

SHORT NOTES

GENERAL WORKS

Beata Możejko and Anna Paner (eds.), *Miłość w czasach dawnych* [Love in Former Times], Gdańsk, 2009, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Gdańskiego, 261 + 18 pp., 49 ills., one table

The book contains the papers read at Gdańsk University in 2008 at a conference which dealt with miscellaneous subjects and various times from late antiquity to the early modern period. The two articles devoted to late antiquity discuss celestial love and how it was transferred into the realities of life on earth by John Chrysostom (Jan Iluk), as well as the accusations by lower-level priests that bishops had sexual contacts with prostitutes and that they used Church money to maintain mistresses (Ireneusz Milewski). The problem of love in the Middle Ages is treated in its several aspects: love literature in Scandinavia ('The Viking Age' by Jakub Morawiec), the troubadours' poetry (Wojciech Iwańczak), as well as the relationship between politics and love in the monarchic marriages of both small, local Silesian and Pomeranian princes (Marek Smoliński, Błażej Śliwiński) and powerful rulers, like Charles IV of Luxembourg (Anna Paner) or Ladislas Jagiello (Jerzy Sperka, Bożena Czwojdrak). The role of love in marriage is also discussed by Sobiesław Szybkowski who analyzes the late medieval marriages of the knights' elite in Kuyavia, and by Gabriela Majewska who writes about the Polish magnate Jan Tęczyński's hopeless love for the Swedish princess Cecilia Vasa. This is a story which belongs already to the early modern period. Researchers into that period deal with such questions as the use of aphrodisiacs in Poland (Józef Włodarski) and the Gdańsk laws which stipulated that citizens awarded municipal rights should quickly get married (Edmund Kizik). The volume is supplemented by papers concerning visual impressions of love: a scene embossed on a shoe found in Gdańsk, which, according to Jerzy Kamrowski, refers to *Roman de la Rose*, the motive of the Garden of Love in Gdańsk table painting from the end of the fifteenth century (Ewa Bojaruniec) and the representation of Venus and her child-planets in Gdańsk art in the late Middle Ages and the Renaissance.

The fact that the subjects raised in the book reflect their complexity and richness only to a small extent means that they have been treated in a superficial way by the organizers of the conference and that not much attention has been paid to them in Polish historiography. (JA)

Urszula Augustyniak (ed.), *Środowiska kulturotwórcze i kontakty kulturalne Wielkiego Księstwa Litewskiego od XV do XIX wieku. Materiały z XVII spotkania Komisji Lituanistycznej zorganizowanego przez Instytut Historii PAN, Instytut Historyczny UW i Instytut Historii Prawa UW w Warszawie 23–24 września 2008* [Culture-Forming Groups and Cultural Contacts of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania from the Fifteenth to the Nineteenth Century: Materials from the 17th Meeting of the Lithuanian Commission, Organized in Warsaw on 23 and 24 September 2008 by the Institute of History of the Polish Academy of Sciences, the Historical Institute of the University of Warsaw and the Institute of the History of Law of the University of Warsaw], Warszawa, 2009, IH PAN, IH UW, IHP UW, Wydawnictwo Neriton, 213 + 18 pp.

The volume contains fourteen articles which have been divided into four groups: the class of magnates and the nobility, the town, the Church, and the army. They present the cultural changes which occurred in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania between the fifteenth and the nineteenth centuries in the main culture-forming social groups, that is in groups which not only consumed culture but also inspired and financed it, being the centre of intellectual and modernization activity. The volume comprises studies not only from the field of broadly conceived social history but also from the history of art and musicology. Attention should be drawn to a few articles. Andrzej Rachuba describes the participation of the Wilno Cathedral Chapter in the parliamentary life of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania; Jūratė Kiaupienė presents the wars with Moscow as a culture-forming factor in the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries; Zigmantas Kiaupa discusses the cultural potential of the urban commune of Kovno in the fifteenth–eighteenth centuries. (DD)

Andrzej Rachuba (ed.), *Urzednicy Wielkiego Księstwa Litewskiego. Spisy* [Officials of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania: Lists], ii: *Województwo trockie XIV–XVIII wiek* [Voivodship of Troki, Fourteenth–Eighteenth Centuries], Warszawa, 2009, Wydawnictwo DiG, 687 pp., preface, maps, list of abbreviations, index of persons

This is a successive volume presenting lists of the officials of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. The previous volumes have presented the officials of the Wilno and Smoleńsk voivodships. The present volume, covering the voivodship of Troki, has the same structure as the previous volumes of Polish

and Lithuanian officials so that their contents can be compared. The list is preceded by a detailed preface in which the editor presents the territory and administrative structure of the voivodship of Troki, dividing it into three stages (1565–6, 1566–1791 and 1791–5) and, separately, the hierarchy of the offices. The editor also explains the sources on which the edition is based and the principles governing the edition. The material has been grouped topographically and chronologically. Within each territorial unit (voivodship, district, land, manor) the offices are listed in alphabetical order. The data concerning each official contain information on his name and surname (with possible changes), the dates of his birth and death, baptism, funeral, his religion, sometimes also his coat of arms (where this has been confirmed by sources), information on his wife, and data referring to the post held by a given individual (e.g. when he was nominated, promoted, when he resigned or was dismissed, the date when he was installed). Of great help is the index of persons which allows readers to follow the *cursus honorum* of individual persons. (DD)

MIDDLE AGES

Lech A. Tyszkiewicz, *Słowianie i Awarowie. Organizacja plemienna Słowian* [Slavs and Avars: The Slavs' Tribal Organization], Wrocław, 2009, Wydawnictwo Zakładu Narodowego im. Ossolińskich, 260 pp.

This is a collection of sixteen studies, published previously, concerning the Slavs' history from the fourth to the twelfth century and their contacts with nomadic peoples, especially the Avars. According to the author, the data from what is known as *Tabula Peutingeriana* and from the *History* by Priscus of Panion indicate that Slavs settled on the lower Danube earlier than has been accepted by most researchers, as early as the fourth century (pp. 9–18). Tyszkiewicz emphasizes that the tribe was the basic political unit in the whole territory inhabited by Slavs (pp. 107–122). Thanks to their tribal structure the Slavs were able to resist Avar attacks for a long time (pp. 58–82) and the structures they preserved led to a Slavic rebellion and the destruction of the nomads (pp. 19–72). The largest group of articles concerns Silesia. The author points out that this is the only Polish region whose sources make it possible to reconstruct its political structure before the end of the tenth century. It consisted of two tribal unions: a larger one placed between the Silesian embankment and a complex of forests, the so-called Silesian clearing, and a smaller one in the region of the upper Oder. The Slenzianians dominated in the first area, the Opoleans in the second. The other tribes known from

sources depended either on the Slenzianians or the Opoleans (pp. 123–33, 154–206). At the beginning Silesia most probably did not include the Glatz (Kłodzko) Valley (pp. 94–106). The original extent of that state is testified to by the borders of the Wrocław diocese; no traces have been found of the Piasts using internal tribal divisions to organize their administration, in contrast to the territories on the Elbe conquered by the Germans (pp. 134–49, 246–59). The author also analyzes Slavic settlement in the area between the Bóbr and Saale rivers. He draws attention to the ethnic differences in that region, to the difference between the Sorbs who lived in the western part and the Lusatians from the eastern part (pp. 207–32). Tyszkiewicz also writes about local place names of a military character in southern Lesser Poland. According to him, these names testify to the existence of a state of the Vistulans which in about 880 came under the rule of Greater Moravia (pp. 80–93). (JA)

Testimonia najdawniejszych dziejów Słowian. Seria grecka, zeszyt 5. Pisarze X wieku [Testimonies to the Slavs' Oldest History. Greek Series, Issue 5: Tenth-Century Writers], trans. and ed. Alina Brzóstkowska, Warszawa, 2009, Slawistyczny Ośrodek Wydawniczy, 191 pp., indexes, series: Instytut Slawistyki Polskiej Akademii Nauk, Prace Slawistyczne, 127

This is a bilingual edition (Greek original plus a Polish translation) of fragments from three sources: an anonymous collection of historical works known in historiography as Theophanes' *Chronographia* (pp. 7–63), *The History* of Leo the Deacon (pp. 100–59) and of three editions of the *Chronography* attributed to Symeon Metaphrastes, quoted in later works, namely in: *The Chronicle* of Leon Grammatikos, the so-called *Chronicle* of Pseudo-Symeon and *The Continuation* of John Monachos (pp. 64–99). The authors of these sources discuss the events which occurred in the ninth and tenth centuries. The fragments in the volume concern mainly the Christianization of Bulgaria and Rus' as well as these states' relations with Byzantium. Alina Brzóstkowska has announced that the next issue will contain information on Slavs from *The Synopsis of Histories* by John Skylitzes. (JA)

Michał Kara, *Najstarsze państwo Piastów – rezultat przełomu czy kontynuacja? Studium archeologiczne* [The Oldest State of the Piasts – the Result of a Turning-Point or a Continuation? An Archeological Study], Poznań, 2009, Instytut Archeologii i Etnologii PAN, 407 pp., 121 ill. and maps, 12 annexes, sum. in English

The book is a kind of polemical supplement to the vision of the beginnings of the Polish state, a vision created in 1950–70 following intensive archeological work organized by the state authorities in connection with Poland's millennium. The author points out that since that time many source materials have been discovered and the research methods have greatly improved; statistical analyses now present sources synchronously, moreover, comparative research has developed, the dating is much more precise and anthropological methods are used in interpretation. According to the author, the setting up of the Polish state was mainly due to four factors: 1. the establishment in the first half of the tenth century of a 'fortified core' of the state in the area between Gniezno and Poznań (c. 5,000 square kilometers) in the form of a set of eighteen strongholds; 2. the Piasts' expansion to the rest of Greater Poland, the eastern part of the Lubusz region, Kuyavia, to what is now central Poland and the Sandomierz region in the second half of the tenth century, an expansion visible in the popularization of strongholds characteristic of the core; 3. at the same time the Piasts subordinated Silesia, Mazovia and Pomerania to their authority without changing their type of settlement (the lack of the Piast-type castle towns is confirmed in written sources); 4. finally at the end of the tenth century and the beginning of the eleventh, they annexed another 'core' situated in the region of Cracow and expanded the network of strongholds in the whole territory; a uniform Church organization was set up. All this meant that territories with a different status were integrated into one state organism. The author emphasizes that the demographic development in the vicinity of Gniezno occurred in the first half of the tenth century, which means that the Piasts' activity preceded and made possible socio-economic transformations. (JA)

Paweł Żmudzki, *Władca i wojownicy. Narracje o wodzach, drużynie i wojnach w najdawniejszej historiografii Polski i Rusi* [A Ruler and Warriors: Narratives of Lords, Fellowship and Wars in the Oldest Polish and Ruthenian Historiographies], Wrocław, 2009, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego, 534 + 18 pp., one table, index of persons, sum. in English, series: Monografie Fundacji na Rzecz Nauki Polskiej. Seria Humanistyczna

The author discusses how wars and armies were described in the chronicle by Gallus Anonymus, the Ruthenian *Primary Chronicle* and, for the sake of comparison, in other sources of the early medieval period. He points out that the descriptions of military subjects had several aims in view. The first was apology of the rulers who were the heroes of the chronicles. The writers strongly emphasized their leadership talents, contrasting them with the cowardice of their adversaries and the ambiguous attitude of the palatines. Information about the size of the armies was treated freely; armies were always large in descriptions of a monarch's splendour but much fewer in number than the troops of the defeated adversary. Another aim of the chroniclers was to impart moral value to the story described by them. The result is that battles were presented as a fight between good (personified by the chronicler's hero) and evil; if what was good did not triumph, this was explained on moral grounds (the ruler's or his people's sins, the troops' bad behaviour). In conclusion the author emphasizes that as regards military subjects, the chroniclers described an ideal and not the real state, which should be remembered by contemporary researchers into medieval military matters. Żmudzki also points out that according to the chroniclers the rulers had their own companies composed of married warriors who lived near the prince in the centre of the state and the rulers' sons also had their companies consisting of courageous young people who were gaining military experience on the state's frontiers. When a new prince ascended the throne, his company became the prince's. This means that the companies were linked to the person of the princes and not to the state, which would deny the current theory that standing military units were among the most archaic elements of state structure. The book was awarded the Historical Book Publishers' Klio Prize in 2009. (JA)

Jarosław Dudek, *Pęknięte zwierciadło. Kryzys i odbudowa wizerunku władcy bizantyńskiego od 1056 do ok. 1095 roku* [A Broken Mirror: The Crisis and Reconstruction of the Byzantine Ruler's Image 1056 – c. 1095], Zielona Góra, 2009, Oficyna Wydawnicza Uniwersytetu Zielonogórskiego, 355 pp., 2 maps, indexes, sum. in English

The author describes transformations in the emperor's image in the period from the extinction of the Macedonian dynasty to the times when Alexius I Comnenus strengthened his position on the throne. The book is based on parenetic literature (the mirrors of princes), historical works (also those criticizing the emperors), seals and coins. The author holds the view that in the hierarchic Byzantine society the emperor's power was a reflection of God's power and that, consequently, the image created of the monarch (and also the opinions criticizing him) were important factors stabilizing the state (or signifying a lack of stability). The result was that all rulers tried to legitimize their accession to the throne by saying they were designated by their predecessor, proclaimed by the army or the people of the capital, that their accession was confirmed by the Senate and that they were crowned by the patriarch; later they referred either to the civilian ideal which laid stress on their Christian virtues (Michael VI, Constantine X, Michael VII) or to the heroic ideal which underlined their military talents and aristocratic origin (Isaac I, Romanus IV, Nicephorus III). A different image of persons ready to devote their life and happiness to the good of the state was created by the emperors' influential mothers and wives: Eudokia Makrembolitissa, Maria of Alania and Anna Dalassene. Alexius I used mainly the heroic image, plus the support extended by his family and relatives. He also stressed the necessity of defending the faith. The latter factor could be emphasized when Byzantium lost the territories inhabited by Armenians and Syrians, who professed Monophism. (JA)

