

## GENERAL WORKS<sup>1</sup>

*Brodnica. Siedem wieków dziejów miasta (Brodnica. Seven Centuries of the Town's History)*, ed. Jerzy Dygdała, Brodnica 1998, Zakład Poligraficzno-Wydawniczy "Pozkał", 403 pp., annexes, illustr., tables, maps.

This is the first modern synthesis of the history of the principal town of the Michałów region. It opens with a chapter concerning the geographical environment of Brodnica by Janusz Sewerniak. The other chapters depict Brodnica's history under the Teutonic Knights (by Kazimierz Grażawski and Roman Czaja) and during the early modern period (Jerzy Dygdała). Large parts of the book deal with the history of the town and region in the 19th century and during the twenty years between the wars (Stefan Wierchoślawski). Jan Sziling discusses the fate of Brodnica and its inhabitants during the Second World War, and Ryszard Sudziński briefly characterises the main stages and directions of the town's development in 1945–1995. Dorota Bartnicka, Barbara Bok-Majzel, Anna Chruściel and Anna Kupczyk have compiled an extensive calendar of Brodnica's history after the end of the Second World War.

The authors have made use of some previously unknown Teutonic Knights' documents kept in Geheimes Staatsarchiv in Berlin and materials from the State Archives in Gdańsk, Toruń and Bydgoszcz. (AK)

*Dzieje miasta Gniewu do 1939 roku (The History of the Town of Gniew up to 1939)*, ed. Błażej Śliwiński, Gniew 1998, Wydawnictwo Diecezji Pelplińskiej "Bernardinum", 348 pp., illustr., tables.

This is a modern presentation of the history of Gniew written on the 700th anniversary of the incorporation of the town. The monograph is divided into two parts. The first presents in chronological order the ancient history of the Gniew region (Elżbieta Choińska-Bohdan), its role during the early Middle Ages and the circumstances in which the town was founded (Klemens Bryski), the history of Gniew during the Noblemen's Commonwealth and the Napoleonic period, that is, from 1466 to 1815 (Andrzej Groth), the history of the town under Prussian and German rule (Andrzej Romanow) and the period of the Second Republic (Mieczysław Widernik).

The second part, which is arranged thematically, presents selected questions, e.g. the history of the castle of Gniew (Henryk Paner), the town's monuments (Krzysztof Maciej Kowalski), the customs in the town in the 15th–17th centuries (Wacław Odyńiec) and the town's sphragistics and heraldry (Błażej Śliwiński).

The texts in the book are based mainly on unknown archival materials. (AK)

*Gdańsk. Z historii stosunków polsko-niemieckich (Gdańsk. From the History of Polish-German Relations)*, ed. Marek Andrzejewski, Warszawa 1998, Wydawnictwo Volumen, 212 pp.

The principal objective of the book is to recall Gdańsk's supra-regional role in East-Central Europe and its versatile links with European economy, culture and science. The volume comprises 14 papers which were read in 1997 at an

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international session in Gdańsk, entitled *Gdańsk — Its Place in the Past and in Contemporary Times*.

In the first part of the book, which covers the period up to the end of the 18th century, Udo Arnold (Germany) analyses how from a small provincial town Gdańsk became a large rich urban centre. Maria Bogucka (Poland) discusses the reasons behind the emergence of Gdańsk as a large metropolis in the early modern period. Edmund Cieślak (Poland) characterises the internal and external reasons for the decline of Gdańsk's glory in the 18th century.

The second part of the book covers the city's history during the partition period. Władysław Zajewski (Poland) discusses the European powers' rivalry for Gdańsk during the Napoleonic period, Stefan Hartmann (Germany) and Wolfgang Kessler (Germany) present Gdańsk's place in the Prussian state and in the German empire.

The other two parts of the book deal with Gdańsk's history in the 20th century. Several essays, e.g. those by Elisabeth Morrow Clark (USA), Anna Cienciała (USA) and Marek Andrzejewski (Poland), try to reply to the question whether the Free City of Danzig was an object or subject of international policy in 1919–1939. Other papers (by Jerzy Holzer (Poland), Immanuel Geiss (Germany)) analyse the role played by Gdańsk in the democratic transformations in Poland and East-Central Europe in the 1980s. (AK)

*Niewolnictwo i niewolnicy w Europie od starożytności po czasy nowożytne (Slavery and Slaves in Europe from Antiquity to Modern Times)*, Materials from a conference organised by the Institute of History of the Jagiellonian University in Cracow on December 18th and 19th, 1997, ed. Danuta Quirini-Popławska, Kraków 1998, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Jagiellońskiego, 215 pp., 11 illustr., sum. in English.

Józef Wołski (*Some Questions concerning Research into Slavery in Antiquity*, pp. 15–22) and Sławomir Sprawski (*The Place of the Penestae in the Political and Economic Life of Thessaly*, pp. 23–39) say that in the countries discussed by them slavery had smaller proportions than was previously thought. They both emphasise the necessity of a careful interpretation of sources, including their lexical layer. Janusz A. Ostrowski (*Cum Restrictis Ad Terga Manibus. The Images of Prisoners of War as an Element of Rome's Political Propaganda*, pp. 41–47) depicts how slaves were presented in Roman sculpture and numismatics; Sławomir Skrzyński (*The Echoes of the Ancient Tradition of Presenting Prisoners of War in Byzantine Painting*, pp. 49–55) shows that Roman models continued to be used in Byzantine art and that their use was extended to religious propaganda in which prisoners symbolised heresies or devils. Jerzy Chmielec (*The Question of Slavery in the Bible. Methodological and Hermeneutic Remarks*, pp. 11–16) emphasises that slavery is not presented in the Bible as a revealed law but as a contractual human institution; Wojciech Mruk (*The Question of Slavery in the Koran and Early Muslim Tradition*, pp. 67–71) points out that although Mohammed did not abolish slavery, he introduced some rules which made the life of slaves easier, such as the ban on killing, maiming and torturing slaves, the slaves' right to set up a family, a limited right to property, etc. Lucjan Bielas (*The Church and Slavery. From Christ to Constantine the Great*, pp. 57–65) says that in the Christian communities in the 1st–3rd centuries slaves were granted equal rights with free people, including the right to hold ecclesiastic positions, but this had no counterpart in civil life. Grzegorz Ryś (*The Early Medieval Church's Opinions on Slaves in the Light of Penitentials*, pp. 73–79) emphasises that the Catholic Church recognised the institution of slavery but defended the slaves' right to life, personal immunity and rest, and forbade the sale of slaves to non-Christians. Zofia Kowalska (*The Slave Trade Conducted by Jews in the 9th–11th Centuries*, pp. 81–91) points out that Jews played an important role in early medieval slave trade; she explains that the trade arose because of the demand for slaves, mainly on the part of Moslem states; it ended when Western Europe no longer needed slaves

and when Venice took over the role of an intermediary between Europe and the Moslem world. Many articles deal with slavery in individual countries (Wacław Urban, *Slavery in Hungary from the 10th to the 13th Century*, pp. 93–99; Krzysztof Bojko, *Slavery in Kiev Russia from Ancient Times to the 12th Century*, pp. 101–113; Anna Waśko, *Slavery in Scandinavia*, pp. 115–122; Jerzy Wyrozumski, *The Question of Slavery in Old Poland*, pp. 131–138; Artur Kijas, *Slave Population in the State of Muscovy from the 14th to the 16th Century. Its Size and Employment*, pp. 173–185). All authors emphasise that the influence of the Church eased the situation of slaves and that as time went on the slaves passed (*de iure* or only *de facto*) to the group of dependent peasant population. Rafał Quirini-Popławski (*The Presentation of Black Slaves in the Sculptures of Southern Italy under Frederick II of Hohenstaufen*, pp. 123–130) points out that a group of black Moslems lived in Sicily and southern Italy. Formally they were the ruler's slaves, nevertheless, some of them (e.g. Johannes Maurus, treasurer of the Kingdom of Sicily) attained high state positions after being freed by Frederick II. Piotr Wróbel (*Slavery and Slaves in Dubrovnik in the 14th and 15th Centuries and the Political Changes in the Balkans*, pp. 139–154) writes about trade in Bosnian and Serb slaves, and Danuta Quirini-Popławska (*Some Aspects of Slavery in the Republic of Venice in the 14th and 15th Centuries*, pp. 155–172) about slaves of Balkan and East European origin in the Venetian economy. Both authors emphasise that Turkish expansion cut these towns off from the countries which exported slaves. Jakub Basista (*Three 17th Century English Accounts about the Unfortunate Abduction, Brutal Captivity and Miraculous Release from Algerian Captivity*, pp. 187–195) reconstructs the fate of Europeans taken prisoner by Muslims in the Mediterranean, on the basis of accounts by William Okeley, Emanuel d'Arandj and an unknown T. S., published in 1666–1675. Aleksandra Kasznik-Christan (*Cardinal Lavigérie and His Anti-Slavery Campaign in 1888–1890*, pp. 197–207) discusses the activity of Europeans who for altruistic reasons sought to put an end to slavery in Africa. Tomasz Gryglewicz (*The Motif of Chains as a Symbol of Slavery in Jacek Malczewski's Paintings*, pp. 209–215) says that in Malczewski's works chains were an attribute of exiles to Siberia and a symbol of the Poles' national captivity in the 19th century. (JA)

## MIDDLE AGES

Elżbieta Dąbrowska, *Średniowieczny ceremoniał pogrzebowy wyższego duchowieństwa polskiego — studium archeologiczno-historyczne* (*The Medieval Funeral Rites for Senior Clergymen in Poland — An Archeological Historical Study*), "Studia Źródłoznawcze" (Warszawa-Poznań), vol. XXXVI, 1997, pp. 9–29, 6 illustr., sum. in French.

The article concerns the period from the introduction of Christianity in Poland in the 10th century to about 1386. The author presents the individual stages of the funeral rites for bishops and the characteristic elements of their burials. She says that the way Polish bishops were buried was analogous to that in Western Europe and common to all countries of Latin Europe. What was specific to Poland was the choice of burial place; at first bishops were buried in the western part of a church, the eastern part, in particular the choir, being ignored until the 13th century. In one case the deceased was equipped with an encolpion; this may have been an influence of the Eastern Church in Ruthenia. The author points out that there are few written and iconographic materials concerning this subject but there is a multitude of archeological data (some 30 burial places of archbishops and bishops have been found in Gniezno, Poznań, Wrocław, Cracow, Włocławek, Tum near Łęczyca, Tyniec, Kruszwica and Mogiłno). (JA)

Ryszard Grzesik, *Przebieg granicy polsko-węgierskiej we wczesnym średniowieczu w świetle "Kroniki węgiersko-polskiej"* (*The Polish-Hungarian*

*Frontier in the Early Middle Ages in the Light of "The Hungarian-Polish Chronicle"*), "Studia Historyczne" (Kraków), vol. XLI, 1998, № 2 (161), pp. 147-166, sum. in English.

The article concerns the Polish-Hungarian frontier under Boleslaus the Brave. In Grzesik's opinion the frontier was best described by the author of *The Hungarian-Polish Chronicle*. The description indicates that most of the territories of what is now Slovakia belonged to Poland, but the frontier cannot be defined precisely because the situation of some fortress towns (especially *Castrum Salis*) is controversial. According to the author, the Slovak territories were at first under Czech rule and, together with Bohemia, were seized by Poland in 1003-1004. Grzesik points out that the political frontier corresponded to the border between Hungarian and Slav (Slovak) settlements, a border known from archeological research. The realisation that for a short time Slovakia was part of Poland is evident in Hungarian and Polish sources as late as the 12th-13th centuries; the news of this fact reached Sicily and was recorded in al-Idrisi's description of the world. (JA)

Jerzy Kaliszuk, *Recepcja "Podróży" Johna Mandeville'a w Polsce późnego średniowiecza i na progu czasów nowożytnych (The Reception of John Mandeville's "Travels" in Poland in the Late Middle Ages and at the Threshold of the Early Modern Era)*, "Przegląd Historyczny" (Warszawa), vol. LXXXIX, 1998, № 3, pp. 343-359, sum. in English.

The author characterises *The Travels*, one of the most popular descriptions of the world in late medieval and early modern Europe (over 250 known manuscripts, 184 editions in various European languages). Unlike some literary experts, Kaliszuk regards Mandeville as an historical 14th century figure. He underlines that the work is divided into two parts: a description of an authentic journey to the Holy Land and a compilation of information on countries further to the east as well as an ethical-moral part (comparison of the "bad" Christians with the "good" inhabitants of the Orient). In Poland *The Travels* are known from manuscripts and 15th and 16th century incunabula; most of them were Latin translations of the German version; the translator was Dzierżewski of Makocice, canon of Skalbierz. Copies of *The Travels* circulated in academic, ecclesiastic and magnat circles, acting as a geography handbook and as a collection of examples used in sermons. (JA)

Feliks Kiryk, *Handel Kamieniec Podolskiego w późnym średniowieczu (Kamieniec Podolski's Trade in the Late Middle Ages)*, "Studia Historyczne" (Kraków), vol. XLI, № 4 (163), pp. 479-493, 4 tables, annex, sum. in English.

