Oslo, August 6-13, 2000. For the preliminary program see: <http://www.hf.uio.no/oslo2000>

Personalia

In memoriam Leo van Rossum

We feel the sad duty to announce the sudden death, due to a heart attack, of Leo van Rossum on June 15. He was 60 years old. In 1964 Leo succeeded Jan Meijer as head of the East-European Department of the International Institute of Social History. He published on the Makhno movement, the agrarian question in Eastern Europe, and the Stalinist terror, among other things. He was the main editor of Karl Kautsky's correspondence with socialists in South-Eastern Europe (1986). In charge of

East-European acquisitions at IISH, he built one of the finest collections on Russian social history anywhere. Above all, he was an exceptional colleague. Full of common sense, witty, sincere, with a keen sense of justice, he was universally loved by each and every staff member in the Institute. We all felt his death as a personal loss.

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/>

All Web sites of IALHI members (and many more) are listed in the WWW Virtual Library: Labour and Business Archives, on the server of the International Institute of Social History at <http://www.iisg.nl/~w3vl/>

Labour/Le Travail

Bryan Palmer has replaced Greg Kealey as Editor of *Labour/ Le Travail*. Kealey remains as Treasurer of the CCLH and on the Editorial Board of *L/LT*. Palmer teaches working-class history at Queen's University in Kingston, ON and is the author of *Descent into Discourse* and *E.P. Thompson*, among other works.

libraries, document centres, museums and research institutions specializing in the history and theory of the labour movement from all over the world. It was founded in 1970 by the Arbetarrörelsens Arkiv (Stockholm), the Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund (Düsseldorf), the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (Bonn), the Internationaal Instituut voor Sociale Geschiedenis (Amsterdam), the Labour Party (London), the Schweizerisches Sozialarchiv (Zürich) and the Trades Union Congress (London), among others.

Its aims are:

- * Fostering closer co-operation between its members.
- * Interlending wherever possible.
- * Encouraging the interchange of publications and duplicates.
- * Initiating and sponsoring publications such as bibliographies, holding lists and surveys falling within its field of interest.

For more information, consult IALHI's website at <http://www.iisg.nl/~ialhi/>. You can also contact

IALHI's Secretary:

Dr Wouter Steenhaut
AMSAB
Bagattenstraat 174
B-9000 Gent
Belgium
Tel 32-9-224.00.79
Fax 32-9-233.67.11
E-Mail [amsab \(at\) skynet.be](mailto:amsab(at)skynet.be)

About IALHI

The International Association of Labour History Institutions (IALHI) brings together archives,

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