Michał Wyszkowski, *Ustrój polityczny Wielkopolski 1138–1296* [The Political System of Greater Poland 1138–1296], Poznań, 2009, Wydawnictwo Poznańskie, 404 pp., one map, 23 tables

The author describes the functioning of the system of power in Greater Poland during the fragmentation of the Piast realm, a period which in Wyszkowski's opinion marked a decline of the political system of the patrimonial state. The only source of power was the monarch who was the sole legislator, the highest judge, army commander and the person who determined foreign policy and took all decisions on appointments to offices. But the Piasts of

Greater Poland did not enjoy full sovereignty; until the end of the twelfth century they were subordinated to the senior dukes who resided in Cracow, and later the most important decisions were taken jointly with the rulers of other Polish duchies. In the thirteenth century the monarch's power was curbed. This was a result of economic development, the increased political significance of powerful lords and the Church as well as the emergence of the class of knights and townsmen (the foundation of towns on the basis of German law). In accordance with what was known as resistance right, the powerful elite could remove a duke if he did not observe the law. This increased the importance of the monarch's council, although formally the council remained a consultative body. The structure of the dukes' incomes also changed; the importance of traditional contributions and compulsory work declined while the returns from regalia and from the exploitation of the monarch's domain rose. Wyszowski divides court posts into higher ones (for persons entitled to sit on the monarch's council) and lower ones which ensured the functioning of the court. He also points out that local administration was of a dual character – persons using German law being subordinated to different structures than those using Polish law. The author emphasizes that in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries these changes were introduced in the whole of Poland and Europe. (JA)

Norbert Mika, *Mieszko, książę raciborski i pan Krakowa – dzielnicowy władca Polski (ok. 1142–1211)* [Mieszko, Duke of Racibórz and Lord of Cracow: A Provincial Ruler of Poland (c. 1142–1211)], Kraków, 2010, Wydawnictwo 'Avalon', 288 pp., 16 ills., one map, one genealogical table, sum. in German and English

This is a biography of the second son of the Silesian duke, Ladislaus the Exile. The author emphasizes that the nickname 'the Wobbler', under which the prince is known in historiography, was by mistake attributed to him in the fourteenth century by a copyist of Master Vincent Kadlubek's *Chronicle*. The copyist added the nickname of the prince's younger brother Conrad to Mieszko's name. Although being the second son, Mieszko did not have much chance of playing an important political role, he had great ambitions in this field and at the end of his life he brought Lesser Poland under his rule. But his greatest achievement was the creation of hereditary rule in the regions of Racibórz, Bytom, Oświęcim and Opole, a region later called Upper Silesia. (JA)

Marek Smoliński, *Joannici w polityce książąt polskich i pomorskich od połowy XII do pierwszego ćwierćwiecza XIV wieku* [The Knights of St John of Jerusalem in the Policy of Polish and Pomeranian Dukes from the Middle of the Twelfth to the First Quarter of the Fourteenth Century], Gdańsk, 2008, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Gdańskiego, 379 pp., 2 diagrams, genealogical table, index, sum. in German

The author describes the relations between the local structures of the Order of St John and their benefactors, especially the rulers, in Poland and Pomerania (to a lesser extent also in other central European countries) from the time when the order was brought to Poland (before 1165–6) to the first quarter of the fourteenth century. He points out that during that time the Knights Hospitallers tried to maintain close relations with local elites; they were frequent guests at the rulers' courts and admitted members of the elites to their order. Thanks to this strategy more and more land was conferred on them and their protectors' political links enabled them to expand their activity to other countries. According to the author the order may have been brought to Poland as a result of the Piasts' recognition of the supremacy of Frederick Barbarossa, who supported the Knights Hospitallers. During the wars fought for Austria by Czech rulers and the Hungarians, later by the Habsburgs, the order's local structures supported both sides and received land from both. But this policy was not always effective. Close connections with the Brandenburg court led to the order's conflict with the Pomeranian Duke Barnim I, and its links with Teutonic Knights resulted in a dispute with the bishop of Kuyavia, Gerward, a dispute which ended in the order losing its properties in Kuyavia and Lesser Poland. (JA)

Borys Paszkiewicz, *Brakteaty – pieniądz średniowiecznych Prus* [Pfennigs – the Money of Medieval Prussia], Wrocław, 2009, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego, 487 + 40 pp., 486 ill., 5 maps, 12 tables, 3 annexes, indexes, sum. in German, series: Złota Seria Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego, 3

This is a modified chronology of small inscription free, one-side coins (pfennigs) struck in the Teutonic Knights' state in Prussia. Until c. 1365 they were the only money used in that area, later they were used as small change. The author emphasizes that irrespective of ethnic differences between the Culm (Chełmno) region, Prussia and Danzig (Gdańsk) Pomerania, and the date when they were incorporated into the Teutonic state, the whole area was a uniform monetary market. Its operation (the weight and quality of the coins,

their exchange every ten years) were regulated at first by the Culm privilege of 1233; the later history of the pfennigs included several large-scale depreciations which, according to Paszkiewicz, were connected with the Boruthians' uprising against the Teutonic Knights in the 1260s, the rapid increase in the supply of coins when the Teutonic Knights occupied Danzig Pomerania and the Knights' defeat in the war against Poland and Lithuania in 1409–11. The coins improved in quality between the depreciations but they never reached their original parameters. The author writes about the difficulties encountered in research into these 'dumb' coins, their chronology, the differences between the pfennigs of the Teutonic state and those struck by the bishops of Ermland and Prussian towns. He also discusses the question of how to distinguish false medieval coins from those produced in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries for collectors. (JA)

Maksymilian Grzegorz, *Słownik historyczno-geograficzny komturstwa gniewskiego i okręgu nowskiego wójtostwa tczewskiego w średniowieczu* [A Historical-Geographical Dictionary of the Mewe Commandery and the Neuenburg District of the Dirschau *Vogtei* in the Middle Ages], Gniew, 2009, Powiatowa i Miejska Biblioteka Publiczna im. ks. Fabiana Wierzchowskiego w Gniewie, 147 pp., 3 maps

The book is modelled on the *Historical-Geographical Dictionary of Polish Territories in the Middle Ages* and according to the author's intentions is to be part of this series. It contains 140 descriptions of localities, worked out in accordance with the principles used in that series. Each entry contains (as far as this was possible) the locality's contemporary and historical name; its geographical situation; the type of settlement, the political and administrative unit to which it belonged; questions of property, density of population and its contributions; transformations under German law; churches, chapels and parishes; historical events up to the sixteenth century; sources and literature; descriptions of research and archeological treasures. The author defines the geographical scope of the book by Teutonic administrative units (not the Polish ones used in the above-mentioned series). The cost of printing has been covered by the commune of Gniew. This is why it includes the administrative units which now belong to the commune. (JA)

Krzysztof Kowalewski, *Rycerze, włodycy, panosze. Ludzie systemu lennego w średniowiecznych Czechach* [Knights, Petty Knights and Panoše: People of the Feudal System in Medieval Bohemia], Warszawa, 2009, Wydawnictwo Neriton, 230 pp., index of persons, sum. in German

The author discusses the situation of Czech knights of the lowest level from the end of the thirteenth to the beginning of the sixteenth century. This group, called *panoše* in sources, was originally composed of owners of small fiefs awarded them by the ruler in return for military service in the monarch's domain. In the fourteenth – fifteenth centuries some *panoše* began freely to sell, buy or inherit fiefs and tried to make their status equal to that of the estates of those knights who could dispose of them freely. The procedure was illegal but was promoted by the wars fought in Bohemia. As a result of wars, courts did not function and changes in land ownership were not registered for a long time. The new owners tried to conceal the original legal status of their property and legalize it as a knight's property. The poorest *panoše* did not take part in this procedure for the position of royal vassals guaranteed them a higher status than that of the peasants. (JA)

Jan Grzeszczak, *Pomiędzy utopią i eschatologiczną nadzieją. Idea papieża anielskiego w średniowiecznym i renesansowym profetyzmie* [Between Utopia and Eschatological Hope: The Idea of an Angelic Pope in Medieval and Renaissance Prophecies], Poznań, 2008, Uniwersytet im. Adama Mickiewicza, Wydział Teologiczny, 446 pp., 16 ill., 6 annexes, index of persons, sum. in English, series: Studia i Materiały, 111

The author discusses a thirteenth- and fourteenth-century idea which predicted that in the future a *papa angelicus* would improve the Church, lead it into a new happy period of history and prepare it for the second coming of the Redeemer. The concept was based on Joachim of Fiore's historico-philosophical idea, radicalized by Franciscan brothers and linked to the political situation of those days (criticism of the Empire, the demoralization of the clergy, and the popes' secular power). The idea induced its authors (including Roger Bacon) to look for a pope capable of improving the Church. When the hopes placed on the eremitical pope Celestine V (1294) were dashed, the arrival of an angelic pope was transferred to a more distant future and the literature devoted to his coming assumed the form of prophecies and horoscopes. The best known is the Malachi' prophecy written down in the sixteenth century. In the fourteenth century some promoters of a renewal of

the Church presented themselves as angelic popes. The concept disappeared in the sixteenth century when the Church authorities distanced themselves from it and Ignatius Loyola found it highly suspicious. (JA)

Stanisław Szczur, *Skarbowość papieska w Polsce w latach 1378–1431* [The Pope's Fiscal Administration in Poland in 1378–1431], Kraków, 2008, Towarzystwo Naukowe Societas Vistulana, 336 pp., annex, index of persons, series: Maiestas – Potestas – Communitas, II

The book describes the functioning of the pope's fiscal administration in Poland during the period between the beginning of the Great Schism and the opening of the Basel Council. The author discusses the transformations of the papal fiscal system during that time, the contributions paid by priests direct to the Roman Curia, the activity of collectors in Poland and the transfer of money to Rome. He points out that in 1378 the majority of the papal fiscal officials followed the Avignon obedience, which rapidly decreased the efficiency of the papal fiscal services recognized by Poland (which belonged to the Roman obedience). In the metropolis of Gniezno the crisis was overcome in 1384 or 1385 when the bishop of Poznań, Dobrogost became the collector of papal taxes. Preserved sources do not make it possible to estimate the Polish Church's financial contribution to the papal treasury but it must have been large, for Peter's pennies were paid by practically the whole population of the country. There was a large disproportion between the relatively rich metropolis of Gniezno and the much poorer metropolis of Lwów (Lviv). The collected money was not transferred to Rome in cash but through the intermediary of Italian banks; however, if the sum was small it was often taken direct to the papal court. The annex (pp. 303–6) features the collector Piotr Wolfram's calculations for the years 1425–6. (JA)

Kazania Świątokrzyskie [The Holy Cross Sermons], ed. Paweł Stępień in association with Halina Tchórzewska-Kabata and Izabela Winiarska-Górska, Warszawa, 2009, Biblioteka Narodowa, 352 pp., bibliog., 17 ills., index of persons

This is a prestigious new edition of the oldest literary text in the Polish language (dated back to the thirteenth – beginning of the fourteenth century and preserved as a fourteenth-century copy). The text is presented as a facsimile (pp. 197–207), as the printed text (edited by Wiesław Wydra, pp. 213–39), and as a transcription (elaborated by Waclaw Twardzik, pp.231–61)

in modern Polish spelling and is accompanied by Paweł Stępień's translation of Latin into Polish. The volume also includes studies on the history of the text (Wiesław Wydra, pp. 41–58; Sławomir Szyller, pp. 195–6), the results of research into the text (Izabela Winiarska-Górska, pp. 13–40, and bibliography, pp. 177–92), the conservation of the manuscript (Maria Woźniak, pp. 208–12) and a detailed philological analysis. (JA)

Sławomir Zonenberg, *Kronika Szymona Grunaua* [The Chronicle of Simon Grunau], Bydgoszcz, 2009, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Kazimierza Wielkiego, 191 pp., 3 ill., sum. in English and German

The author deals with a work which is generally regarded as the least reliable chronicle on the history of Prussia. He points out that the only reason why the chronicle was printed in the nineteenth century at the request of the *Altertumsgesellschaft* 'Prussia' was that it was of no use at all as a historical source, a curiosum in the history of scientific books. According to Zonenberg, the work owes its ill fame to its character. It was a moral propaganda treatise directed against the Teutonic Knights (first edition written in 1517–21) and against the Lutherans (second and third editions written in 1521–30). The fact that the text included many *exempla* and anecdotes indicates that it was to supply information useful for writing sermons (Grunau was a Dominican brother, he was active in Gdańsk and Elbląg). The author sums up his reflections pointing out that the chronicle, though unreliable and tendentious, is an interesting source portraying the times when it was written. It is a reflection of the Dominicans' anti-Teutonic and anti-Lutheran propaganda addressed to lower social strata and also a testimony to the opinions of the author and a part of the inhabitants of Prussia who represented German culture but were politically linked to the kingdom of Poland. (JA)

EARLY MODERN TIMES

Henryk Samsonowicz and Radosław Lolo (eds.), *Handel Mazowska w epoce staropolskiej. Perspektywy rynków lokalnych, regionalnych i międzynarodowych* [Mazovia's Trade in the Old Polish Epoch: The Prospects of Local, Regional and International Markets], Pułtusk, 2009, Akademia Humanistyczna im. Aleksandra Gieysztor, 102 pp., ill.