The author discusses the range of Kamieniec Podolski's trade contacts and the goods structure of this trade as well as the ethnic structure of its merchant class from the time that Kamieniec was first mentioned in sources (1383) to the 1530s. On the basis of Lviv and Kamieniec sources the author says that Kamieniec Podolski traded with Red Ruthenia, western and central Poland, Silesia, Ruthenian towns (including Pskov), Moldavia, Wallachia and Turkey. This was a trade in textiles (including cloth and wool), cattle, horses, hides, cereals and spices. The merchants were of various nationalities, there were Germans, Poles, Ruthenians, Armenians and Jews among them, and this promoted trade contacts. The trade was well organised as is proved by the existence of a guild of Kamieniec merchants. The annex contains a document issued by Casimir Jagiellon on March 16, 1481 which confirmed and cited the full text of the act by which the municipal council of Kamieniec Podolski set up the guild on April 9, 1468. (JA)

Jerzy Kłoczowski, *Młodsza Europa. Europa Środkowo-Wschodnia w kręgu cywilizacji chrześcijańskiej średniowiecza (The Younger Europe. East-Central Europe in the Medieval Christian Civilisation)*, Warszawa 1998, Państwowy

Instytut Wydawniczy, 534 pp., 52 illustr., 13 maps, 11 tables, indexes of persons and geographical, ethnic and political names.

This is a history of East-Central Europe from the emergence of states in this area and their accession to Western civilisation (9th–10th centuries) to the turn of the 15th century. The author presents the history of Bohemia, Moravia, Poland, Hungary, the Teutonic Knights' state (from the 13th c.) and Lithuania (from the 14th c.). In keeping with older concepts, those of Oskar Halecki and Jenő Szűcs, he emphasises that the historical development of these states had common features which distinguished them from West European states. This was due to the fact that the states of East-Central Europe entered the world of Western culture relatively late and adopted Western civilisational patterns in a similar way and at the same time. Kłoczowski says that in the 10th century there were no major civilisational differences between the countries in question and Russia, which was under the influence of Byzantine culture; these differences increased after Russia's civilisational decline caused by Mongolian invasions. Kłoczowski points out that the state borders in East-Central Europe changed considerably in the Middle Ages as a result of the establishment of new states (the Teutonic Knights' state, Lithuania) and the expansion of Poland and Lithuania into Ruthenian territories in the 14th and 15th centuries. (JA)

Stefan Kwiatkowski, *Zakon niemiecki w Prusach a umysłowość średniowieczna. Scholastyczne rozumienie prawa natury a etyczna i religijna świadomość Krzyżaków do około 1420 roku* (*The German Order in Prussia and the Medieval Mentality. The Scholastic Concept of the Law of Nature and the Ethical and Religious Consciousness of the Teutonic Knight up to about 1420*), Toruń 1998, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Mikołaja Kopernika, 169 pp., sum. in German.

The book covers the period from the establishment of the Teutonic Knights' state in Prussia to the end of the Council of Constance. The author discusses the influence of European philosophical currents on the Teutonic Knights' theory that their expansion into Prussia, Polish and Lithuanian territories was justified, for they were spreading Christianity. In Kwiatkowski's opinion this theory sprang from St. Augustine's idea with its vision of a permanent fight between the kingdom of God and the temporal kingdom, an idea revived by Bernard of Clairvaux during the period of struggle for investiture and the crusades; another source of this theory was the teaching of Duns Scotus who regarded love of one's neighbour first and foremost as an endeavour to persuade the neighbour to love God. The author points out that St. Augustine's and Duns Scotus's ideas were presented in Teutonic historiography, in particular in Peter of Dusburg's chronicle and the argumentation used at the Council of Constance in the Teutonic Knights' dispute with Poland and Lithuania. Kwiatkowski compares Teutonic arguments with those put forward by Poland. The Poles deduced the prohibition against attacking peacefully living pagans and the justification of alliances with them from the concept of natural law created by Thomas Aquinas. (JA)

Beata Możejko, *Ród Świnków na pograniczu polsko-krzyżackim w średniowieczu* (*The Świnka Family in the Polish-Teutonic Borderland in the Middle Ages*), Gdańsk 1998, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Gdańskiego, 280 pp., 6 genealogical tables.

The book presents the genealogy, economic situation and political activity of the branch of the Świnka knightly family which lived in the Dobrzyń and Chelmno region and in Zawkrze. The author has researched the period from the arrival of the family's first representative in this region (1313) to the decline of the family's importance, when the majority of its male members died out and most of the estates passed into alien hands (1468). The regions in which the Świnkas developed their

activity belonged to the Polish kingdom, the Teutonic Knights and Mazovian rulers and sometimes changed their sovereign. Możejko has examined the political stance of the Świnkas and says that when the frontier changed, they recognised the new sovereign without any reservations and sometimes tried to maintain good relations with the previous one. This enabled them to preserve their landed estates and their relatively high social rank in the local community. It also enabled them to make a political career, as is proved by the fact that representatives of the family were active at the Polish, Teutonic and Mazovian courts. The author compares the Świnka family's attitude with the attitudes of other families in the region in question and says that it was typical of the knights living in the Polish-Teutonic borderland. (JA)

Wojciech Mruk, *Rotulae mortuorum i obnoszący je mnisi w Europie Średniowiecznej (VIII–XV w.). Przyczynek do problemu (Rotulae mortuorum and the Monks Carrying Them in Medieval Europe, 8th–15th c. A contribution to research)*, "Studia Historyczne" (Kraków), vol. XLI, 1998, N° 1 (160), pp. 3–12, sum. in English.

The article depicts the monasteries' practice of sending documents called *rotulae* or *rotuli* to other monasteries of the same order. The documents contained information on deceased persons connected in some way with the monastery sending the message; they also included a request for prayer for the souls of the deceased. The oldest forms of the *rotulae* date back to the end of the 8th century. At first they were circulated by the Benedictines, from the 11th–12th centuries also by the Cistercians and Premonstratensians and from the 14th century also by fraternities of secular priests and laymen. The author emphasises that the *rotulae* played an important role in integrating the monastic communities. He discusses scholars' attempts to classify the *rotulae* and proposes his own division into the *rotulae* issued by an abbot and those issued by an entire monastic community. The article is based on sources from France, Germany, the Netherlands and Italy. (JA)

Edward Potkowski, *Kobieta a książka w średniowieczu — wybrane problemy (Woman and the Book in the Middle Ages — Selected Issues)*, "Kwartalnik Historyczny" (Warszawa), vol. CX, 1998, N° 3, pp. 3–18, sum. in English.

This is a survey of women's activity as writers, readers, promoters and copyists of books, and correspondents from the 6th to the 15th century in Latin Europe, special attention being paid to the Polish territories. The author points out that women participated in all activities connected with books, but as a result of the social reality their participation was smaller than that of men. Potkowski emphasises that in the 12th and 13th centuries when the knowledge of writing and the use of national languages spread, noblewomen and townswomen joined the circle of women of dynastic and magnat families connected with books. One of the reasons for the development of women's interest in books was that some late medieval writers attributed a versatile education to the Holy Virgin, and artists often presented Her with a book in hand. The author stresses that women played an important role in medieval literary activity, especially in poetry and mystical writings, and that the growth of women's reading habits was instrumental in the development of some genres of religious and didactic literature. (JA)

Anna Supruniuk, *Otoczenie księcia mazowieckiego Siemowita IV (1374–1426). Studium o elicie politycznej Mazowsza na przełomie XIV i XV wieku (The Social Circle of the Mazovian Duke Siemowit IV, 1374–1426. A Study on Mazovia's Political Elite at the Turn of the 14th Century)*, Warszawa 1998, Wydawnictwo DiG, 374 pp., 2 annexes, index of persons and geographical names, sum. in German.

The book presents the group of court, country and administrative officials active during the rule of Siemowit IV, duke of Czersk–Rawa from 1374, of Płock from 1381 and also of Kujawy (1383–1398) and Belsk (from 1388). The author characterises the duke's policy, the institutions of power (the monarch, the ducal council, the assembly), the structure and hierarchy of offices, the criteria by which officials were selected, the social, territorial and family origin of the officials and their influence on the ruler, measured by the tenure of the highest offices and the number of attestations on ducal documents. Supruniuk says that Siemowit IV's state had a fixed structure of offices and that their staff was recruited mainly from the duchy of Płock, Siemowit's hereditary land. Alongside representatives of the most powerful knightly families, sources indicate the existence of a group of "new people" promoted by the duke to high positions for loyal service. The author stresses that this social group was greatly diversified; of several hundred officials only a few exerted a prolonged influence on government. A large part of the book (pp. 121–286) consists of biographical notes of 228 officials known from sources and also annexes with list of offices, their staffs and the itineraries of Siemowit IV. (JA)

Piotr Węcowski, *Działalność publiczna możnowładztwa małopolskiego w późnym średniowieczu. Itineraria kasztelanów i wojewodów krakowskich w czasach panowania Władysława Jagiełły (1386–1434)* (*The Public Activity of Magnates of Little Poland in the Late Middle Ages. The Itineraries of Cracow Castellans and Voivodes in the Reign of Vladislaus Jagiełło, 1386–1434*), Warszawa 1998, Wydawnictwo DiG, 218 pp., 20 tables, index of persons and localities.

The author discusses the chronology and circumstances of the journeys made by the principal officials of the Cracow voivodship, who regarded them as participation in politics. He points out that some of these travels were regular, connected with the officials' stay at the royal court and with their judicial duties. He emphasises that journeys connected with family life, to attend the christening, wedding or funeral of a relative, usually envisaged meetings with other representatives of the political élite and could be used to discuss political matters and take decisions on various issues. Węcowski analyses the geography of these travels and says that they were mostly confined to the area of Little Poland; in his opinion this shows that it was considered important to conduct policy not only on the central but also on the regional level. The book includes an extensive (pp. 133–179) specification of the itineraries of individual dignitaries which is furnished with references to sources. (JA)

Piotr Węcowski, *Krakowskie wiece sądowe i ich rola w życiu politycznym w czasach panowania Władysława Jagiełły* (*The Cracow Judicial Assemblies and Their Role in Political Life during the Reign of Vladislaus Jagiełło*), "Kwartalnik Historyczny" (Warszawa), vol. CV, 1998, N° 3, pp. 3–18, table, sum. in English.

The article deals with the Cracow judicial assemblies (*colloquia generalia*), a judicial institution of a higher order than the country courts; they were the proper courts for country dignitaries. Formally, the judicial assemblies passed verdicts, including precedential ones, and adopted regulations for law courts. But the author points out that the functions of judges and assessors were performed by the most important dignitaries of the Cracow Land. The judicial assemblies were thus regular meetings of Little Poland's political élite at which political decisions were also taken. As a result of the large participation of petty knights as defendants and witnesses (some 200–300 cases were examined during one meeting), the dignitaries had an opportunity to acquaint themselves with the moods among the knights, influence their opinions and inform them of the decisions taken. The knights who took part in a judicial assembly were treated

as representatives of the whole nobility of the Cracow Land. The author emphasises that the assemblies were an important stage in the formation of Polish parliamentarianism. (JA)

Małgorzata Wilska, *Blazen na dworze Jagiellonów (The Jester at the Jagiellons' Court)*. Warszawa 1998, Wydawnictwo "Neriton", Instytut Historii PAN, 277 pp., 90 illustr., 1 table, 1 annex, index of persons, sums. In French and English.

The author describes the function of a jester at the Polish royal court in 1387–1572. She discusses the Polish and Latin names referring to jesters, the elements and functions of their costume, their physical appearance, social and national origin, skills, and participation in court life. Wilska points out that the function of royal jester was instituted in Poland during the reign of Vladislaus Jagiełło. She characterises Polish jesters who, on the whole, are little known. She emphasises that they had to be endowed with special skills and an intellectual predisposition required by their specific function, for they were expected to tell the king things which were inappropriate for other persons to say. Wilska says that the appearance and functions of Polish jesters did not differ from those of their counterparts at the courts of Western and Central Europe. In addition to written sources the book is based on a rich iconographic material and this is why the illustrations constitute an integral part of the book. (JA)

Katarzyna Zalewska, *Modlitwa i obraz. Średniowieczna ikonografia różańcowa (The Prayer and the Picture. The Medieval Rosary Iconography)*. Warszawa 1999, Wydawnictwa Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego, 157 pp., 16 illustr., sum. in German.

The author discusses works of art the subject of which indicates that they were inspired by the rosary; they were created in the Polish Kingdom and Silesia in the second half of the 15th and the first quarter of the 16th century. Zalewska says that there are not many of them and they are not evenly distributed in the area in question. The earliest specimens (middle of the 15th century) can be found in Silesia, where they are also the most numerous. In Zalewska's view this is due to the fact that Silesia was a relatively rich region and was open to German and Czech cultural influence. The disappearance of this kind of art in Silesia after 1520 was, in her opinion, caused by the progress of the Reformation. She says that the situation was similar in Gdańsk (a well developed rosary iconography and its decline after 1520). In the other territories art works inspired by the rosary can be found only in Little Poland. But they are relatively late (the earliest dating from the 1480s) there, few in number and not rich in form; they were created even after 1520. (JA)

Katarzyna Zalewska, *Świat rozległy i obcy. O średniowiecznych wyobrażeniach krajów egzotycznych (The Vast and Alien World. Medieval Ideas of Exotic Countries)*, "Rocznik Historii Sztuki" (Warszawa) vol. XXIII, 1998, pp. 57–90, 24 illustr., sum. in German; eadem, *Średniowieczne plany Rzymu w kształcie lwa (The Medieval Lion-Shaped Maps of Rome)*, "Ikonotheka" (Warszawa) vol. 13, 1998, pp. 75–83, 4 illustr., sum. in English.

The first article concerns the presentation of overseas countries in the iconography of Latin Europe in the 6th–15th centuries. The author draws attention to the diversity and richness of iconographic motifs and also to their schematic character. She says that their authors drew models from what they saw in their immediate neighbourhood. As a result, distant countries did not look different from Europe and their exoticism was indicated by such accessories as turbans, fantastic animals and the like. This was also applied to countries which were quite frequently visited by Europeans, such as Latin countries in the east. This means that this was not caused by a lack of knowledge, but by the adoption of an artistic



convention and disinterest in what these countries really looked like. In the other article the author discusses one kind of schematic presentations in 13th and 14th century cartography. She points out that the presentation of Rome shaped like a lion originated from a literal interpretation of a fragment of Gervase of Tilbury's treatise (about 1211), who repeated the opinion of Honorius called Augustodunensis. As far as iconography is concerned, these presentations referred to the ideas about constellations and zodiac signs (including the Lion) found in the astronomical and astrological writings of those days. (JA).

### EARLY MODERN TIMES (16th–18th c.)

Alina Aleksandrowicz, *Izabela Czartoryska. Polskość i europejskość (Izabela Czartoryska. Polishness and Europeanness)*, Lublin 1998, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Marii Curie-Skłodowskiej, 365 pp., illustr., index of persons.

The author presents the cultural and literary interests of Princess Izabela Czartoryska (1746–1834). The Czartoryski's residence at Puławy was a centre whose cultural influence radiated all over Poland. Unlike King Stanislaus Augustus' court in Warsaw, it gave preference not to Enlightenment ideas but to Rococo culture and later to pre-Romanticism. Princess Izabela and her husband Kazimierz Adam, regarding Poland as a part of Europe, propagated the opening of Poland to Western Europe. Chapter I of the book discusses the Princess's attitude to the French poet Jacques Delille. It was at her recommendation that Delille's poem *Jardins* was translated into Polish (by her daughter Maria Anna and the poet Franciszek Karpiński) in 1782; it was published the following year. The poem inspired the vision of the garden which was being laid out in the Czartoryski's residence at Puławy. The French poet, with whom the princess maintained friendly correspondence, was worshipped at Puławy, and so was Torquato Tasso, the 16th century Italian poet, author of *Gerusalemme Liberata (Jerusalem Delivered)*; this is discussed in the next chapter. The other parts of the monograph concern Princess Izabela's trip to Switzerland and the contacts she established with that country as well as her journey to England and Scotland. The princess's several-year stay in Britain led to the cult of Gothic and Gothic Romanticism and to the cult of Shakespeare at Puławy. This is discussed in Chapters V and VI. The last part of the book concerns the Gothic museum of European art set up by Izabela at Puławy. (EO)

Urszula Augustyniak, *Wazowie i "królowie rodacy" (The Vasas and Poland's "Native Kings")*, Warszawa 1999, Wydawnictwo Naukowe Semper, 254 pp., illustr., index of persons.

Urszula Augustyniak's study is a tentative synthesis of the question of royal power in the Commonwealth of the Two Nations in 1587–1696. It is not a summing up but the opening of a discussion and an invitation to take part in it.

The monograph contains of two separate parts. A theoretical presentation prevails in the first part. The author presents the dispute in Europe over the nature of a modern state and the position of the monarch. She then analyses the model of an ideal ruler in a multinational monarchy, such as the Commonwealth of the Two Nations. The next chapters concern the symbols of royal power and the propaganda in its favour. The author also discusses the dignity of kingship and the authority of the Commonwealth.

The second part of the monograph deals with the real foundations of royal power in the Polish-Lithuanian state. The author discusses the monarch's revenues. A separate chapter is devoted to the royal family; the author also presents the royal court as the monarch's seat and an institution for the practice of politics. In the last chapter she presents the relations between the royal court,

the nobility and the magnatial opposition. The author poses many important questions; she asks if the Polish-Lithuanian state had a chance of changing its political system and why such an evolution turned out to be impossible. (EO)

Małgorzata Bogucka, *Bona Sforza*, Wrocław 1998, Wydawnictwo Ossolineum, 288 pp., selected bibliogr., illustr., index of persons.

This is a monograph on the Italian princess and Queen of Poland — Bona Sforza. The first two chapters describe the conditions in which Poland's future queen grew up; they deal with the princess's Italian motherland, the Sforza family from which she was descended and the upbringing and education she received as a child. Like other girls from the Italian ruling houses, the young princess was taught by the humanists Chrysostom Colonna and Antonio de Ferraris to play a role in politics (she was taught classical literature, history, Latin, theology, elements of mathematics and geography). The next two chapters present the Emperor Maximilian I's endeavours to arrange a match for Bona; the endeavours ended with Bona marrying the Polish King Sigismund I in 1518. The author also describes Poland's political, social and economic situation at the beginning of the 16th century. The next chapter portrays life at Sigismund I's court and Bona's role as patroness of culture. The next part of the book describes Bona's attempts to set up a political party loyal to her and the circle of her political adversaries. Chapter VII deals with family life at the royal court, stress being laid on relations with children, in particular with Sigismund Augustus. The next two parts of the book depict Bona's influence on Polish foreign policy and internal affairs, including the economy. In the penultimate chapter Bona parts with her son and returns to Italy; the author describes how she was poisoned by an Habsburgian agent and how her last will was forged to benefit Philip II, King of Spain. The last part of the book presents Bona's legend in Poland. A black legend predominated in literature and historiography until the 1920s. Bona was suspected of the worst possible things, including poisoning. It was only during the inter-war period that studies began to appear presenting the services Bona had rendered in the field of Poland's foreign policy, economy and culture. (EO)

Jolanta Chojińska-Mika, *Sejmiki mazowieckie w dobie Wazów (The Mazovian Dietines under the Vasas)*, Warszawa 1998, Wydawnictwo Sejmowe, 213 pp., bibliogr., illustr., index of persons, annex.

The author describes the dietines of three Mazovian voivodships, those of Mazovia, Plock and Rawa. A joint treatment of the three voivodships is justified for they had a common history, were incorporated into the Polish Kingdom relatively late, in 1462–1526, their power élites were united by family ties and their dietines were linked by political ties. In Chapter I, which presents the Mazovian dietines and the nobles who participated in them, the author depicts the financial situation of the Mazovian nobility, the size of royal and Church estates, the various kinds of dietines and their distribution, and characterises the participants in the debates of dietines in the Mazovian voivodships. Chapter II concerns the political decisions adopted by the dietines. The author presents the factors which influenced the dietines' resolutions, the group of noble leaders and the circulation of information and propaganda. The last chapter deals with the system of values of the Mazovian nobility and its political stance. Chojińska-Mika also analyses the noblemen's attitude to their rights and duties and their attitude to the Sejm. She pays special attention to the Mazovian nobility's legalism and its attitude to the king. She also discusses the question of religious tolerance and the Mazurians' attitude to the state's foreign policy. The author emphasises that the acts adopted by the dietines give lie to the historians' view that the Mazovian nobility was exceptionally backward. The study is furnished with a list of deputies elected by the Mazovian dietines to the Sejm in the years 1587–1668. (EO)

Andrzej Dziubiński, *Z dziejów nałogu tytoniowego i produkcji wyrobów nikotynowych w Rzeczypospolitej w XVII i XVIII wieku* (From the History of Tobacco Addiction and the Production of Nicotine Products in the Commonwealth in the 17th and 18th Centuries), "Kwartalnik Historyczny" (Warszawa), vol. CV, 1998, № 2, pp. 33–51, sum. in English.

It is believed that tobacco appeared in Europe in 1560 when Jean Nicot, French ambassador to Portugal, sent tobacco seeds to Cathérine de Médici, Queen of France. In Poland the plant became known 30 years later when the Polish envoy in Istanbul, Paweł Uchański, sent tobacco seeds to Queen Anne Jagiellon. Tobacco and its use spread quickly in the Polish-Lithuanian state, in particular among soldiers and craftsmen. As early as 1646 the import of tobacco became liable to duty, Pipe-smoking and snuff-taking became popular in the middle of the 17th century and were practised by all social strata, also the peasantry. King John III Sobieski was a pipe-smoker, probably from 1683 on.

The first tobacco plantations appeared in Europe in the first half of the 17th century, but tobacco from America was cheaper. In Poland trade in tobacco was in the hands of Scottish merchants. Until the middle of the 17th century the word "tabaka" was used in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth to denote all kinds of tobacco. From the middle of that century words of Turkish origin began to be used for tobacco, tobacco-pouch, pipe and pipe-stem. According to the author this means that the import of tobacco from the Ottoman Empire must have been large. The first tobacco plantations on a commercial scale appeared in Poland at the beginning of the 18th century, and it was then that production of tobacco was started by craftsmen. In the 18th century smoking was widespread. Tobacco products and pipes were produced in manufactories. In 1775 excise was laid on income from tobacco products and in 1777 the import of tobacco became a monopoly. (EO)

Stanisława Hoczyk-Siwkowa, *Wodociągi lubelskie w XV–XVII wieku* (The Water Supply Service in Lublin in the 15th–17th Centuries), "Kwartalnik Historii Kultury Materialnej" (Warszawa), vol. XLV, 1997, № 2, pp. 161–177, sum. in French, maps.

The article presents the history of development and the technology of the oldest water supply service in Lublin on the basis of handwritten sources and archeological, architectural and iconographic relics. The author has localised the first water-pipe laid in Lublin in the 15th century and in analysing the water-supply system in the 16th–17th centuries has reconstructed the area it covered and its functioning. Water was supplied to the town from the Wrotkowski Pond and the Bystrzyca river by wooden pipes to a water pump and then by metal pipes to a special wooden case. Hoczyk-Siwkowa also discusses the water supply network in the town itself (water cases, water wells) and characterises the builders of the water-supply system. (AK)

Andrzej Karpiński, *Fundacje posagowe w dużych miastach Rzeczypospolitej w XVI–XVIII w.* (Dowry Foundations in Large Towns of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth in the 16th–18th Centuries), "Kwartalnik Historyczny" (Warszawa), vol. CV, 1998, № 1, pp. 3–20, sum. in English, tables.

The essay is a tentative characterisation of "St. Nicholas's boxes", that is, charity foundations which provided financial assistance to indigent girls who wanted to get married. The author discusses the functioning of these institutions in Wilno, Poznań, Cracow and Warsaw in the 16th–18th centuries on the basis of the foundations' documents. He has managed to find nearly 20 of these boxes which controlled some 50 dowry funds.

Representatives of prosperous nobility, of the Episcopate and urban patri-  
cians predominated among the initiators and donors of these charitable institu-

tions. The dowries were usually given to poor craftsmen's daughters who worked as domestic servants.

An analysis of more than 700 dowries indicates that in the period under review three-quarters of the dowries were worth about 200 grams of silver each; this equalled about 200 days' wages of an unskilled labourer or the earnings a domestic servant would have got for several years of work. For women from the poorer strata of the population such a dowry was by no means a small sum and it could raise their attractiveness on the local matrimonial market. (EO)

Tadeusz Kasabuła, *Ignacy Massalski biskup wileński (Ignacy Massalski, Bishop of Wilno)*, Lublin 1998, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Lubelskiego, 626 pp., bibliogr., sum. in German, tables, specifications.

This extensive biography of one of the most prominent bishops of the 18th century Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth is based on diverse source materials (correspondence, consistorial documents, records of the episcopal chancellery, documents of trials) kept in the Archivum Secretum Vaticanum in Rome, Lithuania's Central Historical Archives in Vilnius, the Library of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences in Vilnius, Central Archives of Historical Records in Warsaw, State Archives in Białystok, the Bernardines' archives in Cracow, the Czartoryski Library in Cracow and the University Library in Vilnius.

The author argues that Ignacy Massalski was very active as a Church hierarch and senator; he headed the Treasury Department of the Permanent Council and helped organise the National Education Commission (1773), the first lay ministry of education in Europe.