An interesting book, though modest in size. The authors of the contributions included in the volume have succeeded in enhancing our knowledge of Mazovia's trade and in presenting it in a comprehensive way. Henryk Samsonowicz's preface is followed by Jan Tyszkiewicz's remarks on transport in transit trade through Poland and Lithuania in the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries. Zbigniew Morawski discusses Mazovia's waterways. Józef Maroszek examines rural fairs in Mazovia between the sixteenth and the eighteenth centuries. The most interesting is the study by Dariusz Główka, who returns to a subject which has already been discussed in the relevant literature, namely whether at the end of the eighteenth century Mazovia really played no role in supplying the inhabitants of Warsaw with foodstuffs. The author shows that the Warsaw market influenced the lines of agricultural production in south-western Mazovia. According to him, the real granary of Warsaw was the Błonie district. The volume ends with Radosław Lolo's study ['Pułtusk as a local market in the seventeenth century']. Contrary to the opinion popular with historians, Lolo shows Mazovia not only as a centre of agricultural production but also a centre producing various industrial goods. (DD)

Izabela Lewandowska-Malec, *Sejm Walny Koronny Rzeczypospolitej Obojga Narodów i jego dorobek ustawodawczy (1587–1632)* [The General Sejm of the Commonwealth of the Two Nations and Its Legislative Achievements (1587–1632)], Kraków, 2009, Księgarnia Akademicka, 640 pp., bibliog., ill., index of persons, sum. in English

An extensive study devoted to the legislative achievements of the *Sejm* during the reign of Sigismund III Vasa. The book is based mainly on acts of a normative character, that is proclamations, legal acts (*uniwersaty*) and laws adopted by the *Sejm*. Thanks to her research in Cracow archives and libraries, the author has also made use of *Sejm* records, royal instructions, dietine instructions, the concepts of resolutions, the lists of participants

in the debates, diaries and accounts by nuncios. The book consists of six chapters. The author starts by discussing the various kinds of parliamentary debates, the estates represented in the *Sejm* and the representation of towns. In the second chapter she presents the activities necessary to convene a diet, the pre-*Sejm* dietines, and the general dietines; she also discusses the successive stages of parliamentary debates. Next she classifies the laws and other legal acts adopted by the diets. In the next chapter she analyzes the competence of the Polish parliament in the light of the acts adopted by it. The last but one chapter deals with the successive stages of pre-parliamentary, parliamentary and post-parliamentary procedure. The author draws attention to such elements as the legations and instructions sent by the king to dietines, the instructions given by the dietines, the senators' votes, the debates and proposals put forward in the chamber of deputies, different conclusions, the problem of securing the dietines' acceptance of the resolutions, the editing of new laws and taxation proclamations, the publication of parliamentary resolutions and protestations. The last chapter concerns the legislative techniques used in the *Sejm* of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. The author has a high opinion of the functioning of the Polish parliament and the value of its legislative achievements during the period she has examined. (DD)

Anna Burkietowicz, *Sejmik sieradzki w latach 1669–1717* [The Sieradz Dietine in 1669–1717], Sieradz, 2009, Miejska Biblioteka Publiczna w Sieradzu, 318 pp., bibliog., list of abbreviations, glossary of most important historical terms, tables

Anna Burkietowicz's book is yet another monograph dealing with a dietine. It was meant to be a continuation of Anna Filipczak-Kocur's *Sejmik sieradzki za Wazów, 1587–1668* [The Sieradz Dietine under the Vasas, 1587–1668], published in 1989, hence its starting date. The author ends her examination in 1717, the year of the Silent *Sejm*, a diet which greatly curbed the competence of the dietines. Burkietowicz describes the period when the dietines ruled supreme. The book is based mainly on the Sieradz dietine's resolutions kept in the Biblioteka PAN/PAU (Library of the Polish Academy of Sciences and of the Polish Academy of Learning) in Cracow, in what is known as the Pawiński Files, and partly also in the Archiwum Główne Akt Dawnych (Central Archives of Historical Records) in Warsaw, the Czartoryski Library in Cracow and the State Archives in Lodz. The author has also used Treasury documents and correspondence. The arrangement of material is typical of all monographs devoted to dietines. Burkietowicz starts with the socio-economic structure of the Sieradz voivodship, and then describes the organization and functioning of its dietine. In six extensive chapters, thematically arranged, she subsequently presents the dietine's views and opinions on the political

questions the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth faced (particularly interesting is the presentation of the Sieradz nobility's attitude to the elections in 1669, 1674 and 1697 and to the Great Northern War which badly hit the Sieradz region), on the Ostrog entail, on the different lines of the Commonwealth's foreign policy, social questions (she discusses separately the attitude to burghers, peasants, Jews and foreigners), questions concerning Church and religious matters, military issues and taxation. (The author devotes much space to the last issue.) Burkietowicz has managed not only to describe and analyze the Sieradz dietine's attitude to all these issues but also to point out that the dietine in Szadek was freeing itself from the influence of the dietines of Poznań and Kalisz voivodships and that the noblemen meetings in Szadek were quite interested in matters concerning the entire state. It is a serious drawback that the book lacks an index of persons. (DD)

Michał Zwierzykowski (ed.), *Akta sejmikowe województw poznańskiego i kaliskiego, lata 1696–1732* [Documents of the Dietine of Poznań and Kalisz Voivodships, 1696–1732], Poznań, 2009, Wydawnictwo Poznańskie, 1201 pp., preface, list of abbreviations, bibliog., ill., indexes

The source edition developed by Michał Zwierzykowski can be regarded as a continuation of Włodzimierz Dworzaczek's editions of dietine acts. It covers the period from the interregnum after the death of John III Sobieski to 1732, the year of the last dietine of the Poznań and Kalisz voivodships, held during the reign of Augustus II. In a short preface the author says that he is working on a separate monograph which will present in detail the history of the Poznań-Kalisz dietine in 1696–1732, and is preparing successive volumes of dietine acts. The present volume contains 729 source texts of various sizes (419 of them have been published from the originals and 310 on the basis of eighteenth-century copies). They illustrate 209 meetings held by the dietine in the period under review. The book includes the resolutions (*lauda*) and instructions of the dietine as well as various proclamations and legal acts (*uniwersały*), the correspondence addressed to and sent by the dietine, as well as speeches, protests, manifestoes and accounts and information on the debates of individual dietines. The source texts have been published in full without any abbreviation, each is equipped with a reference mark which explains its origin. The material has been divided chronologically in accordance with the dates of each dietine. The aim of the publisher was to present the whole activity of the dietines. The indexes will make it easier for readers to use the volume. (DD)

Andrzej Rachuba (ed.), *Metryka litewska. Rejestry podymnego Wielkiego Księstwa Litewskiego. Województwo smoleńskie 1650 r.* [The Lithuanian Register: Hearth-Tax Registration of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. Smolensk Voivodship 1650], Warszawa, 2009, Wydawnictwo DiG, 237 pp., maps, tables, list of abbreviations, indexes

Another volume has been added to the Lithuanian Register, a series launched in 1989. This is the 1650 hearth-tax register of the Smolensk voivodship, compiled for tax collectors. The edition is based on the text of the Smolensk *abiurata* from 1650 kept in the Russian State Archives of Early Acts (Rossiyskiy Gosudarstvennyi Arkhiv Drevnikh Aktov) in Moscow in the set of Smolensk *prikaz* (fond 145). This is a copy of the *abiurata* drawn up in the chancellery of the Lithuanian Treasury, based on the original register prepared by the chancellery of the town of Smolensk. The arrangement of the volume is the same as that of the previous volumes. The register proper is preceded by an extensive introduction in which the editor discusses the history of Smolensk voivodship, the structure and changes in the structure of landed property in the voivodship and the national structure of the Smolensk nobility. The genesis of the tax, the way in which it was collected and the value of the *abiurata* in 1650 are discussed separately. The register itself has been arranged very clearly: first come the Church dignitaries, followed by the senators, secular dignitaries, and district administration officials according to the importance of each office, and the officials' children; petty officials and noblemen not holding an official post are listed in alphabetical order; district janitors, Don Cossacks, royal towns and the Jews living in the towns of Smolensk voivodship are placed separately. The individual records contain the date of the tax return, the surname or another identification of the taxpayer, and information on the hearth-tax. The volume is equipped with thematic and text references. (DD)

Aleksandra Skrzypietz, *Francuskie zabiegi o koronę polską po śmierci Jana III Sobieskiego* [French Struggle for the Crown of Poland after John III Sobieski's Death], Katowice, 2009, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Śląskiego, 231 + 1 pp., list of abbreviations, bibliog., index of persons, sum. in English and French, series: Prace Naukowe Uniwersytetu Śląskiego w Katowicach, 2686 (study accessible in Internet /on-line Śląska Biblioteka Cyfrowa http://www.sbc.org.pl/dlibra/docmetadat?a?id=16969&from=&dirids=1&ver_id=1088124&lp=1&QI=5AD01B7168B055DEC092D47F6972E584-2)

One of the most important royal elections in the history of old Poland was the 1697 election which inaugurated the epoch of Saxon kings in Poland. The stormy interregnum and the election have not yet been adequately researched. The author deals with the policy pursued by France and its party in Poland, that is, with the side which suffered defeat in rivalry for the Polish crown. She focuses on two questions: the policy pursued by France, especially its diplomatic representatives in Warsaw, and the membership and activity of the pro-French party during the interregnum and the election. She discusses the first question on the basis of practically only source editions and literature, making little use of French archives. The second question is presented on the basis of Polish documents; the author has carried out her research in many archives and collections of manuscripts not only in Poland but also in Ukraine, Belarus and Lithuania. According to the author, France failed in her efforts to win the Polish crown mainly because of the indolence of her ambassador, Melchior de Polignac, and his method of building the pro-French party on exaggerated gratification promises. Skrzypietz also says that what united the members of the French party was the desire for profit and their dislike of Jakub Sobieski's candidature, not any ideological reasons (e.g. Poland's *raison d'état*). This is why they easily abandoned the French candidate and extended support to Augustus II, the elector of Saxony. (DD)

Tomasz Ciesielski, *Armia koronna w czasach Augusta III* [The Polish Army during the Times of Augustus III], Warszawa, 2009, Wydawnictwo DiG, 631 pp., bibliog., ill., index of persons

Tomasz Ciesielski has for years been conducting research into the army of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth during the early modern period and is the author of many studies. This impressive book is the effect of many years of research work conducted by the author in Austria, Belarus, Lithuania, Russia, Germany and Ukraine. The lack of a standing army was one of the

Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth's most important problems. This is why the author chose as his subject the army set up in the Saxon period, whose regular units existed from 1735 to 1763. It was a small force but it can be regarded as a regular, state army. It was maintained thanks to the financial contributions adopted for the entire state. It was under the full permanent command of the hetmans and the king. It was also controlled by the *Sejm* and by the Treasury Tribunal set up for this purpose. The author deliberately does not discuss the army's participation in military actions and concentrates on questions which are frequently on the margin of traditional military histories. The book consists of five extensive parts divided into chapters. The author discusses separately the home model of cavalry and its foreign model. He starts with the question of finances. In the introductory chapter he outlines the army finances from 1717 to 1763. Two parts bear similar titles: 'Struktura zarządzania i dowodzenia armią koronną' [The structure of management and command of Poland's army] and 'Struktura zarządzania i dowodzenia armią' [The structure of army management and command]. In the first of them the author examines the competence of the civil administration organs with regard to the army, the power of the hetmans, the duties and privileges of individual commanders, in the second part he focuses on equipment, training and discipline. In the part entitled 'Organizacja armii' [The organization of the army] he discusses the principles of the organization and division into individual services, the size of the army, its arsenal. The volume ends with reflections on the deployment of troops, and fortresses, which in fact are a study of the defensive potential and military security of the Commonwealth in the period examined by the author. (DD)

Urszula Kosińska, *Sondaż czy prowokacja? Sprawa Lehmana z 1721 r., czyli o rzekomych planach rozbiorowych Augusta II* [Probe or Provocation? The 1721 Case of Lehmann or Augustus II's Alleged Partition Plans], Warszawa, 2009, Wydawnictwo Neriton, 119 + 12 pp., source annexes, list of abbreviations, bibliog., index of persons, ill., series: Prace Instytutu Historycznego UW

As soon as Augustus II ascended the Polish throne opinions abounded that the king was ready to participate in a partition of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, one being prepared by Russia and Prussia. In trying to find the genesis of these rumours, the author has analyzed one of the best known partition plans, the Lehmann plan launched in 1721. In Dresden and Berlin she found Saxon and Prussian source materials which had yet to be examined or were even unknown, as well as using Russian archives.

The annexes present unknown letters written by the banker Berendt Lehmann and the partition plan itself. One of Kosińska's most important achievements is the fact that she has managed to establish the network of events connected with this problem. She starts by presenting earlier annexation and partition plans and then outlines the political background of Lehmann's plan. She shows how it functioned and how it was used by Russia and Prussia. Her analysis shows that the plan attributed to Augustus II was in fact a Prussian provocation. The most interesting part of the book is the description of the diplomatic game conducted behind the scenes by Russia and Prussia, a game whose aim was to weaken the position of the Polish king and to establish lasting co-operation in Polish matters between Russia and Prussia. (DD)

Elżbieta Paprocka, *Tolerowani nielubiani. Katolicy w Elblągu w drugiej połowie XVII i w XVIII wieku. Studium z dziejów codziennego współistnienia wyznań* [Unpopular but Tolerated: Catholics in Elbląg in the Second Half of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Century. A Study into the History of the Everyday Coexistence of Denominations], Warszawa, 2009, Wydawnictwo Neriton, 245 pp., bibliog., index of persons, sum. in English and German

The author examines the everyday coexistence between Catholics and Protestants in Elbląg as it was perceived by representatives of the two denominations. This is the first study of this subject in Polish historiography. The book is based mainly on Elbląg town records kept in the State Archives in Gdańsk. Paprocka has also conducted research in the archives and libraries of Olsztyn, Toruń and Berlin. In the introductory chapter she discusses the situation of the Catholic Church in Elbląg up to 1616; she then examines the factors which influenced the relations between the Catholics and the Protestants in Elbląg in 1660–1772 (that is from the Peace of Oliva to the First Partition of Poland); she starts with the socio-legal situation of the dissidents in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth and stresses the importance of the Toruń Tumult of 1724 and of the dissidents' confederation of 1767. She devotes a separate chapter to the attitude of the municipal council to the Catholic clergy, paying special attention to the presence of religious orders in the town. In the next part of the book the author tries to show whether there was any social or religious discrimination of the Catholics in Protestant Elbląg, she cites the number of the Catholics, describes their social status, their situation under municipal law and their situation in guilds and charitable institutions. The book ends with a chapter which explains the disputes over the freedom of religion, including the Catholics' struggle to obtain the right to worship in public, the problem of mixed marriages and apostasy. (DD)