Massalski took part in the Sejm which endorsed the first partition of Poland and was a member of the Targowica Confederation which wanted to overthrow the Sejm and the Constitution of May 3rd 1791 with Russian help; he was hanged in 1794. In Kasabuła's opinion Massalski was a person whom it would be difficult to fully condemn for he reorganised and improved the functioning of the Vilnius diocese, initiated the organisation of parish missions, reformed parish schools and hospitals and opposed the practice of forcing Jews to convert to Catholicism. (AK)

Cezary Kukło, *Kobieta samotna w społeczeństwie miejskim u schyłku Rzeczypospolitej szlacheckiej. Studium demograficzno-społeczne (The Single Woman in Urban Society at the End of the Noblemen's Commonwealth. A demographic and social study)*, Białystok 1998, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu w Białymstoku, 267 pp., bibliogr., sum. in French, annexes, tables, illustr.

The author shows the place and role of single women (unmarried women, divorcees, widows) in Polish towns at the end of the 18th century on the basis of rich archival materials (municipal court records, church inspections, documents of various fraternities and hospitals, diaries and memoirs) from six towns (Warsaw, Cracow, Olkusz, Praszka, Radziejów and Wieluń). Kukło points out that single women, who headed every 4th-7th urban household, played an important role in urban economy. They belonged to various age groups and only some of them (especially in the over 40-years group) stood a chance of changing their civil status. In order to overcome their loneliness and a certain social isolation, they frequently took part in the activity of church fraternities, participating in religious services and processions, collecting contributions for charitable purposes and looking after the sick and orphans. (AK)

Michał Kulecki, *Wygnańcy ze Wschodu. Egzulanct w Rzeczypospolitej w ostatnich latach panowania Jana Kazimierza i za panowania Michała Korybuta Wiśniowieckiego (Exiles from the East. Exiles in the Commonwealth in the Last Years of John Casimir's Reign and in the Reign of Michael Korybut*

Wiśniowiecki). Warszawa 1997, Wydawnictwo DIG, 236 pp., bibliogr., list of abbreviations, index of persons.

The book concerns the nobility from the territories which the Polish-Lithuanian state lost as a result of its wars with Cossacks and Muscovy in the second half of the 17th century. The book covers the years 1667-1773. The first date is the year of the Polish-Muscovite truce of Andrussovo by virtue of which a large part of the territory lost during the war operations was left under permanent Muscovite control. The latter date marks the death of Michael Korybut Wiśniowiecki under whose reign the problem of the nobility from the lost territories exerted a great influence on political life in the Commonwealth of the Two Nations. The author holds the view that, contrary to the opinion expressed in historiography, the exiles were only sporadically used by the opposition in its strife against the King. Kulecki estimates that the exiled nobility numbered several thousand persons, including members of their families, and that at most several hundred of them were politically active. The exiles' political role was not due to their number but to the fact that in the Sejm they represented the Smolensk and Chernigov voivodships and the eastern Kiev region, that is, territories which no longer belonged to the Commonwealth. By demanding that the Sejm grant them the compensation they had been promised, they disorganised political life and became a serious political problem. The author has portrayed the exiled nobility not only in the forum of the Sejm and the dietines but also as a social group. (EO)

Janusz Łosowski, *Kancelarie miast szlacheckich województwa lubelskiego od XV do XVIII wieku (The Chancelleries of Noblemen's Towns in Lublin Voivodship from the 15th to the 18th Century)*. Lublin 1997, Agencja Wydawnicza-Handlowa Antoni Dudek, 273 pp., bibliogr., sum. in German, index of persons, index of geographical names, annexes, tables, map.

The study is based on municipal records, public registers, documents of parish inspections and handwritten copies of municipal privileges kept in the Central Archives of Historical Records in Warsaw, the State Archives in Lublin and Gdańsk, the H. Łopaciński Library in Lublin, the Library of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Cracow and the Czartoryski Library in Cracow. On the basis of these sources the author discusses the administrative and judicial competence of the organs of municipal authorities, the functioning of the chancelleries, and the structure of their extant documents; separate sections of the book characterise the people employed in the chancelleries (they were of local origin, had a modest education and were at an advanced age when taking over the duties of a municipal scribe) and analyses the work of the chancelleries of private towns.

Łosowski has shown that landowners and estate leaseholders interfered on a large scale in the administrative and judicial matters of noblemen's towns and that the work of the chancelleries, which usually employed but one man, was subordinated to the rhythm of nature. (AK)

Jerzy Michalski, *Publicystyka i parapublicystyka doby Sejmu 1776 roku (Political and Para-political Writings during the 1776 Sejm)*, "Kwartalnik Historyczny" (Warszawa), vol. CV, 1998, № 1, pp. 21-64, sum. in English.

The author analyses political writings, mostly handwritten, connected with the period between the Sejm of 1773-1775 and the one held in 1776. This source, quite abundant in fact, has been so far practically ignored by historians. Some of the writings were rather naive primitive propaganda materials produced by adversaries of the Permanent Council, a central institution set up in 1773 to curb the arbitrariness of irremovable ministers. Indirectly, these attacks struck a blow at King Stanislaus Augustus, a supporter of the new institution which was set up on the order of Catherine II, who hoped this would strengthen her political position in Poland. A large part of these political writings was on a higher level; their authors were linked to the Confederation of Bar, a noblemen's group which waged

a war against Russia in 1768–1772. Another part of the writings consists of letters to dietines before the 1776 Sejm, written by leading representatives of the Family, a political faction which at first was linked to the King but passed over to the opposition when the Confederation of Bar was formed. The authors of these writings branded the Permanent Council for breaking the law and criticised the planned increase in taxation. On the whole, the King and the partitioning powers, responsible for the establishment of the hated Permanent Council, were not attacked. Besides, the oppositionists sought support at St. Petersburg's court. The political writings of the royal camp were less dynamic and were not aggressive in form. In the opinion of the royal camp, the crisis originated in Saxon times and was caused by the decrease in the King's prerogatives. The adherents of the King's party stressed their attachment to the ideals of the nobility's freedom and presented Stanislaus Augustus' accession to the throne as an act of Providence. (EO)

Stanisław Niezabitowski, *Dzienniki 1695–1700 (Diary 1695–1700)*, ed. Alojzy Sajkowski, Poznań 1998, Wydawnictwo Naukowe Uniwersytetu Poznańskiego im. Adama Mickiewicza, 375 pp., glossary of Old Polish and Latin words, Index of persons, map.

This part of the diary of Stanisław Niezabitowski, cup-bearer from Kalisz, covers the years 1695–1700; it is a fragment of a larger whole, the extant part of which opens in 1682. The diary is an excellent source to the history of custom in Lithuania, to legal cases and political matters; it also contains information on reading matter (Niezabitowski himself had a library of 700 volumes) and on the decline of the Calvinist community in Lithuania. The author of the diary was from 1670 one of the three general stewards of the Birże Radziwiłłs' estates which Ludwika Karolina inherited after the death of her father Bogusław, the Lithuanian equerry. Ludwika Karolina married Ludwig von Hohenzollern; her second husband was Charles Phillip, duke of Neuburg. The editor chose the years 1695–1700 for it was an extremely interesting period in Lithuania's history, a period marked by the weakening position of the Calvinist nobility. Ludwika Karolina, duchess of Neuburg, protector of Calvinists, died in 1685, and 1699 was the year of the battle of Okielniki, the climax in the civil war waged by the magnatial Sapieha family against the nobles' opposition which was supported by the other magnates, including the Catholic line of the Radziwiłłs. These events were of momentous importance, for both the Catholic Radziwiłłs and the Sapiehas laid claim to the estates left by the Duchess of Neuburg, despite the fact that Ludwika Karolina had a daughter, princess Sophie. (EO)

Stanisław Roszak, *Środowisko intelektualne i artystyczne Warszawy w połowie XVIII w. Między kulturą sarmatyzmu i oświecenia (The Intellectual and Artistic Milieux in Warsaw in the Middle of the 18th Century. Between the Cultures of Sarmatism and Enlightenment)*, Toruń 1997, Wydawnictwo Adam Marszałek, 182 pp., bibliogr., index of persons, tables.

The book characterises the culture of Warsaw under King Augustus III (1733–1763). It has six chapters. In the first the author discusses the concepts of Sarmatian and Enlightenment culture, in the second he characterises the functioning of cultural and creative centres in the city, in the third he analyses the role of various factors which strengthened or weakened the formation of the local élites. The other chapters concern the national and territorial origin of the group of artists and intellectuals, the infrastructure of culture, and the two cultures, practical and philosophical in the middle of the 18th century. In conclusion Roszak emphasises the necessity of a dualistic approach to the development of culture so as to take into account the reviving Sarmatian ideals as well as the slow adoption of Enlightenment models.

The author has made use of manuscripts, contemporary printed matter, the press and correspondence of leading representatives of the élite of those days kept in the Central Archives of Historical Records in Warsaw, the Saltykov-Shchedrin Library in St. Petersburg, the Stefanyk Library in Lviv, and the Library of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences in Vilnius. (AK)

*Rozprawa Jana Zamoyskiego o senacie rzymskim (Jan Zamoyski's Treatise on the Roman Senate)*, edited, translated and commented by Marek Kryłowicz and Wojciech Witowski, Lublin 1997, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Marii Curie-Skłodowskiej, 324 pp., illustr., sum. in English.

The editors present the original Latin text of Jan Zamoyski's treatise *De senatu romano* which was published in Padua in 1563. This was the doctoral thesis of the future chancellor and grand hetman of Poland, written at the suggestion of Carlo Sigonio, professor at the University of Padua. The editors have explicated the Latin abbreviations used by Zamoyski in the original text and have also taken into account Zamoyski's errata. The edition includes a translation of the treatise into Polish. Four chapters of extensive commentaries have been added. In the first the editors depict young Zamoyski's studies at the University of Padua. The second chapter is an analysis of Zamoyski's treatise from the point of view of the research method applied by him. The next chapter analyses the young doctor of law's knowledge of Roman law. In the last part of their commentaries the editors present their opinion on whether young Zamoyski's treatise was useful to him in his later political career. They have also tried to define what Zamoyski thought in 1563 of the connection between the Roman republican tradition and the political system of the Polish kingdom. (EO)

Ryszard Skowron, *Dyplomaci polscy w Hiszpanii w XVI i XVII wieku (Polish Diplomats in Spain in the 16th and 17th Centuries)*, Kraków 1997, Towarzystwo Autorów i Wydawców Prac Naukowych Universitas, 312 pp., bibliogr., index of persons and geographical names, annexes, maps, sum. in Spanish.

The book concerns Polish-Spanish relations in the 16th and 17th centuries, a subject which has not yet been fully researched. The author focuses attention on Polish envoys' visits to Spain in 1518-1696. He presents the objectives of their missions, their organisation, the diplomats' activity at the Madrid court and their everyday life. The book is arranged chronologically. In the first two chapters Skowron analyses the reign of the last two Jagiellons, up to 1572. Poland's main problem in her relations with Spain at that time was to recover the duchies of Bari and Rossano in the Kingdom of Naples, the legacy left by Queen Bona d'Aragona, mother of Sigismund Augustus, the last Polish King of the Jagiellonian dynasty. The next chapter covers the years 1572-1586 and concerns mainly the ten year reign of Stephen Batory. Relations with Spain were no longer focused on Queen Bona's inheritance. Spain endeavoured to gain Poland's help in the Netherlands while Poland sought to secure Spain's participation in the anti-Turkish league. Chapters IV and V deal with the years 1587-1648, the reign of two rulers of the Vasa dynasty, Sigismund III and his son Ladislaus IV. Polish-Spanish relations were enlivened at that time owing to plans for an anti-Swedish and an anti-French alliance; but the plans were not implemented. The next chapter, which concerns the years 1649-1696, covers the reign of John Casimir (the last king of the Vasa dynasty), Michael Korybut Wiśniowiecki and John III Sobieski. In view of the change in Poland's foreign policy from a pro-Habsburgian to a more pro-French line, the importance of Polish-Spanish relations declined and the number of diplomatic missions decreased. (EO)

Jerzy Starnawski in collaboration with Krystyna Kujawińska-Courtney, *Anglo-polonica*, Łódź 1997, Omega-Praxis, 192 pp., index of persons.

The study consists of several separate parts which are connected by a common subject-matter: Polish-English cultural relations. Each part is made up of several studies. Part I deals with the reception in England of the works of Maciej Kazimierz Sarbiewski, a Polish poet of the first half of the 17th century who wrote in Latin. He is known in the British Isles as Casimir. The author presents the attitude of English 17th and 18th century poets to Sarbiewski (references to the subjects he raised, paraphrases, translation into English). He also analyses the articles on the Polish poet published in the periodical "Classical Journal" in 1814-1822, and Sarbiewski's texts in anthologies of new-Latin poetry published in 1979-1989. Part II is more versatile and is devoted to Poland as a subject discussed in the British Isles at the end of the 18th and in the early 19th centuries. The next inextensive part is a collection of studies concerning minor questions, such as Byron's letter kept in the Voivodship Library in Opole and a poem on Poland recited by an English school girl in 1941. The last part of the book is devoted to English, American and Polish scholarly links connected with studies on the Polish and English languages. (EO)

Barbara Szymczak, *Działalność dyplomacji brandenburskiej w okresie bezkrólewia w Rzeczypospolitej w 1648 (The Activity of Brandenburgian Diplomacy during the 1648 Interregnum in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth)*, "Przegląd Historyczny" (Warszawa), vol. LXXXIX, № 1, pp. 25-48.