Bolesław Przybyszewski, *Katalog kanoników Krakowskiej Kapituły Katedralnej w XVIII wieku* [A Catalogue of the Canons of the Cracow Cathedral Chapter in the Eighteenth Century], Kraków, 2009, Polska Akademia Umiejętności, 289 pp., tables, ill., indexes

The book is in fact a biographical dictionary of the Cracow canons. In alphabetical order it presents short and longer biographies (from a few dozen lines to several pages) of persons belonging to the Cracow chapter. It is based on the *Katalog biskupów, prałatów i kanoników krakowskich* [Catalogue of Cracow bishops, prelates and canons] published by Ludwik Łętowski in the nineteenth century. Thanks to his research in the archives of the Cracow chapter and curia, the author has added a great deal of new information to the catalogue compiled by his predecessor. The catalogue is preceded by a preface which contains lists of persons performing various functions in the chapter. The entry to each function provides the reader with a reference mark to Łętowski's catalogue (if the given person figures there) and sometimes also to the *Polski Słownik Biograficzny* [Polish Biographical Dictionary] or to an armorial. Brief biographies of honorary canons have been placed separately according to their seats (also in alphabetical order). The volume also contains an index of persons and an index of place names. (DD)

Dariusz Rolnik, *Portret szlachty czasów stanisławowskich, epoki kryzysu, odrodzenia i upadku Rzeczypospolitej w pamiętnikach polskich* [A Portrait of the Nobleman as He Was Presented in Polish Diaries during the Reign of Stanislas Augustus Poniatowski, the Epoch of Crisis, Restoration and Fall of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth], Katowice, 2009, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Śląskiego, 615 pp., bibliog., index of persons, sum. in English and French, series: Prace Naukowe Uniwersytetu Śląskiego w Katowicach, 2667

The book is the fruit of many years of the author's research into diaries. It is an attempt to present a collective portrait of Polish noblemen, not so much a real, as a stereotype portrait created by noble diarists; it also shows the mentality of this social group in the second half of the eighteenth century. The book is based on 288 noblemen's diaries, including accounts of travels, chronicles and even short histories of Poland written during the reign of Stanislas Augustus Poniatowski or later, if they happen to refer to those days. The author brings his analysis up to 1795. He has divided his sources into those written before the fall of the state; those whose authors were

active also after the collapse of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth but who described the epoch of Stanislaus Augustus as it was when they were adults, and those whose authors were born between 1780 and 1795 and who therefore described the second half of the eighteenth century as a past epoch. This has allowed Rolnik to present how the picture of a nobleman kept changing in society and to point out the unchangeable canon of a nobleman's virtues: courage, especially in the defence of his country and nation, love of his country, hospitality, openness. The book has four chapters; in the first the author shows how a nobleman's private, family life is presented in his sources, he then describes the nobleman's attitude to the state and his behaviour in public life, the diarists' attitude to the army and military service; in the last chapter he focuses on a portrait of the clergy. (DD)

Władysław Konopczyński, *O wartość naszej spuścizny dziejowej. Wybór pism* [The Value of Our Historical Heritage: Selected Writings], introduction by Piotr Biliński, Kraków, 2009, Ośrodek Myśli Politycznej, 451 pp., bibliog., index of persons, series: Biblioteka Klasyki Polskiej Myśli Politycznej, 30

Władysław Konopczyński (d. 1952), one of the most prominent Polish historians specializing in early modern history, was the founder and editor of the *Polski Słownik Biograficzny* [Polish Biographical Dictionary], a politician and publicist, author of university handbooks, countless articles and many extremely valuable monographs, especially the monumental *Konfederacja barska* [The Confederation of Bar]. The volume published in 2009 contains seventeen smaller historical and journalistic texts. In the introduction Piotr Biliński presents Konopczyński's biography. Most of the texts in the volume have been reprinted from collections of studies which were published by Konopczyński before the Second World War and are therefore difficult to find, such as *Mrok i świt. Studya historyczne* [Dusk and Dawn: Historical Studies], 1911; *Od Sobieskiego do Kościuszki. Szkice – drobiazgi – fraszki historyczne* [From Sobieski to Kosciuszko: Essays – Trifles – Historical Odds and Ends], 1921; *Umarli mówią* [The Dead Speak], 1929. Particularly remarkable are two texts which have never been published before. One is a short text which refers to the referendum of 30 June 1946. Konopczyński poignantly expressed in it his critical attitude to communist rule. From the point of view of modern history the most interesting in the whole volume is the 114-page article: 'Polska w dobie pierwszego rozbioru' [Poland at the Time of the First Partition], an academic but accessibly written study that Konopczyński prepared alongside a monograph on the First Partition which he did not bring out. Konopczyński presents in it the broad background of Poland's international

situation in the second half of the eighteenth century and the conditions in which the partition took place. The publication of the essay may turn out to be a fortunate event, for the question of the First Partition of Poland still awaits a serious academic examination. (DD)

NINETEENTH CENTURY

Marek Tracz-Tryniecki, *Mysł polityczna i prawna Alexisa de Tocqueville* [The Political and Juridical Thought of Alexis de Tocqueville], Kraków, 2009, Księgarnia Akademicka, 440 pp., bibliog., index of persons, sum. in English, series: Seria Tocqueville'owska. Monografie, 1

Marek Tracz-Tryniecki's book is the first attempt in Polish historiography at a full synthesizing presentation of the ideas of the French writer and politician who enjoys unabated popularity and authority among the philosophers of politics and political scientists of the Western world, particularly in America. It seems that the author wanted to sum up the achievements of such Polish researchers into Tocqueville's legacy as Irena Grudzińska-Gross, Jan Baszkiewicz, Marcin Król, Zbigniew Rau, Paweł Śpiewak and Wojciech Karpiński and even to expand their achievements by an analysis of Tocqueville's views on legislation. The author has used as his main sources Tocqueville's *Democracy in America* and *The Old Regime and the Revolution*, a rich correspondence, as well as some smaller papers and speeches made by Tocqueville in parliament and at the meetings of academic societies. In the first chapter the author presents a concise biography of his protagonist, paying special attention to the circumstances in which Tocqueville's two main works were created. In the next chapters he analyzes the crucial concepts and ideas of that classic of liberalism. In the second chapter Tracz-Tryniecki emphasizes and analyzes three basic values professed by his protagonist: dignity, freedom and virtue. In the next parts of the book he discusses Tocqueville's views on revolution, democracy and questions connected with legislation. The method adopted by the author may give rise to doubts because Tocqueville's various statements are all treated on a par, irrespective of their context and rank. This may be due to Tracz-Tryniecki's intention to make Tocqueville's less known texts familiar to the reader. The analysis of these texts is not to supplement *Democracy in America* and *The Old Regime* but rather to deepen and expand reflections on these works. In an extensive conclusion the author wonders where to place Tocqueville's thoughts in the history of political doctrines for both liberals and conservatives, enthusiasts and critics of democracy, republicans and critics of revolution claim relationship with the famous author.

Tracz-Tryniecki emphasizes that his author's views correspond to the Catholic social teachings, pointing out to some similarities between Tocqueville's ideas and the writings of John Paul II. Tracz-Tryniecki also deals with the reception of the French writer's ideas, especially the renaissance of the research into his legacy in the second half of the twentieth century. These reflections, though they confirm the importance of Tocqueville's legacy, seem to be at times rather uncritical and apologetic, for, as the author himself emphasizes nobody has questioned Tocqueville's authority. (AK)

Roman Kochnowski, *Przy Tobie, Najjaśniejszy Panie, stoimy i stać chcemy... Monarchia habsburska w polskiej myśli politycznej lat 1860–1914* ['We Are Standing and Want to Stand at Your Side, Your Majesty': The Habsburg Monarchy in Polish Political Thought 1860–1914], Kraków, 2009, Wydawnictwo Naukowe Uniwersytetu Pedagogicznego, 212 pp., bibliog., series: Prace Monograficzne – Uniwersytet Pedagogiczny im. Komisji Edukacji Narodowej w Krakowie, 534

Roman Kochnowski's book was planned as the first comprehensive, synthesizing presentation of a subject which has been discussed for over a hundred years within Polish historiography. The book is certainly valuable and its appearance is fully justified for the question had to be re-interpreted from a new perspective. The author has expanded the source base by texts contributed by Austrian and Czech writers, but the base is still surprisingly small. In the first chapter of the book, which briefly presents Polish-Austrian political relations from the fifteenth century to the year 1860, Kochnowski has not escaped some superficial evaluations and biased opinions influenced by the views of the day. The proper analytical part of the book consists of two chapters which deal with Polish political concepts referring to the Habsburg monarchy, put forward in the years 1860–92 and 1892–1914. This division is justified by the emergence of mass political movements and modern parties, a subject which has been discussed many times in the relevant literature. The author examines the Poles' loyalty to Austria-Hungary and the plans for the reconstruction of the Polish state or for expanding the existing autonomy, as they were expressed in the programmes of individual political parties. What is characteristic of these reflections is the author's unconcealed sympathy for the Habsburg monarchy and his warm feelings for its political and ideological legacy. Unfortunately, Kochnowski's reflections are concentrated on the traditionally narrowly-conceived subject of political programmes and concepts well examined in the subject literature. The author does not examine the scale and depth of the Poles' loyalty to Austria, nor

is he interested in the psychological and practical conditions of that loyalty, in whether these concepts were realistic in view of Vienna's policy and the conditions in Europe; even the analogous happenings in the other countries of the Habsburg monarchy are treated rather superficially. (AK)

Krzysztof Lewalski, *Kościół rzymskokatolicki a władze carskie w Królestwie Polskim na przełomie XIX i XX wieku* [The Roman Catholic Church and the Tsarist Authorities in the Polish Kingdom at the End of the Nineteenth and the Beginning of the Twentieth Century], Gdańsk, 2008, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Gdańskiego, 421 pp., bibliog., ill., index of persons, sum. in English

The new book by Krzysztof Lewalski, a specialist in religious relations in Congress Poland, is generally acknowledged as the crowning point of the research he has been conducting for many years into this question. Its strong side is definitely its rich and variegated source base, the fruit of the author's search in Polish, Russian and Vatican archives. The book is based on published and archival Russian and Vatican diplomatic documents, reports by Russian governors, the educational authorities and the Okhrona, official documents, many memoirs, and the diocesan press addressed to Polish priests. The book opens with an exhaustive introduction in which the author deals with methodological questions, and the sources and the literature devoted to this subject. The first chapter discusses the State-Church relations, including the Vatican's attitude, from 1815 to 1867, that is from the establishment of the Polish Kingdom under the tsar's rule to the abolition of the Catholic Church's separate existence in the kingdom. In the next chapter the author analyzes the Church's 'participation and involvement' in the Polish national cause in the second half of the nineteenth and at the beginning of the twentieth century, including the pressure exerted by the Russian authorities, the controversies over the use of the Polish language in registry offices and official correspondence, controversies over schools, and the question of what was known as the Catholic party in the kingdom, that is mainly the relations between Church representatives and activists of the National Democracy. The third chapter deals with the Russian authorities' policy towards seminars for priests, which were regarded as the main enemy of Russia and of the Orthodox Church within the Catholic Church. The next chapter presents the question of nominations to Church posts in the kingdom; this was in fact confined to nominations to vacant bishoprics, for these nominations aroused the strongest controversies, involving both the highest Russian and Vatican authorities. The last chapter breaks with this clear and coherent structure. It discusses the situation on the eve of World War I and during its first months,

until the kingdom was occupied by German forces; the author holds the view that the change of structure is justified by the changed political situation for the Russians did their best to win over the Catholic Church. The book has an exhaustive annex with selected source documents, including the oath of loyalty to the tsar taken by Polish priests. It is worth stressing that the book meets the requirement set by the author himself, in his view it was necessary 'to get rid of the emotional martyrdom factor'. The Polish Church is presented in the book as a church involved in a conflict of loyalties between the tsarist authorities, the Polish national community and the Vatican. It is the author's opinion that in view of the constant pressure exerted by the authorities, the primacy of Rome and the Catholic doctrine, one cannot speak of the whole Polish Church's separate, long-term policy to tsarism in that period, one cannot say that the Church did not want 'to be hostage to a Polishness conceived as the highest value in the life of an individual'. This opinion can of course be questioned by pointing out that it resulted from the adoption of the view of top-ranking people, which was dominated by the ideas of the Church hierarchs, diplomats, editors of diocesan periodicals, *etc.* This theory seems to be justified by the rich source material analyzed by the author. (AK)

Elżbieta Orman, *Tahańcza Poniatowskich. Z dziejów szlachty na Ukrainie w XIX wieku* [The Poniatowskis' Tahańcza Estate: From the Nineteenth-Century History of the Polish Nobility in Ukraine], Kraków, 2009, Polska Akademia Umiejętności, 416 pp., bibliog., tables, ills., index of persons, sum. in English, French, Russian and Ukrainian

Tahańcza was the name of the estate in the Kiev region which Colonel Józef Poniatowski purchased in 1798 from Prince Stanisław Poniatowski, the son of the last Polish king's brother. This is a monograph of the history of that estate and of its inhabitants, of Colonel Poniatowski and his family; Tahańcza was later inherited by the Buturlins, Russian Catholics who owned the estate until 1917. The author concentrates on the person of Józef Poniatowski, not only because of his achievements at Tahańcza but also because she conceived the idea of the book when she was writing Colonel Poniatowski's biography for the *Polski Słownik Biograficzny* [Polish Biographical Dictionary], a fact which she does not conceal. Colonel Józef Poniatowski (1762–1845), a participant in the 1792 campaign, said to be related to the family of the last Polish king – the genealogy of the family is discussed in the first chapter of the book – was by no means an ordinary person among the Polish noblemen living in what had once belonged to the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. Thanks to his good management of the estate, he was able, within a few

years, to amass sufficient capital to set up a textile factory at Tahańcza in the first years of the nineteenth century. With the help of foreign specialists he expanded it to such a scale after 1812 that it was to become one of the greatest textile factories not only in Ukraine but in the whole Russian Empire. His descendants went on expanding industry at Tahańcza, establishing equally successful sugar works in the 1850s. The author describes in detail not only the history of industry in Tahańcza but also the troubles of the owners of the estate, their family and domestic life, the political dilemmas, social contacts, their interests and the atmosphere of life of the Ukrainian nobility. The book is based on the research the author has conducted for years in Polish and Ukrainian archives ever since the latter were opened to Polish researchers, and on the family collections of the descendants of the Poniатовskis and the Buturlins in Italy, which contain correspondence, diaries and other scattered documents. In the 'Epilogue' Orman relates how she managed to reach Tahańcza, irreparably destroyed by the communist revolution, and saw the last material remnants of its old glory. As she herself says, what inspired her interest in Józef Poniатовski and his descendants was the fact that they had nothing in common with the patriotic martyrdom-inspired stereotype of the nineteenth-century Polish nobility. However, the history of just one family can hardly be used as a basis for generalizations about the mechanisms which governed the life choices of the Polish nobility in the eastern regions. It is rather the Poniатовskis and the Buturlins who seem to have been exceptional. Nevertheless, as the author points out, in view of the lack of a monograph of many equally, or even more, distinguished Polish families and estates in Ukraine, it may turn out that such exceptions were much more common. *Tahańcza Poniатовskich* can therefore be regarded as an innovatory book opening a new chapter into research on the Polish nobility in Ukraine, whose traditions, broken after 1939, have only recently been renewed. (AK)

Maria Krisań, *Chłopi wobec zmian cywilizacyjnych w Królestwie Polskim w drugiej połowie XIX – początku XX wieku* [The Attitude of Peasants to the Civilization Changes in Congress Poland in the Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries], Warszawa, 2008, Wydawnictwo Neriton, Instytut Historii PAN, 185 pp., indexes, annexes, sum. in English and Russian

The book by Maria Krisań, a senior research fellow at the Institute of Slavic Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences in Moscow, is a study of an interdisciplinary character, a study which has successfully combined historical principles with the methodology of social sciences: sociology and cultural anthropology. It deals with modernization changes and changes in peasants'

consciousness during a period of crucial importance for rural areas. From the middle of the nineteenth century efforts were multiplied to gradually overcome the isolation of peasants; this was also a period when local societies suffered from an unprecedented disorganization. The author analyzes the reception of modern culture and shows how alien matters and values reached villages. Non-elitist culture, which in the past had not contributed many works to our legacy, is not a convenient research subject for a historian. In Kriśań's book the many personal documents, such as letters from the countless emigrants who left for Brazil and the United States, and the correspondence sent to the press are supplemented by the now unjustly forgotten materials from pre-war ethnographic research. This means that the sources contain materials left by both active, enterprising inhabitants and by average village people. The documents have been interpreted with the use of sociological and anthropological methods, including Pierre Bourdieu's theory of symbolic capital. In the first part of the book the author analyzes changes which were influenced by education, by schools, the press and popular literature. In the second chapter she speaks of peasant religiousness and its relation to the institution of the Catholic Church in rural life. In the last chapter she shows changes in the peasants' customs, attitudes and needs, in their new dreams and aims which appeared under the influence of contacts with the outside world. Kriśań says that the traditional functions of peasant culture determined their attitudes and aspirations and were a filter through which the outside world was received. (OL)

Tadeusz Stegner, *Ewangelicy ziem polskich XIX wieku. Sylwetki wybitnych postaci* [The Protestants in Polish Territories in the Nineteenth Century: Outstanding Figures], Gdańsk, 2008, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Gdańskiego, 233 pp., bibliog., index of persons

Tadeusz Stegner is the author of many publications on Protestants in Polish territories. His latest book presents the biographies of ten Protestants active in the political, economic, religious and socio-cultural life of Congress Poland and Teschen Silesia. Stegner writes about such persons as Samuel Bogumił Linde (author of the monumental dictionary of the Polish language) and Wojciech Gerson (a prominent painter) and such distinguished but not so well known persons as Wilhelm Kolberg, an engineer, chairman of the Warsaw Lutheran Church, and Adolf Daab, an industrialist. Stegner also throws new light on two Lutheran pastors Teodor Haase and Wilhelm Angerstein, and such political activists as Edward Jurgens, Karol Ruprecht and Jan Śliwka. Most of the persons mentioned here belonged to the Lutheran Church. Karol

Ruprecht, an activist of the Polish independence movement, a January 1863 insurrectionist, and Lucyna Ćwierczakiewiczowa, a columnist and the author of still very popular cooking books, were Calvinists. Stegner's book gives readers the possibility of acquainting themselves with an important aspect of the problem of nationalities and Polish-German relations. It throws light on the Polish Protestants' assimilation to Polish culture and shows groups with different identities in the cultural borderland. The author has used materials kept in Polish archives in Warsaw, Płock, and Estonian archives. The work is of a popular character and is addressed to a broad circle of readers interested in multicultural history and the history of the intelligentsia in Polish territories. (OL)

Leszek Madej, *Rosyjski garnizon wojskowy w Częstochowie (w latach 1831/32–1914)* [The Russian Military Garrison in Częstochowa (1831/32–1914)], Kraków, 2009, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Jagiellońskiego, 412 pp., bibliog., indexes

Leszek Madej's book is an extremely deep, thorough examination of the history of the Częstochowa garrison, which the author analyzes through the prism of Russian soldiers' relations with their Polish environment. This is the most exhaustive study of these relations in Polish academic writing. The author has mostly based the book on his own research into sources in Polish and Russian archives. He has made most use of the documents of the Częstochowa municipal council, military regulations, official Russian correspondence, the local press and documents kept in the Paulinite Jasna Góra archives. Thanks to these sources he could reconstruct in detail many aspects of the Częstochowa garrison's daily life, find out how the soldiers and officers were billeted and supplied with what they needed. He could also examine their relations with the inhabitants of the town. Unfortunately, the reconstruction is not equally detailed for the whole period referred to in the book; it is much fuller for the second half of the nineteenth and early twentieth century. The author has made scant use of personal documents, even though some of them, for instance the diary kept by Boris Shaposhnikov, a marshal of the Soviet Union, are very interesting. What can give rise to doubts is the structure of the narration: the book opens and ends with chapters describing the capture of Częstochowa by the Russians in 1813 and the Russian withdrawal in 1914, events which are completely different from what is described in the other chapters of the book. The main part describes the military potential of the Częstochowa garrison (its equipment, size, nationality structure); how the garrison policed and administered the town and how it functioned (Częstochowa being a border zone); it also discusses

the billeting of the soldiers and officers and the resulting duties and profits for the inhabitants; the way the garrison was supplied and financed; and the soldiers' everyday life, their training, amusements and conflicts with the local inhabitants. The most valuable are the author's conclusions referring to economic aspects and the Russian troops' everyday contacts with the local population. As far as this problem is concerned, the book is innovative and should encourage studies on other Russian garrisons in Poland. (AK)

TWENTIETH CENTURY

Agnieszka Janiak-Jasińska, Katarzyna Sierakowska and Andrzej Szwarc (eds.), *Działaczki społeczne, feministki, obywatelki ...* [Female Social Activists, Feminists, Citizens ...], i: *Samorganizowanie się kobiet na ziemiach polskich do roku 1918 (na tle porównawczym)*, ii: *Samorganizowanie się kobiet na ziemiach polskich po roku 1918 (na tle porównawczym)* [i: The Self-Organization of Women in Polish Territories up to 1918 (On a Comparative Background), ii: The Self-Organization of Women in Polish Territories after 1918 (On a Comparative Background)], Warszawa, 2008–9, Wydawnictwo Neriton, 534 + 472 pp., indexes, introductory articles in English

This two-volume publication is the result of research carried out by the Team for the Study of Poland's Nineteenth- and Twentieth-century Social History (initiated by Anna Żarnowska, and set up at the Institute of History of the University of Warsaw at the end of the 1980s). This collective work presents various aspects of the Polish women's movement in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

The first volume opens with an introduction by the recently deceased historian, Anna Żarnowska, and Andrzej Szwarc [‘The Emancipation Movement and Women's Associations in Polish Territories prior to the Regaining of Independence – Dilemmas and Restrictions: An Introduction’], in which the authors define the emancipation movement as ‘a socio-cultural phenomenon transcending the range of political movements’. This is why researchers take into account various non-political factors which activated women in central and eastern Europe. Żarnowska and Szwarc emphasize that it was not only the political situation and administrative restrictions but also social attitudes that were the reason why the movement acquired different forms and why women's organizations were set up at different times in the individual countries. The authors point out that what led to the activation of the feminist

movement in Poland was the specific Polish situation: the differences and similarities in the situation of women in the three partition zones. The article presents the most important aspects, characteristic features and dilemmas of the Polish women's movement against the background of the activity developed by feminist organizations in Europe. The reader receives the most important data on the development of this movement, its organizational structure and its activists. The other texts in the volume are of a monographic character or supply a general picture of the history of the women's movement. They present the activity of Polish women, their struggle for electoral rights, for participation in political and professional life and organizations as well as the development of the movement in emigration and in other European countries. The authors of the analyses are mostly Polish researchers connected with the Institute of History of the University of Warsaw and the Institute of History of the Polish Academy of Sciences. The first volume also includes articles by foreign scholars: Robert Blobaum (West Virginia University), Natali Stegmann (University of Tübingen), Natalia Pushkareva (Russian Academy of Sciences), and by Czech – Pavla Vošahlíková, and Slovak historians: Elena Mannová, Gabriela Dudeková, Daniela Kodajová and Karol Hollý.

The second volume opens with an article by Grażyna Szelągowska ['The Origin of Civil Society and Women's Organizations in Independent Poland and the Polish People's Republic – an Outline']. The author examines the term 'civil society', the scope of its activity and its relationship with the emancipation processes in European societies. The texts are a survey of the movement among women of various social, trade and regional groups, active within various levels of socio-political life. (OL)

Ewa Maj and Włodzimierz Mich (eds.), *Anachroniczna kasta czy nowoczesni obywatele? Problematyka ziemiaństwa na łamach prasy w Polsce od końca XIX stulecia do 1939 roku* [An Anachronistic Caste or Modern Citizens? The Presentation of Landowners' Problems in the Press in Poland from the End of the Nineteenth Century to 1939], Lublin, 2009, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Marii Curie-Skłodowskiej, 225 pp., bibliog., index of persons

Thanks to the research carried out by such scholars as Włodzimierz Mich, the landowning class has become one of the best known social groups of the Second Republic. The book presents the press vision of that class in Poland. In the introductory part the editors discuss the definition of the group, its situation during the interwar period and its relations with other groups of society. The individual texts show how the landowners were presented in the right-wing, peasant and socialist press, in the press of the national

minorities and the landowning group's vision of itself in the columns of *Dzień Polski*, a periodical which was the press organ of the Union of Landowners in Warsaw (an article by Włodzimierz Mich). Most of the analyzed texts are political articles of an ideological, propaganda character. The authors discuss the historical role of the landowning class, as well as its presence and significance in the socio-political life of interwar Poland. (OL)

Kazimierz Badziak and Małgorzata Łapa (eds.), *Województwo łódzkie: 1919–2009: studia i materiały* [Lodz Voivodship 1919–2009: Studies and Materials], Łódź, 2009, Instytut Historii Uniwersytetu Łódzkiego, etc., 479 pp., bibliog., indexes, annexes, tables, ill.

Lodz voivodship was established by the Sejm of the Second Republic in August 1919 together with four other voivodships which had formed part of what was formerly the Russian zone of Poland (those of Białystok, Kielce, Lublin and Warsaw). The publication issued in connection with the voivodship's anniversary is of a retrospective character. It shows the changes which have taken place in the voivodship and its capital, Lodz, during the last ninety years. It is also a survey of the achievements of historians from the University of Lodz and the Lodz branch of the Polish Historical Society. Most of the seventeen texts in the volume are devoted to the interwar period; they discuss the development of administration and local government in the voivodship. Małgorzata Łapa's article ['The main directions of Lodz voivodship's economic development in 1919–1939'] shows the most important changes achieved in the economy and civilization of the town and region, such as electrification and the development of transport and communication. Paweł Pietrzyk and Urszula Zarzycka-Sutter ['Changes in the structure of the archival network in Lodz Voivodship and the preservation of archival materials referring to the history of administration'] draw attention to the rich collections of the Archiwum Państwowe [State Archives] in Lodz and other towns in the voivodship, for most materials, the legacy of administrative authorities of higher and lower level, are scattered in various archives. The article makes it easier to find the required documents, irrespective of whether they date from the time of Congress Poland or contemporary times. The annexes contain laws and administrative regulations and a list of voivodes from the post-war period. The volume does not contain any articles on everyday life, changes in customs and social transformations. (OL)

Stanisława Lewandowska, *Wilno 1921–1944. Czasy i ludzie* [Vilnius 1921–1944: Times and People], Warszawa, 2009, Wydawnictwo Neriton, Instytut Historii PAN, 215 pp., bibliog., index of persons, ill., sum. in English and Lithuanian

This is the last book by Stanisława Lewandowska who died on 2 March 2009. The book deals with the phenomenal town of Vilnius and its culture during the times of the Second Republic and the first war years. The author aptly calls her reflections a 'sentimental journey' (p. 8). The reader is taken back to the past, he visits one place after another and meets people who constituted the Vilnius elite. The narration consists of loose reflections on everyday and feast-day life in Vilnius, and the inhabitants' participation in public life. The author also discusses relations between various nationalities in peace time and during the war. The opinions presented in the book are not based on an analysis of sources, the book cannot therefore be regarded as an academic study. Her reflections are not equipped with a critical commentary and the fact that she is involved in the realities she describes blurs her role as a researcher and participant in events. Shimon Redlich's work *Together and Apart in Brzeżany: Poles, Jews and Ukrainians 1919–1945* describes the past in a similar way, on the borderline between a historical monograph and an autobiographic account. Knowledge of reality and the presentation of materials inaccessible to an outside researcher enhance the value of both books. (OL)

Mariusz Kluczewski, *Bez zaciemnienia: codzienność okupowanego Krakowa w materiałach Archiwum Państwowego w Krakowie* [Without a Blackout: Everyday Life of Occupied Kraków in Materials of the State Archives in Kraków], transl. into English by Bożena Traciewicz, Kraków, 2009, Archiwum Państwowe, 294 pp.