The study is based mainly on published materials which are supplemented by records from Geheimtes Staatsarchiv Berlin-Dahlem. During the interregnum after the death of Ladislaus IV, Brandenburg, ruined by the Thirty Years War, was in no position to make demands on the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth from a position of strength. Nevertheless, the elector Frederick-William had concrete aims in view and intended to achieve them by taking advantage of the rivalry for the throne between the brothers of the deceased King, and of the weakening of the Commonwealth by the Chmielnicki rising which broke out in 1648. Like his predecessors, Frederick-William wanted the Brandenburg electors to be granted the right to sit in the Polish Senate as Prussian dukes, and also put forward new demands and proposals. His efforts to win the support of the Polish Protestant nobles failed, and the Lutheran towns in Royal Prussia also rejected the proposal to co-operate with the elector during the interregnum. Frederick-William tried to make use of the Primate's request for military help, recruit troops in the Duchy of Prussia and send them to Poland at her expense. But this was disapproved by the Prussian Estates and aroused fears among the Polish nobility. The elector took the side of John Casimir at the beginning of the interregnum and through his adherents tried to influence the nobility in Great Poland. The new king repaid this service by relieving the elector from paying homage in person, but the elector did not gain the right to elect the king. (EO)

Krystyna Zienkowska, *Stanisław August Poniatowski (Stanislaus Augustus Poniatowski)*, Wrocław 1998, Wydawnictwo Ossolineum, 416 pp., illustr., index of persons.

This is a biography of Poland's last King, Stanislaus Augustus Poniatowski (1764-1795), presented against a wide background of Polish-Lithuanian history and the state of political forces in Europe. The book is arranged chronologically. The author portrays the childhood of the future King, who came from a magnatial family which had just acquired a high political, social and financial position; Zienkowska presents Stanislaus Augustus' family, his education in Poland and abroad, and his links with Freemasonry. She describes the political system of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth and the political parties under Augustus III Wettin (the 1740s and 1750s), and against this background presents the position of the Poniatowski family, which was linked with the Czartoryskis' faction, the so-called Family, a group which aspired to carry out reforms in the crisis-stuck



Polish-Lithuanian state. These plans influenced the political stance of the future King's father. The author analyses Stanislaus Augustus' stay in St. Petersburg and his liaison with the Empress Catherine II. The political future of the young Poniatowski was determined by his love affair with Catherine and the fact that his Czartoryski cousins were ready to co-operate with Russia to carry out their plans of reforms and assume power in Poland. For Catherine Poniatowski became an ideal candidate to the Polish throne when Augustus III Wettin died in 1763. The author presents the beginning of Stanislaus Augustus' reign, the first reforms, his political separation from the Czartoryskis, his attempts to free himself from control and the first partition of Poland. Whereas the monarch succeeded in becoming independent of his powerful Czartoryski cousins, he did not manage to escape from Russian tutelage until the beginning of the 1790s. Russia's involvement in the war with Turkey made it possible for the Four Years Sejm (1788-1792) to carry out a great programme of reforms, topped with the Constitution of May 3, 1791. The defeat of Polish forces in the war with Russia in 1792 sealed the Commonwealth's fate. Zienkowska emphasises that Stanislaus Augustus reigned in an extremely difficult period; the economic situation of the state was tragic and the plans of reforms provoked an armed intervention of the country's strongest neighbour, Russia. The King did not lack good will and was ready to act to raise the Polish-Lithuanian state from its decline. But his endeavours ended in his personal defeat and the final fall of the state. Not without blame was the political opposition which did not hesitate to betray Poland's interests but, as the author emphasises, Stanislaus Augustus Poniatowski acquired the throne with the help of Russian forces and throughout his reign was stigmatised as Russia's friend. (EO)

*Zmierzch kultury staropolskiej. Ciągłość i kryzysy (wieki XVII-XIX) (The Decline of Old Polish Culture. Continuity and Crises, 17th-19th Centuries)*, eds Urszula Augustyniak and Adam Karpiński, Warszawa 1997, Wydawnictwo Naukowe Semper, 134 pp., Index of persons.

The texts in the volume are the fruit of a conference organised in Warsaw in 1995 by the Institute of Literary Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences and the Historical Institute of Warsaw University. The objective of the conference was to compare the opinions of researchers representing various branches of the humanities on the turning points in the development of old Polish culture and to establish whether there was any correspondence in the continuance of old Polish legacy in the individual fields of social life from the end of the 17th to the 19th century.

Wojciech Kriegseisen who writes about some questions concerning Polish culture at the turn of the 17th century denies that the breakdown of some principles of old Polish policy can be unequivocally linked to Enlightenment trends; Barbara Przybyszewska-Jarmuńska criticises the use of the term "old Polish music" with reference to the 17th century music of the Commonwealth where all kinds and styles of European Baroque music were practised. Andrzej B. Zakrzewski analyses the functioning of relics of old Polish law in the three partition zones. Marek Prejs characterises the elements of continuity and crisis of the old Polish epoch, evident in late Baroque literature. Marta Leśniakowska discusses old Polish and new Polish architecture, taking the Polish manor house as an example. (AK)

## 19th CENTURY (till 1918)

*Dwór polski w XIX wieku. Zjawisko historyczne i kulturowe (The Polish Manor-House in the 19th Century. An Historical and Cultural Phenomenon)*,

Warszawa 1998, Wydawnictwo Stowarzyszenia Historyków Sztuki, 341 pp., illustr.

These are materials from the Fourth Seminar of the Association of Art Historians, organised in Kielce in October 1997 and devoted to noblemen's and landowners' abodes, a question which is attracting the attention of scholars of various disciplines. In the 19th century the manor-house played a specific role as a cultural phenomenon, as a centre of Polish intellectual life; it performed various economic, social and culture-building functions, frequently replacing the structures of the non-existent Polish state. In the introductory article entitled *Who Should Deal with Manor-Houses and Why?*, L. Kajzer points out the possibilities of research work for historians of architecture, experts in art collections and libraries amassed by Polish landowners before World War II, and also for historians of learning and scholars interested in social relations. The volume also includes articles on the role of manor-houses in cultivating and promoting Polish traditions in various regions of the country, e.g. in Great Poland (A. Łuczak, *Works of Art and Libraries in Manor-Houses in Great Poland in the 19th and 20th Centuries*, pp. 77-98), in the eastern borderland (T. Epsztein, *Intellectual and Cultural Life in Landowners' Manor-Houses in Volhynia, Podolia and Ukraine in the Second Half of the 19th Century*, pp. 185-202) and in Central Poland, in particular in the Kielce region. The participants in the seminar also discussed some detailed questions, such as the spatial arrangement of manor-houses, unknown collections of works of art (especially portraits and photographs) and diverse valuable libraries, as well as aesthetic and legal questions connected with the restoration of manor-houses retrieved by their owners in the last few years. (MM)

Tadeusz Epsztein, *Edukacja dzieci i młodzieży w polskich rodzinach ziemiańskich na Wołyniu, Podolu i Ukrainie w II poł. XIX wieku (The Education of Children and Youth in Polish Landowning Families in Volhynia, Podolia and Ukraine in the Second Half of the 19th Century)*, Warszawa 1998, Wydawnictwo DiG i Instytut Historii PAN, 233 pp., index of persons, bibliogr., illustr., tables.

Surrounded by the non-Polish Ukrainian element and faced with the hostile attitude of the Russian authorities, the Polish landowning class in the former eastern borderland of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth considered it their primary task in the 19th century to retain their land and Polish possessions. Their public activities were subordinated to the defence of national property and identity; this duty also influenced the landowners' private life. Epsztein shows that it also determined the education of the younger generation. In the landowning families in the borderland stress was laid on domestic education; teachers and tutors were carefully chosen and great attention was paid to foreign language teaching. After being taught at home, boys from landowning families attended secondary schools, usually state, that is, Russian ones, but they were also frequently sent to German schools in Courland or Polish ones in Galicia; girls were sent to the Polish Kingdom and Galicia, where the number of private schools for girls was steadily rising. University studies were the last stage of education as far as boys were concerned; the parents chose universities all over Europe for their sons, but most willingly German ones (e.g. at Dorpat). From the end of the 19th century more and more young people attended universities and the previously popular law studies began to be replaced by agricultural ones. The young landowners frequently did not bother to get a university degree and in their later life they often engaged in work which had nothing in common with their studies; in the 19th and early 20th centuries landowners in the eastern borderland were frequently amateur archeologists, ethnographers, meteorologists and chemists. As a result, says Epsztein, it was, to a large extent, thanks to the education system

that Polish national and cultural identity survived, but the price paid was the isolation of landowners from the outside world.

The book is based on handwritten sources from Polish and Ukrainian archives and libraries and on printed publications. It ends with a list of Polish students from the landowning families in Volhynia, Podolia and Ukraine who studied at European universities in 1864–1914. (MM)

*Historia Gdańska (A History of Gdańsk)*, vol. IV/1 1815–1920, ed. Edmund Cieślak, Sopot 1998, Wydawnictwo Lex, 536 pp., illustr., maps.

This successive volume of a five-volume edition comprises texts by J. Ciemnołoński, W. Gruszkowski, A. Romanow, E. Włodarczyk, J. Stanięwicz and B. Czyżak. The first part of vol. IV presents the history of Gdańsk from the Congress of Vienna to the Versailles Treaty which separated Gdańsk from East Prussia and Poland and created the Free City of Danzig. The authors describe the political history and position of the city when it was part of the Prussian state (up to 1871) and the German Empire (1871–1920), laying stress on its territorial and demographic development and its enormous economic progress during that period. The shipbuilding industry, shipping and commerce had traditionally played the leading role in the city's economy; the rapid development and modernisation of these branches turned Gdańsk into one of Europe's main ports at the threshold of the 20th century. Much place in the book has been devoted to social and nationality changes (the rapidly increasing predominance of the German population, the weakening of the traditional patriciate) which exerted an influence on the city's development. The picture of Gdańsk society in 1871–1920 is particularly vivid and multidimensional; it presents the art and culture of the city and its inhabitants as well as the everyday life of various strata of the population. Very interesting is the section dealing with art in Gdańsk at the turn of the 19th century; on the one hand the city maintained its tradition of a prominent old artistic centre and on the other, it adopted the trends that were in fashion in Western Europe; but art in Gdańsk also reflected the growing nationalistic feelings and became a tool of political propaganda. (MM)

Wacław Jędrzejewicz, Janusz Cisek, *Kalendarium życia Józefa Piłsudskiego 1867–1935 (The Calendar of Józef Piłsudski's Life 1867–1935)*, vols. I–III, 2nd Polish enlarged and revised ed., Warszawa 1998, Oficyna Wydawnicza Rytm, 524+568+520 pp., illustr.

A calendar of Józef Piłsudski's life compiled by Wacław Jędrzejewicz and published for the first time in London in 1977; it is a chronological specification of information, documents and accounts concerning Piłsudski's public activity. The materials in the book come from archives (Polish and foreign), memoirs and accounts (some of them unpublished), the press, documents, texts written by Piłsudski, etc. If some items are contradictory or the interpretations of some events differ, the authors compare the texts, appraising and verifying them in accordance with present-day historical knowledge.

The present edition differs from the London one in that it also refers to sources kept in Polish archives and private collections in Poland and to domestic literature inaccessible to Wacław Jędrzejewicz. The second Polish edition takes into account the latest studies on this subject (from the years 1993–1997). (WM)

Jacek Kolbuszewski, *Literatura wobec historii. Studia (Literature and History. Studies)*, Wrocław 1997, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego, 266 pp., Index of persons, illustr., Acta Universitatis Vratislaviensis № 1972.

The articles in the book concern questions on the borderline between history of literature and history. The author presents the role of literature in the creation of Polish political and historical myths in the 19th and 20th centuries; most

attention has been paid to the independence myth co-created and spread by literature during the partition period and after Poland's rebirth in 1918. The author also analyses the picture of the Poles' national character in belles lettres in the 19th and 20th centuries. In a separate study Kolbuszewski discusses an iconographic work, namely, the famous cycle of Artur Grottger's drawings from 1861 and the January Rising of 1863–1864; Grottger depicted in them the ideas of Romantic poetry, and the cycle itself shaped the Poles' aesthetic and literary imagination in the following century. The texts are supplemented by the author's reflections on the importance of literature in the historian's work and the place of literature in Polish historiography. Another study deals with the East and Russian culture in the eyes of Poles in the 19th and 20th centuries, especially in comparison with the myth of the West, especially of France and Paris. The last text concerns the period after World War II; the author reconstructs the post-war visions of a cultural integration of Poles and Germans in the Recovered Territories, visions which were formulated in the Katowice periodical "Odra" in 1945–1946. (MM)

Jarosław Krawczyk, *Jan Matejko. Mistrz Legendy św. Stanisława (Jan Matejko. The Master of St. Stanislaus' Legend)*, Warszawa 1998, Fundacja Res Publica, 157 pp., illustr., Series: Polskie obrachunki na koniec milennium.