This is an album which presents reproductions of sources for the study of everyday life in occupied Cracow. Traces of the activity of German authorities and of the fate of the city's inhabitants during World War II can be seen in published official acts, fragments of reminiscences, iconographic materials and the press. These sources are supplemented by the addresses of the most important organizations and representatives of Cracow administrative authorities and by a chronicle of the years 1939–45 which presents events from the seizure of the city and the establishment of the General Government to the entry of the Soviet Army in January 1945. The reproductions are divided thematically into the following sections: New Authorities, New Order;

Earn and Survive; Leisure Time and Everyday Life during the Occupation. The comments and descriptions are in Polish and English. It is worth pointing out that the publication gives readers a good insight into the collections of the Archiwum Państwowe [State Archives] in Cracow but the materials seem to have been selected at random, and the same can be said about their arrangement. The album has not been properly worked out and linguistic issues leave much to be desired. (OL)

Jerzy Jarowiecki, *Dzieje prasy polskiej we Lwowie do 1945 roku* [The History of the Polish Press in Lwów up to 1945], Kraków and Wrocław, 2008, Księgarnia Akademicka, Wyższa Szkoła Zarządzania 'Edukacja', 502 pp., bibliog., index of persons and press titles, series: Regiony, Historia, Kultura, 4

The book is based on the research carried out by the author in the collections now included in the Archiwum Akt Nowych [Archive of New Records], the Instytut Pamięci Narodowej [Institute of National Remembrance] and the Archiwum Okręgowe Badania Zbrodni Hitlerowskich [Regional Archives Pertaining to the Investigation of Nazi Crimes] in Cracow. Jarowiecki has also used printed sources: reminiscences and pre-war studies and, of course, also bibliographies, press lists and catalogues. In the first part of the book the author discusses the history of Lwów's press up to 1795, a period when mostly leaflets and information papers were printed. The Springtide of Peoples and the second half of the nineteenth century witnessed the development of the press for peasants and of articles on social and political questions. Jarowiecki examines papers in various languages but in accordance with his aim he is interested mainly in the development of the Polish press, in how it reflected the changes taking place in Polish society. The press market in Lwów experienced the quickest development during the times of Galicia's autonomy, when a vast number of political, religious, legal, scientific, agricultural, technical and information periodicals for various social groups appeared in Lwów. The number of periodicals published in Lwów increased threefold between 1864 and 1912. Most of the 1,119 titles were in Polish and were financed by private means. In the subsequent chapters the author discusses the press of political groupings, scientific, cultural, pedagogical periodicals, papers for children and young people, papers connected with the development of the emancipation movement, of tourist and sports organizations, and separately, the Ukrainian and Jewish press. The author characterizes the journalists of Lwów and the situation during World War I, the most important press statements, their form and the way they were edited. The press of the twenty-year interwar period is discussed in a way similar to that used for

the earlier period because of the 'longevity of the press' (p. 222). In this part of the book Jarowiecki adds economic papers, papers for hobbyists and the press of the trade unions. The last part deals with the conspiratorial press published during the German and Soviet occupation. The book is influenced by the author's strong feelings about the subject. (OL)

Anna Dybczyńska-Bułyшко, *Kształt dla chaosu. Twórczość Romualda Gutta a problemy polskiego modernizmu* [A Shape for Chaos: The Works of Romuald Gutt and the Problems of Polish Modernism], Warszawa, 2008, Wydawnictwo DiG, 258 pp., bibliog., ill.

The book presents the works of Romuald Gutt (1888–1974), an architect and professor of the Warsaw University of Technology and of the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw. Gutt was one of the most important architects in interwar Warsaw, the author of many plans for public spaces and residential districts. Among his best works are the houses in the style of garden cities built for officers in the Żoliborz quarter of Warsaw, the buildings of the Trade School for Girls and of the School of Political Sciences. His spatial solutions and building plans were also adopted in Gdynia, Wilno, Ciechocinek and many other towns. After the war he designed or was the co-author of the Chief Statistical Office (GUS) building and the Chinese Embassy in Warsaw. His architecture was on the borderline of two schools: the school of the older generation whose plans belonged to the current of historical modernism with references to Polish manorial architecture (Karol Jankowski, Rudolf Świerczyński, Bohdan Pniewski) and the group of vanguard functionalists (Stanisław Brukalski, Maksymilian Goldberg, Tadeusz Michejda). The successive stages of Gutt's work are presented in three chapters ['The thesis – between a national and a regional style' (the references to old architecture, rural buildings); 'The anti-thesis – art in the industrial epoch' (the vanguard of the 1920s); and 'The synthesis – the chaos of the 1930s' (post-vanguard searches)]. Romuald Gutt's works are characteristic of the aesthetic and social changes brought about by modernism. 'In order to explain the essence of his work one would have to show how it changed under the influence of universal and local events taking place in architecture', says Dybczyńska (p. 8).

The book is based on an analysis of changes in architectural and spatial plans and of archival materials, photographs, drawings and, to a lesser extent, on texts. The author is an architect specializing in the changes which took place in spatial designs and interior plans during the twenty interwar years and which are still taking place nowadays. (OL)

Marek Czapelski, *Bohdan Pniewski – warszawski architekt XX wieku* [Bohdan Pniewski: A Twentieth-Century Warsaw Architect], Warszawa, 2009, Wydawnictwa Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego, 394 pp., ill., annex, indexes, sum. in English, series: Prace Instytutu Historii Sztuki Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego. Dissertationes, 485

Bohdan Pniewski (1897–1965) is regarded as one of Poland's best twentieth-century architects. He was also a pedagogue, a professor of the Warsaw University of Technology and of the Academy of Fine Arts, and a member of the Polish Academy of Sciences. Among his best works are the pre-war designs for the Divine Providence Church (its construction was interrupted by the outbreak of World War II), and for the first instance courts at Leszno Street in Warsaw; the post-war designs for the Peasant's House (joint designer), the expansion of the Grand Theatre and of the *Sejm* building. He was a co-author of the pre-war designs for the Ministry of Public Works, the Bank of Domestic Economy, the Ministry of Religious Denominations and Public Enlightenment, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (reconstruction of the Brühl Palace), the Municipal Credit Society, etc. Pniewski was a well known architect and had many commissions for houses and villas (above all in Warsaw and its environs) already during the interwar period. At the request of the famous tenor Jan Kiepura he designed the 'Patria' guest house in Krynica-Zdrój. He was one of the founders of the Polish Architects' Society (1927) and of the Art Promotion Institute (1930).

This comprehensive monograph shows Pniewski as an uncommon, talented architect, as a superior artistic personality and pedagogue who trained many generations of Polish architects. Czapelski emphasizes that Pniewski's professional and private life formed one whole, as was manifested by his home-workshop in Warsaw which he rebuilt in 1936–7 from a garden pavilion designed by Szymon Bogumił Zug (1781). Pniewski's wife, Elżbieta Dąbrowska, helped to create the atmosphere of this unusual place visited by dozens of the professor's pupils. The book is based on very extensive archival materials from the collections of the Archiwum Państwowe [State Archives] in Kielce and Warsaw, the archives of the Academy of Fine Arts, University of Technology, Institute of Art of the Polish Academy of Sciences and the National Museum in Warsaw, the Archiwum Akt Nowych [Archive of New Records], and private collections. The author is a lecturer at the University of Warsaw's Institute of Art History. (OL)

Jarosław Pałka, *General Stefan Mossor (1896–1957): biografia wojskowa* [General Stefan Mossor (1896–1957): A Military Biography], Warszawa, 2008, Światowy Związek Żołnierzy Armii Krajowej, Oficyna Wydawnicza Rytm, Fundacja 'Historia i Kultura', 436 pp., bibliog., index of persons, ills.

Stefan Mossor, a general and Polish Army commander, is one of the most interesting and controversial figures in Poland's twentieth-century history. He came from Galicia, and was born into a family which belonged to a small-town social elite. He acquired an education in Lwów and Jarosław. Like many of his West Galician contemporaries who belonged to the paramilitary 'Sokół' [Falcon] sport organization, he joined the Polish Legions in 1914. He took part in the Polish-Bolshevik war. In the Second Republic he made a military career for himself, as Pałka emphasizes, he was a talented theoretician of the art of war. After the outbreak of World War II he took part in the September campaign as commander of a cavalry regiment. What was problematic in his biography was his attitude to the Katyn Forest massacre (in 1943 he chaired a delegation of Polish soldiers sent by the Germans to the place where the crime had been committed) and his share in the communist apparatus of power. When he was still in an *oflag*, he looked for the possibility of an agreement with the Germans, writing memorials with a promise of co-operation. But, as the author says, 'he rejected the German proposals of 1943 and he could not be accused of any active collaboration' (p. 396). After the war Mossor joined the Polish People's Army and took an active part in the struggle against the underground resistance movement and in the 'Vistula operation' (which involved the eviction of the non-Polish, mainly Ukrainian, population from Poland's south-eastern regions). In 1951 he was convicted in what was known as the generals' trial, having been accused of activity against the Polish United Workers' Party. Although he was tortured in prison, he refused to incriminate others accused. The author has made use of various sources: archival materials from the collections of the Centralne Archiwum Wojskowe [Central Military Archives], the Archiwum Akt Nowych [Archive of New Records] and the Instytut Pamięci Narodowej [Institute of National Remembrance] as well as biographical sources, including interviews with members of Mossor's family. Pałka analyzes Mossor's stance and world views, the reasons for his decisions and actions. Mossor who regarded the state as the supreme value, thought that co-operation with and subordination to a totalitarian regime was a necessity. Pragmatism directed his attitude, he looked for effective solutions. What enhances the value of the book is the author's careful analysis of the situation and of the possibilities in People's Poland, which have not yet been adequately examined and are frequently one-sided. In 2009 the author was awarded the Tomasz Strzembosz Prize for this book. (OL)

Piotr Podemski, *Giovinezza: młodzież i mit młodości w faszystowskich Włoszech* [Giovinezza: the Youth and the Youth Myth in Fascist Italy], Warszawa, 2010, Wydawnictwo DiG, 388 pp., bibliog., index of persons, photos.

Giovinezza, a piece of music composed by Giuseppe Blanc, became the hymn of the Italian fascist party. Piotr Podemski discusses the myth of youth and the role played by youth in the development of Italian fascism. He examines everyday life, the involvement of ordinary Italians in the creation of fascist structures and their participation in the promotion of the myth of youth. Most of the book is based on source publications from the epoch, on publicists' articles on fascism, pedagogical literature and hand-books, on literature for young people, propaganda hand-books and articles. On this basis the author shows the share of war experience in the positive reception of fascist ideology, analyzes its genesis and the place of the myth of youth in the entire movement. He also discusses the programmatic, theoretical principles of fascism, its most important aims and instructions on how to implement them. Podemski also presents two basic ways used to draw young people into the fascist movement, one was the development of a special educational policy, the other consisted in securing the participation of young people in organizational activity. The last chapter which analyzes the structure of the myth and social attitudes contains biographic accounts; the author translates sources, not only in the literary sense of the word to make Italian publications accessible to Polish readers but also to show how many meanings can be hidden in language and in symbols. (OL)

Anna Sobór-Świdorska, *Jakub Berman. Biografia komunisty* [Jakub Berman: Biography of a Communist], Warszawa, 2009, Instytut Pamięci Narodowej. Komisja Ścigania Zbrodni przeciwko Narodowi Polskiemu, 620 pp., bibliog., index of persons, photos., annex, sum. in Englis, series: Monografie, 55

This is the first attempt to present a portrait of Jakub Berman, one of the most important politicians of the period 1945–56. It is also one of only a few biographic works, a genre still rather unpopular with Polish historians (especially those dealing with recent times). Sobór-Świdorska outlines Berman's childhood and youth, his stay in the Soviet Union in 1939–44, his participation in the formation of the communist system after 1944, his plans for an 'ideological offensive' in 1948, his position in the system of power in 1948–54, and finally his fall during the Gomułka 'thaw'. According to the author, Jakub Berman made a strong impact on Poland's recent

history. During the Stalinist period he took part in all the important events, controlling cultural policy, foreign policy and also the security services. Sobór-Świdierska says that even during the periods when he held no official function Berman was an *éminence grise*, the most important person in the state next to the chief of the communist party and (periodically) also to the president and prime minister, Bolesław Bierut. She tries to reconstruct Berman's mentality, pointing out statements in which he favoured socialism, etatism and even nationalism. The book presents Berman as a political creature. The author rather ignores his private life, we do not learn much about his family and his interests outside politics. The book is rather a lecture on political history in the first decade of People's Poland and is focused on Berman's role. It has aroused great interest and great controversies among historians. The doctoral thesis which served Sobór-Świdierska by way of preparation for the book was, in 2007, chosen as the best historical debut in the Władysław Pobóg-Malinowski Competition. (KK)

Sławomir Mrożek and Adam Tarn, *Listy 1963–1975. Mrożek – Tarn* [Letters 1963–1975: Mrożek – Tarn], preface by Erwin Axer and Sławomir Mrożek, afterword by Maria Prussak, Kraków, 2009, Wydawnictwo Literackie, 368 pp., index of persons

This is the third collection of the correspondence of Sławomir Mrożek, one of the most prominent Polish writers of the past century, a keen observer whose works have exerted a great influence on the Polish intelligentsia. The 2004 volume of Sławomir Mrożek's correspondence with the eminent literary critic Jan Błoński for the years 1963–96 turned out to be not only a unique account of the Polish People's Republic and of the transformations it went through after 1989, which Mrożek was to observe as an *émigré*, having left Poland in 1963, but also a passionate debate on freedom, the attitudes of intellectuals and the functioning of literary circles. All the greater interest was therefore aroused by the second volume of Mrożek's correspondence, that time with Wojciech Skalmowski (a professor at the Catholic University of Leuven). That volume was of special interest to literary researchers for it disclosed the circumstances in which many of Mrożek's plays had been created. With Adam Tarn (1902–75), a writer, dramatist, editor of the important cultural periodical *Dialog* from 1956 to 1968, Mrożek corresponded in 1963–75. What united them was their fate as *émigrés* (Tarn left Poland in 1968). The collection of Mrożek's and Tarn's letters is no less interesting than the previous volumes. The most striking passages in these letters are: the description of intellectual life in Poland at the end of the 1950s and the beginning of the 1960s, the circumstances which forced Tarn

to emigrate in 1968 (he was expelled from the Polish United Workers' Party and from the editorial board of *Dialog* because of his opposition to the anti-Semitic campaign which had then been launched), the description of the everyday life of Polish emigrants, reflections on literature and on important cultural events and on the works Mroźek was writing. The three volumes of Mroźek's correspondence are a unique source which will attract historians and literary experts. Alongside the correspondence of Jerzy Giedroyc, Czesław Miłosz, Jerzy Andrzejewski and Andrzej Bobkowski, the letters written by Mroźek and his friends are among the most important products of Polish epistolography. (KK)

Małgorzata Bogunia-Borowska (ed.), *Barwy codzienności. Analiza socjologiczna* [The Colours of Everyday Life: A Sociological Analysis], Warszawa, 2009, Scholar, 379 pp., photos.