In this brilliantly written book the author reappraises the opinion about Poland's most popular historical painter. Many events from Poland's history are kept in the Poles' minds in the shape and colours given them by Jan Matejko in the second half of the 19th century. In the opinion of art historians and the public, Matejko sought to warm up the hearts of his fellow countrymen when Poland was under foreign rule; the general view is that he painted his large canvases showing Polish victories and sublime moments from the country's history in order to remind the Poles of their past greatness and raise their spirits. With this end in view he studied historical books (in particular Jan Długosz's 15th century chronicle) and presented the events on the canvas.

The author agrees that his hero did have a well thought-out programme, but in his view Matejko's keynote was different. In Krawczyk's opinion Matejko's paintings embodied the ideas of the Cracow conservatives, their conviction that the Poles themselves were responsible for the fall of their country and that consequently they should first try to improve, wipe out the national faults and raise their ethical standards. It was Szujski, the most prominent of Cracow's historians, who exerted the greatest influence on Matejko. Krawczyk argues that Matejko often transformed the historian's reflections into painting. The author's brilliant analysis of Matejko's works leads him to conclude that the painter was an anti-Semite and that he disliked the revolutionary ideas and Western liberalism imported from France. In Krawczyk's interpretation, Matejko was not a glorifier of the nation's greatness but a stern teacher who pointed out the Poles' defects and negligence throughout the centuries; a vivid impersonation of this programme is the figure of St. Stanislaus present in many of Matejko's important paintings. (MM)

Leszek Kuberski, *Stanisław Szczepanowski 1846–1900. Przemysłowiec. Polityk. Publicysta (Stanisław Szczepanowski 1846–1900. Industrialist. Politician. Publicist)*, Opole 1997, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Opolskiego, 214 pp., index of persons, bibliogr., illustr., sum. in German and English, Studia i Monografie № 239.

A biography of one of the most prominent personalities of the period when, after the fall of the January 1863 rising, the Poles were reappraising their national ideas and looking for new spheres of activity. Stanisław Szczepanowski was a versatile man who impressed his stamp in various fields: he was a political activist

close to rightwing circles, a writer and publicist, an ideologist, a propagator of the idea of progress and industrialisation and a pioneer of modern industry in Galicia. In four chapters Kuberski presents Szczepanowski's youth, the rise of the oil industry in Austrian Poland, Szczepanowski's political activities, his bankruptcy, trial and premature death. Szczepanowski's successes and setbacks show how politics and economy were intertwined in autonomous Galicia, a poor backward region ruled partly from the imperial capital, Vienna, and partly from Lwów. In these conditions Szczepanowski's endeavours to build industry in Galicia were a national act aimed at strengthening the Polish element in Galicia and consolidating Galicia's status in Austria-Hungary.

Kuberski reveals unknown facts in Szczepanowski's biography and acknowledges that he played an important role in Polish history in the second half of the 19th century.

The author has made use of various sources; he is the first to have used family records and materials kept in Polish libraries (especially the Cracow and the Ossolineum libraries) and materials from Viennese archives. (MM)

Janusz Maciejewski, *Obszary i konteksty literatury (The Scope and Contexts of Literature)*, Warszawa 1998, Wydawnictwo DiG, 236 pp., index of persons.

This is a collection of valuable interdisciplinary studies dealing with broadly conceived Polish culture from the period of Sarmatism to the inter-war years. The volume opens with an essay on the category of generational culture in literary research. Maciejewski also deals with incidental and applied literature, leaflets and feuilletons, from the 17th-18th centuries to the works of Bolesław Prus. Several interesting articles present the background of literary activity, that is, literary criticism, the institutions and mechanism of literary life, readers, author-reader relationships, the position of literature in the state and society, and the mechanism of censorship. A separate section deals with the gradual development of the knowledge of literature during the inter-war period.

The most interesting texts concern the specific topography of Polish culture. The author discusses the phenomenon of the Polish-Ukrainian-Byelorussian borderland in the Sarmatian literature of the 17th and 18th centuries and Poland's cultural geography in the second half of the 19th century. Three essays are devoted to emigré literature. Maciejewski presents a tentative balance-sheet of the profits and losses caused by emigration from Polish territories from the 17th to the 20th century; he also shows this problem from the point of view of individuals, emphasising that exile gave emigrés an unusual opportunity to observe an alien, richer world, an opportunity which was inaccessible to the Poles in Poland. Another subject discussed by the author is the "little emigration" of the years 1864-1914, a specific phenomenon which is frequently underestimated because of comparisons with the Great Emigration which took place after the November 1830 rising. The group that left Poland after the January 1863 rising lacked personalities of the calibre of the great Romantic poets; moreover, many of the emigration's tasks were taken over by autonomous Galicia, but the "little emigration" maintained much closer ties with Poland than the Great Emigration did. Maciejewski's book reveals new aspects of Polish culture of the last few centuries or infuses new blood into well known questions; it will be appreciated by all readers interested in various spheres of the humanities. (MM)

Adam Mickiewicz w oczach Francuzów (*Adam Mickiewicz in the Eyes of the French*), selected, edited and prefaced by Zofia Mitosek, translated by Remigłusz Forycki, Warszawa 1999, Wydawnictwo Naukowe PWN, 448 pp., index of persons.

An extensive and competently compiled selection of more than 100 French pronouncements and commentaries on the Polish poet, who lived in Paris for over

twenty years, was an unquestionable leader of the Polish emigrés and lectured at the Collège de France in 1828–1844. The anthology comprises opinions expressed in 1828–1898 (commemoration of the centenary of the poet's birth) and several articles written in the 20th century, among them a text by the author of Mickiewicz's monument in Paris, Émile-Antoine Bourdelle, and remarks made in connection with the first artistic translation of *Forefathers' Eve* into French in 1934. The selection presents reviews of the poet's works, opinions by prominent representatives of French culture who were Mickiewicz's contemporaries, including George Sand, Charles Augustin Sainte-Beuve, Edgar Quinet, Charles de Montalembert and Jules Michelet, as well as press notes and police reports. Police surveillance over the inconvenient emigré tightened as France was moving closer and closer to Russia and also because of Mickiewicz's increasingly radical stance. The poet's anti-clerical, messianistic, mystical expostulations were disapproved by French commentators and aroused the distrust of the police. The texts included in the book show that representatives of the two nations frequently failed to understand each other. The statements by Victor Hugo, Ernest Renan and Maurice Barrès were made during commemorative events held on the occasion of the centenary of Mickiewicz's birth (1898). They show how commentators representing different ideological and political views usurped the right to the great poet's legacy; organisers of the commemorative events in Poland acted likewise. The book also includes texts written by Louis Le Guillou and Daniel Beauvois in 1990.

In the introduction Mitosek briefly presents controversies over Mickiewicz and his achievements in France. The French version of the book was published in 1992 by PWN and CNRS Editions under the title *Adam Mickiewicz aux yeux des Français*. (MM)

Wacława Milewska, Janusz Tadeusz Nowak, Marta Zientara. *Legiony polskie 1914–1918. Zarys historii militarnej i politycznej (The Polish Legions 1914–1918. An Outline of Their Military and Political History)*, Kraków 1998, Muzeum Historyczne Miasta Krakowa, Księgarnia Akademicka Wydawnictwo Naukowe, 348 pp., maps, illustr.

The Polish Legions were voluntary formations set up at the side of the Austro-Hungarian army after the outbreak of World War I; they took part in the fighting on the Russian front. The First and Third Brigades of the Legions were disbanded in 1917 when they refused to take the Austrian military oath. The Second Brigade forced its way through the front-line to the east on hearing that the Central Powers had concluded a separate peace with Ukraine.

The Legions' exploits are invested with legends which have influenced the Poles' attitude to the history of World War I and the struggle for independence. The book reconstructs the Legions' combat route. The authors have devoted much space to everyday life in war-time conditions and the experiences of individual soldiers in and outside the battle-fields. This has enabled them to show the specific character of people-to-people relations and the atmosphere in the Legions. The publication includes 160 photographs showing portraits of members of the Polish Legions and scenes from their life; some of the photographs have never been published before.

The book is fruit of studies conducted by employees of Cracow's Historical Museum in connection with preparations for the opening of an exhibition devoted to the Polish Legions (Cracow 1988). (WM)

*Mniejszości narodowe i wyznaniowe na Pomorzu w XIX i XX w. (National and Religious Minorities in Pomerania in the 19th and 20th Centuries)*, ed. Mieczysław Wojciechowski, Toruń 1998, Wyd. Uniwersytetu Mikołaja Kopernika, 292 pp., indexes, sum. In German.

This is a collective work showing the complex ethnic relations in Pomerania under Prussian rule, in independent Poland in 1920–1939 and after 1945. In an essay *Poles and German in West Prussia in the 19th and Early 20th Centuries* (pp. 7–20), K. Wajda presents two intertwined trends which as time went on gave rise to increasingly sharp conflicts: the growing national integration and the intensification of the anti-Polish line by the Prussian authorities. M. Chamot makes use of the Polish press in Pomerania to show that resentments and prejudices grew at the end of the 19th century (*Ethnic Stereotypes in the Polish Press in Pomerania at the Turn of the 19th Century*, pp. 39–47). Z.H. Nowak draws attention to the necessity of conducting studies on the Jewish community which constituted the third important element of the Pomeranian population (*A History of Jews in Pomerania. The State of Research and Proposals for Further Studies*, pp. 23–36). A few authors discuss the question of national minorities in Pomerania in inter-war Poland; M. Wojciechowski and H.D. von Enzberg deal with the German minority, Z. Karpus with the Russian and Ukrainian minorities. A separate place has been devoted to religious problems, especially religious relations in the Polish army in 1920–1939 and to the status and internal situation of the Lutheran Church in the Second Republic. The book ends with two articles by R. Studziński and M. Golon who discuss the situation of the inhabitants of Pomerania after World War II, both those who remained in their native land and those who decided to emigrate to Germany. (MM)

Ludwik Mrocza, *Spór o Galicję Wschodnią 1914–1923 (Dispute over Eastern Galicia 1914–1923)*, Kraków 1998, Wydawnictwo Naukowe WSP, Wyższa Szkoła Pedagogiczna im. Komisji Edukacji Narodowej w Krakowie, 225 pp., sum. in English, Prace Monograficzne № 242.

In the first part of his book the author examines the religious, linguistic and ethnic structure of Eastern Galicia and points out that none of the nationalities living there could claim to be the only host of the region. The Ukrainian population outnumbered the Poles but the latter accounted for over a quarter of the total population and predominated in the social structure and in political life. This created the basis for an open Polish–Ukrainian conflict which grew in strength on the eve of, and during, the First World War. The disintegration of Austria–Hungary opened the question of Eastern Galicia's national status. In order to prevent the region from being incorporated into the Polish state, the Ukrainian national movement proclaimed the establishment of the West Ukrainian People's Republic, which in January 1919 united with the Ukrainian People's Republic. The counteraction of the Polish side led to the Polish–Ukrainian war which ended in the Ukrainians' military defeat. After attempts at mediation, the Western powers decided to recognise Poland's claims to Eastern Galicia; this was confirmed in the decision of the Council of Ambassadors in Paris in March 1923. But the military and diplomatic decisions did not end the conflict. The Ukrainian national movement did not recognise the legality of Polish rule over the disputed territory. It resorted to various measures, including conspiratorial military activities, to abolish Polish rule. The Polish–Ukrainian conflict was one of the most important problems of the Second Republic.

The book is based on archival materials of the authorities of the Second Republic, political writings, the press and literature devoted to this question. (WM)

Jerzy Potoczny, *Oświata dorosłych i popularyzacja wiedzy w plebejskich środowiskach Galicji doby konstytucyjnej 1867–1918 (Adult Education and Popularisation of Knowledge in Galician Plebeian Circles during the Constitutional Period 1867–1918)*, Rzeszów 1998, Wydawnictwo Wyższej Szkoły Pedagogicznej, 331 pp., bibliogr., index of persons, illustr., annexes, series: Galicja i jej dziedzictwo, vol. 10.

The author depicts the civilisational advance of rural areas in Galicia when that part of Poland enjoyed a relatively broad autonomy within the Habsburg monarchy. In the 19th and 20th centuries Galicia was a populous region with a predominance of rural population; its population consisted of three nationalities: Poles (nearly 46 per cent of the population in 1900), Ukrainians (42.5 per cent) and Jews (about 11 per cent). At the beginning of the period under review more than 70 per cent of the inhabitants were illiterate. But the 1860s saw the establishment of many educational, cultural and economic societies whose task was to spread education and learning among adults. The author describes the theory and, above all, the practice of popular education among Poles and Ukrainians against the European background. The initiative was usually taken by intelligentsia of middle-class origin, Catholic and Uniate clergymen and students, but at the end of the 19th century peasants and workers began to play an increasingly important role. Potoczny depicts changes in the programmes of these societies (at first stress was laid on general, and later on specialised, education), the forms of their activity (publications, reading rooms, courses, community centres, theatres, etc.) and the methods of cultural and educational work. The aim of these manifold activities among Poles and Ukrainians was to bring them social, political and national freedom and, in consequence, also state freedom. The years 1867–1918 witnessed a clash between different concepts of adult education or, of work among people; this was a result of the different views held by the organisers and also of the educational policy of the Austrian and domestic authorities. In conclusion the author says that these different forms of extra-school education helped to shape and develop the Poles' and Ukrainians' national consciousness, patriotic attitudes and cultural identity; as a result of this 50-year work, the Polish and Ukrainian communities in Galicia took an active stand during World War I. The annexes include a list of Polish and Ukrainian literature for the common people. (MM)

Paweł Styk, *Kolej nadwiślańska 1874–1877. Techniczne, społeczne i gospodarcze problemy wielkiej inwestycji* (*The Vistula Railway. The Technological, Social and Economic Problems of a Great Investment Project*), "Kwartalnik Historii Kultury Materialnej", (Warszawa) vol. XLV, 1997, № 2, pp. 187–213, sum. in English, map, illustr.

The article presents the history of the construction of the Mława–Warsaw–Kowel railway, called the Vistula railway; it was built on the initiative of Jan Bloch by an association of capital which included Leopold Kronenberg. The author depicts in detail the endeavours to gain St. Petersburg's consent to the construction, the question of amassing the necessary capital, disputes over the route, and the complications which arose when the association started buying the grounds through which the railway was to run. He then presents the successive stages of the construction work, the engineers employed in the work, the organisation of work and the workers' working conditions. The route of the railway is shown on a map; photographs of the period show the most important bridges, viaducts and stations. Styk also describes the problems encountered during the exploitation of the line; the tracks were of poor quality because of the speed of construction; breakdowns and derailments, followed by repair work, were frequent. In the summing up the author says that the Vistula Railway disappointed the military and economic hopes placed in it. Freight traffic was slack because of the composition of the Warsaw–Terespól and Brzesko–Grajewo lines, and World War I showed that the new line was ill adapted to military purposes. But until the First World War and even later passenger traffic was relatively high on the Vistula Railway; its construction enlivened economic life on the eastern bank of the Vistula, in Mazovia and the Lublin region.

The article is based on documents of the Provincial Government in Lublin and the Chancellery of the Governor of Lublin, kept in the State Archives in Lublin, and also on printed documents and the press. (MM)



Bogdan Szlachta, *Conservatyzm. Z dziejów tradycji myślenia o polityce (Conservatism. The Tradition of Political Thought)*, Kraków-Warszawa 1998, Wydawnictwo Dante Ararat, 294 pp., index of persons.

The book consists of two complementary parts. The first, *Conservatism. The European Tradition of Political Thought* (pp. 17–160), depicts the history of this political and intellectual formation in Europe from the French Revolution to the second half of the 20th century, special attention being paid to the history of conservative thought in Great Britain (and to the unquestionable patron of European conservatives, Edmund Burke), in Germany, France and Spain, and also in the United States. In the second part of the book entitled *Conservatism and Polish Policy* (pp. 161–237), the author depicts the meanders of conservative thought in Poland. Polish conservatism was born at the end of the 18th century as a reaction to the radical political changes introduced by the Constitution of May 3rd (1791). The partitions which followed soon afterwards put the Polish conservative thought in an extremely difficult situation: the defenders of social and political order had no choice but to support the partitioners' regimes, the rule imposed by Russia, Austria and Prussia. Szlachta emphasises the role played by national risings — especially the peasant rebellion of 1846, the Springtide of Nations of 1848 and the January Rising of 1863 — in the development of Polish conservative thought. The disputes with irredentist ideas, held after 1864, led to a reappraisal of Polish tradition and frequently resulted in the conservatives' co-operation with the governments of the partitioning powers. The final chapters present Polish conservatism in the inter-war period and after 1945 when this current was, at least officially, pushed to the background of the Polish political scene. Having analysed two centuries of conservative thought in Poland, the author comes to the conclusion that its authors and propagators were pragmatic men who, despite changing political conditions, knew how to build cohesive thought systems and implement practical programmes free of ideological dogmatism. (MM)

Robert Traba, *Czynnik akulturacji — przyczyna antagonizmu — sposób na życie? Południowa granica Prus Wschodnich jako element kształtowania się tożsamości Mazurów i ich polskich sąsiadów w wiekach XIX i XX (An Aculturation Factor — the Reason for the Antagonism — A Way of Life? East Prussia's Southern Border as an Element Shaping the Identity of the Mazurians and Their Polish Neighbours in the 19th and 20th Centuries)*. "Kultura i Społeczeństwo", (Warszawa) vol. XLII, 1998, № 3, pp. 69–84.

The border between the Polish Kingdom or Poland and East Prussia did not change from 1815 until the end of World War I and even until 1938, save for a few corrections introduced by the Treaty of Versailles: it finally disappeared from the map in 1945. It divided Mazovia into the Prussian part inhabited mostly by Protestant Mazurians and the Catholic Polish Mazovia with the Kurpie region. Three important socio-cultural processes took place there: aculturation, the rise of national and religious antagonisms, and the creation of a specific way of life in the immediate vicinity of a culturally alien society. A lively transfer of culture existed in this region for nearly one and a half century; it was promoted by legal seasonal economic emigration, illegal emigration in search of work, smuggling, and pilgrimages to St. Mary's sanctuaries in East Prussia. Until the end of the 1860s people from East Prussia migrated to the Kingdom for good or for seasonal work; from the 1870s on many more people migrated from the Polish Kingdom to East Prussia (detailed data are not available). Despite these contacts, aculturation was limited, mainly because of growing economic disproportions and the interference of the authorities. In the 19th century antagonism was relatively weak in the borderland, but tension increased considerably after World War I. A negative image of the German and his adherent, the Jew, gained ground on the Polish side; the spirit of a border fortress, stimulated by fear of Poland, prevailed on the

Prussian side. But throughout that period the border gave the population a chance of legal, and especially illegal, earnings; smuggling was an accepted occupation (at least until the end of World War I). Mutual enmity sprang rather from economic competition and the market than from ideology. When the border was liquidated in 1945, two alien cultures clashed and the borderland world practically disappeared. (MM)

Zofia Trojanowiczowa, *Organizator narodowej wyobraźni (Inspirer of the National Imagination)*, pp. 9–24, Jerzy Fiećko, *Rosja w prelekcjach paryskich Adama Mickiewicza (Russia in Adam Mickiewicz's Paris Lectures)*, pp. 179–204, Przemysław Matusik, *Mickiewicz w konserwatywnych polemikach lat 1848–1855 (Mickiewicz in Conservative Polemics in 1848–1855)*, pp. 315–340, in: *Księga Mickiewiczowska. Patronowi uczelni w dwusetną rocznicę urodzin 1798–1998*, eds Zofia Trojanowiczowa and Zbigniew Przychodniak, Poznań 1998, Wydawnictwo Naukowe UAM, 534 pp., index of persons, illustr.

These are three of the 24 articles included in a publication brought out by Poznań University to commemorate the bicentenary of the poet's birth. Trojanowiczowa depicts Mickiewicz's influence on the Poles' collective identity and their patriotic and aesthetic canons, and shows the role he played in creating the Polish pantheon and inspiring the national imagination. She says that the poet's role cannot be overestimated. The permanent presence of his poetry and historical philosophy has been documented in literary sources and in the diaries and letters of 19th century Poles of various outlooks, even those far removed from Romanticism. J. Fiećko presents a subject which has so far been practically ignored, namely, the Russian and Slavic questions in Mickiewicz's lectures at the Collège de France (1840–1844) as well as Andrzej Towiański's influence on the poet's views at that time and the delicate question of the letter Mickiewicz sent to Tsar Nicholas I in 1844. A mystical belief in the Slavs' role and the conviction that the western world was torn by internal contradictions led the Polish poet to the brink of national treason; this is what many Polish emigrés accused him of in 1844. Matusik's article reconstructs the role played by Mickiewicz's works and personality in Polish conservative thought from the Springtide of Nations to the poet's death, a period which was of decisive importance for the formation of Polish conservative élites. Despite the seemingly unbridgeable ideological gap, the great poet was for them a point of reference, a source of ideological inspiration, a *genius*. The other articles in the volume analyse Mickiewicz's poems and his cult in Poland (especially in the Poznań region) in the 19th and 20th centuries. (MM)

Alina Witkowska, *Równieśnicy Mickiewicza. Życiorys jednego pokolenia (Mickiewicz's Coevals. Curriculum vitae of a Generation)*, Warszawa 1998, Oficyna Wydawnicza Rytm, Instytut Badań Literackich PAN, 2nd ed., 390 pp., index of persons, illustr., series: Zrozumieć Mickiewicza.

The author presents a group portrait of Adam Mickiewicz's coevals and friends who were linked by common interests and a common fate. This extraordinary generation is represented in the book by Tomasz Zan, Jan Czeczot, Jan Witkiewicz, Ignacy Domeyko and Onufry Pietraszkiewicz. They were all born soon after the last partition of Poland; in their childhood or early youth they witnessed Napoleon's Russian campaign and afterwards studied in Wilno. Witkowska depicts the successive stages of their active life until the trial of members of the Philomatic Society (secret student organisation) in 1823; this was the most dramatic moment which meant the political death of this generation. The book shows the "spiritual experiences" of these young people up to that dramatic moment. Witkowska portrays the milieu of the petty nobility of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania from which they descended, Wilno during the first few decades of the 19th century and, first and foremost, the Wilno University under the authority of

Adam J. Czartoryski, curator of the Wilno school district. A prominent professional staff guaranteed a high level of education and an exceptional intellectual atmosphere. Witkowska emphasises the influence of Joachim Lelewel on the outlook of Mickiewicz's coevals. She also describes their reading matter and their interests outside the University, the way they spent their spare time, and their contacts with Lithuanian villages. All these factors helped to form a group of young people who wanted to be above the average, who were not satisfied with the existing reality and endeavoured to change it through secret student organisations.

The average age of the defendants in the Philomatic Society trial was 25–26. The author argues that the further life of most of them — prison, exile, emigration, years spent in isolation from the challenges of the epoch — was but a wretched existence of broken people who cherished no hope and lived outside the pale. (MM)

Zbigniew Wójcik, *Karol Bohdanowicz. Szkic portretu badacza Azji (Karol Bohdanowicz. A Portrait Study of an Explorer of Asia)*, Warszawa-Wrocław 1997, "Biblioteka Zesłańca" i Państwowy Instytut Geologiczny, 410 pp., illustr., indexes, bibliogr., sum. in English and Russian.

This is a biography of Karol Bohdanowicz (1864–1947), a prominent geologist born to a Polish landowning family in the old eastern borderland of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. Bohdanowicz graduated from the Mining Institute in St. Petersburg and attained to a high position in the Russian civil service, winning renown as explorer of the Asian part of the Russian empire and lecturer at Russian universities. He conducted pioneering geological research in Siberia, the Caucasus, Persia and Tibet, was lecturer at St. Petersburg's Geological Institute, director of the Geological Committee, and consultant of oil companies; he distinguished himself as an efficient manager of research institutions. The work which he conducted for many years expanded the contemporaries' knowledge of the Asian part of the Russian empire (especially Siberia), helped to develop tourism and induced many young people to study natural science and technology. Born at the time of the defeat of the January 1863 rising, Bohdanowicz was never interested in politics; he was a loyal citizen of Russia but also a Pole who never renounced his roots. His career, a kind of counterbalance to the fate of Polish exiles to Siberia, was broken by the Bolshevik revolution. In 1919 Bohdanowicz came to Poland and his collections in St. Petersburg were lost. In Poland he became co-founder and collaborator of such leading institutions as the State Geological Institute in Warsaw and the Mining Academy in Cracow.

In his book Wójcik has made use of unknown sources and materials from the archives and libraries of Russia, Kazakhstan, Lithuania and Latvia, from Polish collections, in particular the Museum of the Earth of the Polish Academy of Sciences and the State Geological Institute in Warsaw, and the Mining and Metallurgical Academy in Cracow. (MM)

Radosław Paweł Żurawski vel Grajewski, *Wielka Brytania w "dyplomacji" księcia Adama Jerzego Czartoryskiego wobec kryzysu wschodniego (1832–1841) (Great Britain in Prince Adam Jerzy Czartoryski's Diplomacy during the Eastern Crisis, 1832–1841)*, Warszawa 1999, Wydawnictwo Naukowe Semper, 409 pp., bibliogr., indexes, maps.

The author presents the diplomatic activity conducted by the Hotel Lambert group, a conservative monarchical camp of the Polish post-November 1830 emigration rallied round Prince A.J. Czartoryski. When Polish exiles reached Western Europe after the defeat of the November 1830 rising, the Hotel Lambert group and its leader thought that it would be possible to rebuild an independent Polish state by taking advantage of Great Britain's conflicts with Russia. They intensified their activity especially during the Crimean War in 1853–1856. But they had resorted to diplomacy as early as 1832–1841, seeing the growing

Incompatibility of Russian and British interests in the Middle East, the Balkans and Asia. The most important event from this point of view was the Egyptian-Turkish conflict in 1832–1833. Czartoryski did not stop his diplomatic activity during the period of stability after 1833, doubling his efforts when the conflict sharpened after 1839. Separate chapters of the book deal with British, Russian and Polish activities in the Caucasus and the rivalry between Russia and Great Britain in Central Asia in 1832–1841.