There are at least three reasons why this book, a collection of articles by leading Polish sociologists, is a very important publication. First, it is a survey of trends in contemporary (not only Polish) sociology. Secondly, it presents research proposals which may inspire not only sociologists but also historians interested in the most recent history. Thirdly, it is one of the few sociological works which try to meet other disciplines, especially history, halfway. The volume comprises nineteen articles (including the extensive preface) which are divided into four groups: 1. the idea of everyday life in the social sciences; 2. the social contexts of everyday life; 3. emotions and amusements in everyday life; 4. the methodology of studies on everyday life. The articles have been written by: Zygmunt Bauman, Henryk Domański, Wiesław Godzic, Marian Golka, Elżbieta Hałas, Aleksandra Jasińska-Kania, Marek Krajewski, Jacek Kurczewski, Beata Łaciak, Hanna Palska, Piotr Sztompka, and Elżbieta Tarkowska. The articles are the outcome of a conference which, under the title 'Society and Everyday Life. Towards a New Sociology', was held in Cracow in 2008. What distinguishes the sociology of everyday life is its interest in man. It observes 'the continuance and changes' in dominant life styles; various details of everyday life, those 'fragments of ordinary social activity' described by Erving Goffman, that is, it observes things used by people every day, tries to detect the everyday life of families, family relations; it describes ordinary habits. Thirdly, it shows man as an actor in everyday life; it checks how people create their own images, according to what rules, and whether these rules are lasting and unchanging. Fourthly, it takes into account the intimate fields of man's existence, such as emotions, feelings, the body. Sociologists seem to be demanding that historians should make less use of politics and more use of anthropology. (KK)

Jacek Wojśław, *Obraz teraźniejszości w propagandzie komunistycznej Polski lat 1949–1954. Zarys problematyki* [The Picture of the Present in Poland's Communist Propaganda in 1949–1954: An Outline], Gdańsk, 2009, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Gdańskiego, 248 pp., tables

The author discusses the functioning of the mass media and the techniques they used to present reality during the period of mature Stalinism (1949–54). The book consists of three extensive chapters. In the first the author analyzes the propaganda used during the Stalinist period. He presents such questions as the socio-technique of communist propaganda, the significance of the propaganda section in the organizational structure of the Polish Workers' Party and the Polish United Workers' Party, as well as the creation of a media monopoly (comprising both information agencies and press distribution). In the second chapter the author describes in detail the role played by the press, radio, broadcasting centres in factories and schools, as well as the role played by feature and documentary films in creating a propaganda message. The third chapter is devoted to the most important 'propaganda holidays', a group in which the author includes May Day, the anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution (7 Nov.), and Women's Day (8 March); he also discusses various specific holidays, e.g. Iron and Steel Workers' Day, Militiamen Day. An important part of this chapter is a reflection on the propaganda image of rural areas (in the context of collectivization), of the economic achievements of the Polish People's Republic and of the alliance with the Soviet Union and other communist countries. The author has carried out research in the Archiwum Akt Nowych (Archive of New Records), in regional archives (mainly in Gdańsk), and in the Polish Radio archives. He has also made use of the materials of the Polish Film Chronicle for the years 1948–54, and of literature dealing with this subject. This is one of the most important works devoted to propaganda during the times of the Polish People's Republic. (KK) .

Eryk Krasucki, *Międzynarodowy komunista. Jerzy Borejsza – biografia polityczna* [An International Communist – Jerzy Borejsza: A Political Biography], Warszawa, 2009, Wydawnictwo Naukowe PWN, 324 pp., photos.

Jerzy Borejsza (1905–52) is still regarded as one of the most controversial figures in Poland's recent history. In the 1920s he sympathized with the anarchists but then joined the Polish Communist Party. During the Second World War, when he was in the Soviet Union, he joined the Red Army

as a voluntary. He also became a member of the Union of Polish Patriots. He was a censor when the Polish People's Republic was being formed (1944–5). He is remembered in history mainly as the architect and head of the 'Czytelnik' [Reader] publishing company. He also gained fame as the organizer of the World Congress of Intellectuals in Wrocław in 1948. The author of the book, a young historian Eryk Krasucki, undertook the uneasy task of separating myths from facts and of keeping a distance to the protagonist of his work. Krasucki points out that his book is not a classic biography, for he has ignored Borejsza's private life. The main subject of the book is the Polish post-war cultural policy symbolized by Jerzy Borejsza. The book has six chapters. The first deals with Borejsza's childhood and adulthood and his intellectual inspirations (the author stresses the influence of the Jewish youth organization *Hashomer Hatzair*). The second chapter is devoted to the interwar period; what interests Krasucki is mainly Borejsza's road to communism. The third chapter presents Borejsza's wartime experiences. In the successive and most important chapters of his book Krasucki tries to define the specific cultural policy pursued by Borejsza who, on the one hand created a system of censorship while on the other provided an offer for the intelligentsia (in the form of periodicals, books, etc.). Krasucki suggests that Borejsza wanted to work out an autonomous model of communism, different from the Soviet one. What put an end to his activity (and also to his political illusions) was the radical turn towards socialist realism after 1948. The book is based on unique materials from Borejsza's family archives; it has been recognized by reviewers as one of the most important works dealing with the beginnings of the Polish People's Republic. In 2009 it was awarded the Historical Book Publishers' Klio Prize. (KK)

Jacek Żurek, *Ruch 'księży patriotów' w województwie katowickim w latach 1949–1956* [The 'Patriotic Priests' Movement in Katowice Voivodship in 1949–1956], Warszawa and Katowice, 2009, Instytut Pamięci Narodowej. Komisja Ścigania Zbrodni przeciwko Narodowi Polskiemu, 400 pp., annexes, tables, indexes, maps

The 'patriotic priests' movement, created in Poland in the first post-war years, was modelled on similar ventures in communist countries and in the Soviet Union. For instance, in 1948–9 the Lithuanian authorities organized what was known as the 'Living Church', which was to become a nucleus of a national Church independent of the Vatican and subordinated to Moscow. Establishment of dissidents' groups and increasing control over Church hierarchs were the general methods used to weaken the position of local

churches. In Poland the movement of 'patriotic priests' was to help to achieve this. The movement was established in 1949 and reached its apogee in the first half of the 1950s. After 1956 it was given a new name: the 'Caritas' Association of Catholics. Having c. 1,700 priests among its members (out of a total of c. 19,000 active in Poland in the second half of the 1970s) it became a significant (though not the dominant) force in the Polish Church. The author analyzes the specific characteristics of the movement but has confined his research to Upper Silesia and the Stalinist period (1949–56). On the basis of large-scale archival research (and the use of Church archives in Częstochowa, Gniezno and Katowice), he has examined: the situation of the Church at the end of the war, the role played by the security services in founding the 'patriotic priests' movement, the influence the movement exerted on other Church institutions and organizations, relations between the movement and the Church authorities, participation in propaganda campaigns. Żurek's conclusion is that while thanks to the 'patriotic priests' movement the communist authorities managed to weaken the position of bishops who disapproved of the regime and even to secure the cooperation of many of them as secret collaborators of the security service, the movement was an alien body in the Polish Church; it was mistrusted by the Episcopate and also by the faithful. This is why after 1956 attempts were made to mask the movement under the name of 'Caritas', the most important Catholic charitable organization before the Second World War and subsequently after 1989. In 2009 the book was awarded the Historical Book Publishers' Klio Prize. (KK)

Grzegorz Berendt (ed.), *Spółeczność żydowska w PRL przed kampanią antysemitką lat 1967–1968 i po niej* [The Jewish Community in the Polish People's Republic Before and After the 1967–1968 Anti-Semitic Campaign], Warszawa, 2009, Instytut Pamięci Narodowej. Komisja Ścigania Zbrodni przeciwko Narodowi Polskiemu, 236 pp., index of persons

This is a collection of articles written after a conference organized by the Instytut Pamięci Narodowej (Institute of National Remembrance) in 2007. The conference was attended by leading researchers into most recent history, experts on Polish-Jewish relations, from Poland and abroad. The articles are divided into two parts. The first part entitled 'Studies' contains texts which present the history of Polish Jews before the Holocaust, the situation of the Jews who survived the Holocaust, and of emigrants who returned to Poland, mainly from the Soviet Union, and also selected aspects of the Polish communist government's policy towards the 'Jewish question'. This part includes an interesting text by Jeff Schatz on the group of Polish communists of Jewish

nationality, a text based mostly on accounts. Equally interesting is the article by Audrey Kichelewski, who discusses the activity of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee which extended help also to citizens of the Polish People's Republic. In an interesting article Paweł Tomasiak presents the history of the 'Babel' Jewish cultural centre in Warsaw which became a target of propaganda attacks in 1968. Janusz Mieczkowski, Leszek Olejnik, and Edyta Gawron contribute innovative articles on the everyday life of persons of Jewish origin in Szczecin, Łódź and Cracow; Włodzimierz Suleja, Aleksandra Namysło and Grzegorz Berendt describe the methods used by the security service to infiltrate Jewish communities. Dariuisz Stola analyzes the propaganda conducted in the 1960s, especially the efforts to present the 1968 revolt as a plot concocted by Zionist forces and German revisionists. The Israeli historian Witold Mędykowski describes the influence of the Six-Day War on the political situation in Poland. This part of the book ends with Łukasz Kamiński's text ['Poles – Jews – communism 1945–1968. A new look at the question']. The second part of the volume entitled 'Pamięć' [Memory] contains four reminiscences: Stanisław Aronson's recollection of the motives for emigration from the Polish People's Republic; Holla Levitzky's history of the life of a Polish communist Sara Nomberg-Przytyk; Joanna Wiszniewicz's reminiscences of how emigrants from Poland built a new life in the United States; and Leopold Sobel's memories of the March 1968 emigration. The volume contains information and statements which have seldom appeared in academic publications and for this reason it constitutes an important voice within the Polish-Jewish dialogue initiated after 1989. (KK)

Marek Orski, *Losy powstańców słowackich w obozach niemieckich na Pomorzu Gdańskim. Listopad 1944 – maj 1945* [The Fate of Slovak Insurrectionists in German Camps in Gdańsk Pomerania: November 1944 – May 1945], Gdańsk, 2008, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Gdańskiego, 241 pp., annexes, photos., drawings

Marek Orski's book deals with a little known episode from the last months of the Second World War: the imprisonment of Slovak insurrectionists in Gdańsk Pomerania, mainly in the Stutthof concentration camp. On the basis of research (conducted above all in the archives of the Stutthof Museum) and thanks to over a dozen interviews with former prisoners, the author has managed to reconstruct the results of the insurrection in Slovakia (suppressed at the end of October 1944), the scale of reprisals which the Germans applied against the Slovak population, the transportation of prisoners to territories which then belonged to the Reich (now in northern Poland), the liberation of the few surviving prisoners and their return to their motherland in the

spring of 1945. The author estimates that of the 1,600 Slovaks sent to camps at the beginning of November 1944, fewer than 300 survived. Particularly interesting are the ex-prisoners' accounts which acquaint the reader with little known facts from the history of the Second World War. The book vividly depicts the everyday functioning of a German concentration camp. Of great help for the reader is the colour plan of the camp included in the book. (KK)

Henryk Ślabek, *O społecznej historii Polski 1945–1989* [On a Social History of Poland 1945–1989], Warszawa, 2009, Książka i Wiedza, Wyższa Szkoła Gospodarki Krajowej w Kutnie, 656 pp., tables, drawings, index of persons

The author defines his book as an attempt to present a synthesis of Polish society's evolution after the Second World War. The book consists of four parts. In the first the author depicts Poland's economic and demographic situation in 1945. In the second part he deals with the economic and social transformations in the first post-war decade, focusing on the situation of peasants and their migrations to towns. He also draws attention to the emergence of a new social group: peasant farmers working in factories. The third part discusses what in the author's opinion are the most important social groups, the peasants and the workers, from the 1950s to the 1990s. The fourth part is a balance sheet. Ślabek describes the work to strengthen the rural population's national feelings after 1945 and to popularize culture in rural areas, he discusses religious and national ties and the role played by the Church in shaping people's attitudes. Three features are the most characteristic for the book: the fact that the author focuses on the most populous social groups, that is, the peasants and workers of rural background, the use of autobiographical sources (mainly memoirs), and the examination of relations between individuals, society and organizations. The weak point of the book is the predominance of sources of a statistical character, the scant use of archives made accessible after 1989 and the fact that not enough attention has been paid to the achievements of the younger generation of historians, active after 1989. The book is therefore an attempt not only to review social history in the fifty post-war years but also to defend the social policy of the Polish People's Republic. Though controversial, the new book by Henryk Ślabek, who is one of the leading Polish social historians, is an important voice in the Polish historical debate. (KK)

Mariusz Mazur, *O człowieku tendencyjnym... Obraz nowego człowieka w propagandzie komunistycznej w okresie Polski Ludowej i PRL 1944–1956* [A Tendentious Man: The Image of the New Man in Communist Propaganda in People's Poland and the Polish Peoples' Republic 1944–1956], Lublin, 2009, Wydawnictwo UMCS, 671 pp., index of persons

In 1945 the expression 'new man' appeared for the first time in the communists' political language. This new man was to be a product of the educational and economic policy pursued by the communists. Mariusz Mazur has decided to analyze the concept of the new man in order to present it in a broader context of various revolutionary movements. He starts by presenting the most important characteristics of the new man of communism, not being sure whether the same man was shown on posters, in films and literature. He tries to find out what his personal models were. The book consists of seven chapters in which the author discusses: the concept of new man in history, the definition of new man in Marxist philosophy, the new man concept in the educational policy of the Soviet Union, the instruments used to create new man in Poland after 1945 (the press, literature, film, posters). In an interesting chapter placed towards the end of the book the author examines whether this new communist man was supposed to have an independent private life. In the summing up Mazur analyzes the meaning of the term *homo sovieticus* referring to Aleksandr Zinoviev's classic study. He emphasizes that the new man paradigm does not belong only to communist ideology and that some of its elements seem to be universal in European culture (as examples he briefly analyzes various utopias). The value of the book is enhanced by an extensive bibliography which shows that the author is well versed in literature dealing with the subject. To sum it all, it can be said that the book is an extremely interesting study on the borderline of political history and the history of ideas. It was awarded the 2009 Historical Book Publishers' Klio Prize. (KK)

Paweł Ceranka and Sławomir Stępień (eds.), *“Jesteście naszą wielką szansą”. Młodzież na rozstajach komunizmu 1944–1989* [“You are the greatest chance we have”: The Youth at the Crossroads of Communism 1944–1989], Warszawa, 2009, Instytut Pamięci Narodowej. Komisja Ścigania Zbrodni przeciwko Narodowi Polskiemu, 494 pp., index of persons, photos., annexes

The book contains the materials from the greatest conference so far devoted to the history of youth in the Polish People's Republic. At the conference, which was organized by the Instytut Pamięci Narodowej (Institute of National

Remembrance), authors specializing in the history of young people presented the latest results of their research. The following texts are included in the book: Andrzej Grajewski analyzes the premises of the educational policy in communist countries (paying special attention to atheistic programmes); Krzysztof Lesiakowski discusses the activity of the 'Service to Poland' organization (1948–55), a system of forcible military and professional training; Marek Wierzbicki describes the Union of Polish Youth, the only youth organization which existed during the Stalinist period and the mentality of its members; Dominika Rafalska analyzes the attitudes of the members of that organization during the Gomułka 'thaw' (1955–6); Romuald Turkowski outlines the history of rural youth organizations in the Polish People's Republic (in 1944–89); Wojciech Hausner presents the history of the scouting movement in 1944–64, paying special attention to the Stalinist period, when the traditional form of scouting ceased to exist; Joanna Sadowska discusses the activity of youth organizations after 1956, especially the work of the Polish Socialist Youth Union. The book also contains texts on youth conspiracy, such as Kazimierz Krajewski's article on conspiratorial organizations in the first post-war years, and Adam Baran's text on attempts made in various periods to set up independent scouting organizations. Małgorzata Choma-Jasińska depicts the priests' role in shaping students' culture. The book also contains articles on the Independent Students' Union, on the Freedom and Peace Movement, and the Fighting Youth Federation from the 1980s. In an interesting article Robert Spałek analyzes Polish rock music during the last decade of the Polish People's Republic. The book ends with notes on a panel discussion during which proposals for future research were put forward. The annex contains some unknown documents (for instance, an analysis of the hippy movement made by the Ministry of Internal Affairs in 1969). (KK)

Piotr Majewski, *Ideologia i konserwacja. Architektura zabytkowa w Polsce w czasach socrealizmu* [Ideology and Conservation. Treasures of Architecture in Poland during the Period of Socialist Realism], Warszawa, 2009, Wydawnictwo Trio, 431 pp., index of persons, photos., annexes

Piotr Majewski, a researcher into post-war architecture, examines whether during the Stalinist period sufficient attention was paid in the cultural policy to architectural treasures that survived the war. Were the town planners responsible for the reconstruction of towns interested in the conservation of old architectural treasures? The author has carried out research at archives in Warsaw, Gdańsk, Cracow, Lublin, Poznań, Szczecin and Wrocław, and also has had access to the (unpublished) reminiscences of such leading post-war

architects as, for instance, Jan Zachwatowicz. In the first part of the book Majewski depicts the discussion on town planning held in the first post-war years. The group of architects was at that time dominated by modernists who especially strongly criticized Art Nouveau. It was the declaration of socialist realism in 1949 that was to mark a turning point. In the second part of the book Majewski shows that eclecticism was the main feature of the architecture created in Poland under socialist realism, modernistic premises intertwining in it with elements of socialist realism (based on Soviet models). As an example he mentions the reconstruction of Warsaw at the end of the 1940s and the beginning of the 1950s, including the reconstruction of the old town. The project to build a modern housing estate in the place of the destroyed old town was rejected, but it was not yet decided to rebuild the Royal Castle destroyed by the Germans. The author concludes that socialist realism did not reject architectural tradition but manipulated it, subordinating the conservation of architectural treasures to ideological aims (Majewski recalls that the government mobilized society to reconstruct the capital). In the author's opinion the final result is rather negative. In 1945–56, c. 10 per cent of the architectural treasures that survived the war fell into ruin. This was an irretrievable loss, considering the scale of wartime destruction. However, Majewski emphasizes that Poland was not the only country in which architectural treasures, including Art Nouveau buildings, had to wait until the 1960s to be reconstructed. (KK)

Jan Józef Szczepański, *Dziennik*, tom I: 1945–1956 [Diary, i: 1945–1956], Kraków, 2009, Wydawnictwo Literackie, 703 pp., index of persons, photos.

Jan Józef Szczepański (1919–2003) was one of Poland's most prominent twentieth-century writers and essayists. During the war he served in the Polish Home Army; when the war ended he began to collaborate with the Catholic weekly *Tygodnik Powszechny*, which until 1953 was the only periodical of the Polish intelligentsia not controlled by the communists. In the 1960s he worked as a literary director of a Cracow theatre. He actively supported the democratic opposition. In 1989 he took part in the 'round table debates' and became the first chairman of the Association of Polish Writers set up in 1989. It turned out upon Szczepański's death that the writer had kept a diary for over half a century. This is one of the most important testimonies of the times of the Polish People's Republic. On the one hand, the first volume is a self-portrait of a young writer (student, reporter, husband and family man, a lover of Alpinism), on the other it shows the introduction of the socialist system, the ghastliness of Stalinism and the hope which accompanied the period of the Gomułka 'thaw'. Great historical events are followed by everyday

realities, allowing the reader to grasp the climate of the Stalinist period. As Szczepański himself wrote in 1945, he did not keep the diary for entertainment or pleasure, 'it was a duty which was usually heavy and painful'. The result is a serious source of great value for historians. This is a basic book for researchers (and broader circles of readers) interested in the 1940s and 1950s. The book is equipped with an index containing brief biographical information and an index of Jan Józef Szczepański's articles and works. (KK)

Joanna Wawrzyniak, *ZBoWiD i pamięć drugiej wojny światowej 1949–1969* [Society of Fighters for Freedom and Democracy and the Memory of World War II in 1949–1969], Warszawa, 2009, Wydawnictwo Trio, 354 pp., photos.

This is one of the first attempts to evaluate the history and legacy of the official veterans' movement in the Polish People's Republic. The history of the Society of Fighters for Freedom and Democracy is here the starting point for much broader reflections on social memory and the historical policy pursued in the Polish People's Republic. The book is based on a large amount of sources, the author having conducted interviews with eight activists of the Society, and made use of the collections of the Centralne Archiwum Wojskowe (Central Military Archives). She focuses on the first twenty years of the Society's activity, the years 1949–69. In her opinion that was a period in which the ideology of power evolved from a revolutionary to a national-communist one. It was particularly in the 1960s that the veterans' movement became an important element of the system of power. In 1964–72 the movement was directed by Mieczysław Moczar, who in 1956–64 was vice-minister and in 1964–8 minister of internal affairs. The author explains the myths which legitimated the official veterans' movement and evaluates their impact on social memory of the Second World War. In an interesting way she combines a reconstruction of facts with sociological reflections, referring to the research conducted by Maurice Halbwachs and Jeffrey Olick. She says that Polish ideas about the Second World War were mostly shaped in the 1960s. It was then that the greatest number of monuments, publications, and films was created and they determined social memory. It was also then that the part of the wartime tradition which had been banned during the Stalinist period became included in the official debate (especially the history of the Home Army). The aim was to attract broader circles of society to the authorities. The book leads one to the conclusion that the most important legacy of the veterans' movement was a peculiar compromise between national tradition and communist ideology, a compromise which was accepted by a large part of society. (KK)

Przemysław Wójtowicz, *Obraz Związku Sowieckiego w ujęciu polskiej emigracji politycznej w Wielkiej Brytanii w latach 1945–1956* [The Image of the Soviet Union as it Was Presented by the Polish Political Emigration in Great Britain in 1945–1956], Warszawa, 2008, Wydawnictwo DiG, 284 pp., index of persons

The book may be regarded as a continuation of the research which has been conducted by Marek Kornat, Rafał Habielski, Andrzej Friszke and Tadeusz Wolsza on the Polish Sovietological school and its fate after the Second World War. Przemysław Wójtowicz analyzes how the Soviet Union, especially its economic and cultural policy, was viewed by Polish emigrants in Great Britain. The author is also interested in Polish Sovietology's contribution to Western historiography and political science. He points out that Polish analysts were interested mainly in three questions. First, in economic problems, discussing them in the now forgotten émigré periodical *Sprawy Sowieckie* [Soviet Issues] which commented not only on the Soviet Union's economic policy, but also on Soviet society's attitudes, including signs of resistance (e.g. the Italian-style work-to-rule strikes). Secondly, they were interested in scientific and literary life in the Soviet Union and the influence it exerted on science and culture in the satellite countries. This is why they paid much attention to the study of Soviet publications, especially encyclopedias and dictionaries, where for instance, in 1935 a cosmopolitan was defined as a person who does not regard himself as a member of any nationality, in 1949 the term denoted 'a person of unpatriotic, bourgeois views who refuses to defend his country'. Thirdly, the émigré analysts collected accounts on everyday life in communist Poland, written mainly by refugees and foreign correspondents resident in Poland, as well as on Poles' contacts with Russians visiting Poland. The book covers the years 1945–56. It is based mainly on the archives of the Polish emigration in London and the collections of the Polish Library in London, especially the Polish émigré press. (KK)

Izabella Bukraba-Rylska, *Socjologia wsi polskiej* [The Sociology of the Polish Village], Warszawa, 2008, Wydawnictwo Naukowe PWN, 578 pp., index of persons, tables, drawings

The book systematically presents the history and economy of the Polish village and the way of life and culture in rural areas. The book is divided into four parts. In the first ['Prolegomena'], the author defines the term 'sociology of the village', and outlines the history of Polish villages. The second part ['The structures and long-term processes'], deals with such questions as

the family model in villages, the stability of Poland's agrarian structure, the overpopulation of villages, economic migrations, the emergence of a specific social group of peasant farmers working in factories. In the third part the author analyzes the programmes of various political pre-war groups and groups formed immediately after the war, and the plans for the development and modernization of rural areas, especially the rural policy conducted by the communist authorities, paying special attention to the results of collectivization. She also draws attention to the role played by private holdings in Polish twentieth-century culture. The fourth part of the book is devoted mainly to anthropology and culture: the evolution of peasant culture ('from folklore to folklorism'), popular religion, and the transformation of rural communities after 1945. The book includes a solid review of the research into villages in the twentieth century and a 35-page professionally compiled bibliography. Let us stress that the language is clear, and free of hermetic terminology. The author has managed to show how a peasant society has become an urban society while preserving many customs and attitudes typical of rural culture. (KK)

Janusz Cisek, *Oskar Halecki. Historyk. Szermierz wolności* [Oskar Halecki: Historian, Champion of Freedom], Warszawa, 2009, Instytut Pamięci Narodowej. Komisja Ścigania Zbrodni przeciwko Narodowi Polskiemu, 309 pp.

Oskar Halecki (1891–1973) is one of the Polish historians best known in the West. His career started in 1919, when he became a professor in Cracow and Warsaw. After 1945 he remained abroad. He was one of the founders of the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences of America in New York. The book outlines the Polish scholar's unusual biography. It consists of two parts. In the first the author presents an outline of Halecki's biography, reconstructs his views and the successive stages of his output. He also analyzes the key concepts characteristic of Halecki's academic language. The second part presents a selection of Halecki's articles, some of which are hardly accessible nowadays. Attention should be drawn to such important texts as *Idea Jagiellońska* [The Jagiellonian Idea], *Wschód europejski, Polska a Rosja* [The European East, Poland and Russia], *The Limits and Divisions of European History* with the chapter 'Two Central Europes', and *The Curzon Line Myth*. It is worth stressing that these texts (e.g. *The Sixth Partition of Poland* published in 1945) inspired important academic debates. Halecki's works were not published in Poland before 1989, his pre-war works were not revived either. In Cisek's opinion Halecki's achievements are still of topical value but should be compared with the results achieved by other researchers.

Especially important is Halecki's contribution to the long-term structure of the Jagiellonian idea as a cultural and political programme for central Europe. Very valuable are also Halecki's analyses of the political results of Europe's post-Second World War division. The book includes a complete bibliography of Oskar Halecki's works from 1909 to 1971. (KK)