The book is based mainly on sources connected with Czartoryski's camp from the Czartoryski Library in Cracow and other Polish libraries, and also from the Polish Library in Paris; the author also conducted research into the British and the emigré Polish press, which has not been fully used so far. (MM)

### MODERN TIMES (1919–1939)

Olaf Bergmann, *Narodowa Demokracja wobec problematyki żydowskiej 1918–1929 (The Attitude of National Democracy to the Jewish Question 1918–1929)*, Poznań 1998, Wyd. Poznańskie, 400 pp., sum. in German.

The author examines the opinions on Jews and Polish–Jewish relations expressed in the political writings of the broadly conceived nationalist camp in Poland. The Jews were represented in them as an alien hostile element endangering Poland's essential national interests. They were accused of deliberately opposing Polish national interests and the Polish state, of endeavouring to control the Polish economy and Polish social, political and cultural life. The Jews played the role of "enemy of the day", and the fight against them united all circles rallied round the national democratic movement. Since in 1918–1929 the publicists of the nationalist camp upheld the laws and the Polish political system, their proposals to reduce the role of Jews in Polish public, social and economic life did not provide for a curtailment of the rights of any group of Polish citizens.

The book is based on the daily press (e.g. "Gazeta Warszawska", "Kurier Poznański", "Słowo Pomorskie", "Dziennik Wileński", "Słowo Polskie"), socio-political periodicals ("Myśl Narodowa", "Przegląd Wszepolski") and publicistic writings. (WM)

Wiktor Tomir Drymmer, *W służbie Polsce (Service to Poland)*, Warszawa 1998, Warszawska Oficyna "Gryf", Instytut Historii Polskiej Akademii Nauk, 350 pp., illustr.

Wiktor Tomir Drymmer (1896–1975) was a scout, soldier of the First Brigade of Piłsudski's Legions and of the Polish Military Organisation; during the first few years of independence he was an officer of the counter-espionage service. In 1921–1927 he was Polish military attaché in Estonia. After leaving the army in 1929, he started working in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, at first in the Press Department; from 1931 until the outbreak of World War II he headed the Personnel Department. In 1933 he was also for some time head of the Personnel Bureau of the Council of Ministers. In 1933 he became head of the Consular Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. After the outbreak of the war he was evacuated to Romania together with the Foreign Ministry; from there he worked his way to Palestine. He was drafted into the Polish Army Units in the Middle East. Demobilised in 1947, he decided to stay abroad.

In his memoirs which he wrote in the last years of his life he presented a great deal of information showing the functioning of military espionage and counter-espionage and the work of diplomatic and consular services of the Second Republic. Very valuable are also his observations on the morals of that period, the mentality and behaviour of the people in power in Poland after 1926, and on the situation of the Polish authorities after they crossed the Romanian frontier in 1939.

The present edition of Drymmer's memoirs supplements the selected fragments published in "Zeszyty Historyczne" (1974–1975). (WM)

Andrzej Gulczyński, *Ministerstwo byłej Dzielnicy Pruskiej 1919–1922 (The Ministry of the Former Prussian Part of Poland 1919–1922)*, Poznań 1995, Wydawnictwo Poznańskiego Towarzystwa Przyjaciół Nauk, Wydział Historii i Nauk Społecznych, 250 pp., sum. in German, Prace Komisji Historycznej, vol. 50.

At the end of 1918 a Supreme People's Council was set up in Poznań; its executive organ, the Commissariat, became the nucleus of the Polish state apparatus in the territories which until that time had belonged to the Prussian state. When the Second Republic took over these territories, the structures of the Commissariat provided the basis for the Ministry of the Former Prussian Part of Poland. It was headed by Władysław Seyda, Władysław Kucharski, Jullusz Trzcirski and Józef Wybicki. The main task of the Ministry was to organise a Polish state apparatus and local government and to prepare the region for unification with the other parts of the country.

An opinion has been expressed in Polish historiography that the former territories of the Prussian state nourished separatist feelings and favoured separation from the other territories of the resurgent Polish state. Some historians have asserted that this was proved by the activity of the Ministry of the Former Prussian Part of Poland, which was under the predominant influence of local politicians. The author strongly opposes this view. He says that given the enormous differences in the administrative, legal and economic system, the period of adaptation which lasted only four years was extremely short. He also emphasises the loyalty of the successive ministers to the central authorities. Gulczyński holds a very high opinion of the Ministry's achievements.

The book is based on archival materials of the Ministry of the Former Prussian Part of Poland, the government, the local authorities and the press. (WM)

Marek Jabłonowski, *Sen o potęgę. Z dziejów byłych wojskowych w II Rzeczypospolitej 1918–1939 (Dreaming about Power. A History of Ex-Servicemen in the Second Republic 1918–1939)*, Olsztyn 1998, 356 pp., Rozprawy i Materiały Ośrodka Badań Naukowych im. Wojciecha Kętrzyńskiego w Olsztynie N° 173.

The Polish ex-servicemen's movement was greatly fragmented during the inter-war period. This was due to the fact that before the establishment of a regular Polish army Poles had served in the armies of the partitioning powers and in many voluntary formations linked to various political organisations. Competing ex-servicemen's organisations were set up in the first post-war years. At first, the most important was the Union of War Invalids of the Republic. In 1926–1929 a conflict arose between the Legion of the Republic, linked to the National Democratic Party, and the pro-Piłsudski Federation of Polish Unions of Defenders of the Motherland. The Federation, which enjoyed the support of the state administration and the army, carried the day. Although it subordinated an overwhelming majority of organisations to itself, the ex-servicemen's movement was not a uniform organisation. The ex-servicemen's organisations had more than 500,000 members at the end of the inter-war period. Despite its large membership, the movement did not play an important role in the political life of the Second Republic. It tried to organise financial aid and medical assistance for former soldiers and help them maintain the ties established during their service.

The book is based on documents from the archives of ex-servicemen's unions and the Polish army as well as on publications dealing with ex-servicemen's organisations. (WM)

Zenon Krajewski, *Polacy w Republice Litewskiej 1918–1940 (Poles in the Lithuanian Republic 1918–1940)*, Lublin 1998, Ośrodek Studiów Polonijnych i Społecznych Polskiego Związku Katolicko-Społecznego w Lublinie, 104 pp., annexes, illustr., maps.

The author estimates that there were some 200,000 Poles in the Lithuanian Republic in the inter-war period i.e. about 10 per cent of the total population. Most of them earned their living as farmers; a relatively large group of intelligentsia, merchants and businessmen lived in Kaunas. The attitude of the Lithuanian authorities to the Polish national group was influenced by the high proportion of Poles among large landowners and by the open conflict between the Lithuanian Republic and Poland over the Vilnius region. The Poles were regarded as a group potentially hostile to the Lithuanian state. It was especially at the beginning of the inter-war period and in 1927–1938 that the Polish national group met with administrative harassment and attacks by nationalist political groupings. According to the author, Polish landowners lost 800,000–900,000 hectares of land as a result of land reform and confiscations.

In 1919–1926 the Poles had a small parliamentary representation; later, their national interests were represented by the Central Board of the "Pochodnia" (Torch) Society for the Promotion of Polish Culture and Education in Lithuania. A Polish daily paper "Głos Kowieński" (it changed its name repeatedly) began to appear in Kaunas in 1919. The Poles had a small network of private primary schools and a few secondary schools. Several score Poles studied at Kaunas University. Until the end of the inter-war period the Polish community in Lithuania was a cohesive group aspiring to maintain close ties with Polish culture and the Polish state.

The book is based on unpublished reminiscences, literature and the Polish press in Lithuania. (WM)

Aleksandra Leinwand, *Sztuka w służbie utopii. O funkcjach politycznych i propagandowych sztuk plastycznych w Rosji Radzieckiej lat 1917–1922 (Art in the Service of a Utopia. The Political and Propaganda Functions of Visual Arts in Soviet Russia in 1917–1922)*, Warszawa 1998, Instytut Historii Polskiej Akademii Nauk. Mazowiecka Wyższa Szkoła Humanistyczno-Pedagogiczna w Łowiczu. Wydawnictwo Instytutu Historii Polskiej Akademii Nauk, 250 pp., illustr., sum. in English and Russian.

The author holds the view that propaganda and agitation made a major contribution to the victory and consolidation of Bolshevik power in Russia, but she emphasises that "they were weapons which only supplemented terror, violence and other Soviet methods". She analyses the attitude of the Bolshevik leadership to art and examines its decisions to set up a network of institutions whose main aim was to prepare and circulate various propaganda materials. She also analyses several hundred works of visual art which were created in Russia in 1917–1922 and used in the propaganda campaign of the Bolshevik party and later of the authorities of Soviet Russia. These were mainly posters, often published in 100,000 copies, artistic decorations made specially for various ceremonies and demonstrations, ceramics, etc. She points out that the artists made use of ideas characteristic of innovatory currents in art but they also drew inspiration from Russian folk culture and Russian history. This enabled them to create ideology-permeated works which were understandable to unsophisticated people. The works usually showed the ugliness of the enemy, exposed hostile plots and stressed the enemy's unavoidable defeat. On the other hand, they expressed approval for the revolutionary forces, the leaders of the revolution, for the strength and wisdom of the common people. Other works were intended to stimulate the desired attitude and activity.

The author has made use of archival materials of Russian propaganda institutions, collections of the original works of that period and their reproductions, as well as literature concerning this question. (WM)

*Łagry. Przewodnik encyklopedyczny (Prison Camps. An Encyclopaedic Guide)*, collective work, eds Nikita Okhotin and Arsenii Roginski, translated from the Russian by Romuald Niedozielko, Warszawa 1998, Wydawnictwo KARTA, 607 pp., maps (location of camp administrations in the USSR), index of persons, index of telegraph codes, numbers of POBs, camp cryptonyms, geographical names, names of camp structures.

The guide has been compiled on the basis of collections kept in the Archives of the Russian Federation (GARF), to be more exact, on the basis of sets of the Ministry of the Interior. Studies by Michael Jacobson and Mikhail Smirnov (*The System of Imprisonment Places in the Russian Federative Soviet Socialist Republic and the USSR in 1917–1930*) and by Mihail Smirnov, Sergei Sigachov and Dmitri Shkapov (*The System of Imprisonment Places in the USSR in 1920–1960*) serve as an introduction to the publication. The guide supplies fundamental information on the central boards of the camps, the camp administrations enjoying the rights of central boards, the administrations of camps subordinated to central boards, territorial organs of imprisonment places and the prison system. The entries are arranged in alphabetical order; in addition to the camp's name each entry gives information on the name of the organisational unit to which the given camp was subordinated, how long it functioned, its address, cryptonym, the number of prisoners, the names of its heads and the call number of the document on which the information is based. (DJ)

*Mazowsze w dwudziestoleciu międzywojennym (w granicach województwa warszawskiego) (Mazovia during the Twenty Interwar Years, in the Borders of Warsaw Voivodship)*, Warszawa 1998, Mazowieckie Towarzystwo Kultury. Mazowiecki Ośrodek Badań Naukowych im. Stanisława Herbsta, 250 pp.

The publication includes articles describing the social and political situation in Mazovia in 1918–1919, and the war of 1920 in Mazovia (Janusz Szczepański), Mazovia's economic life during the inter-war period (Edward Kołodziej), changes in the structure of large landed estates in the Warsaw voivodship (Tadeusz Epsztein), large and small towns in Mazovia and the part of Podlasie on the Bug river (Józef Kazimierski), public buildings constructed in Mazovia between the wars (Anna Szkurłat) and the rural youth movement (Romuald Turkowski).

Another group of texts deals with culture in the broad sense of the word, i.e. the ethnography of Mazovia and regionalistic questions (Marian Pokropek, Anna Maria Stogowska, Bożenna Ostrowska), Mazovia's language ties with Warsaw (Barbara Fallińska), Mazovia's literary circles and the region's role as a literary inspiration (Jan Zdzisław Brudnicki, Oskar Koszutecki), Mazovia's regional press (Andrzej Notkowski), Mazovian museums (Janusz Królik), and the place of the Lutosławski family in Mazovian culture between the two wars (Stanisława Chyli). (WM)

Maria Nowak-Kiełbikowa, *Konstanty Skirmunt. Polityk i dyplomata (Konstanty Skirmunt. A Politician and Diplomat)*, Warszawa 1998, Wydawnictwo Neriton i Instytut Historii PAN, 366 pp., index of persons, illustr., sum. in English.

A biography of Konstanty Skirmunt (1866–1945), a prominent personality on the Polish political scene in the inter-war period, regarded as one of the Second Republic's best diplomats. The author presents Skirmunt's public activity in seven chapters which correspond to the successive stages of his career: his first steps in Grodno, Vilnius and St. Petersburg where Skirmunt was a member of the State

Council in 1907–1917, his work as a representative of the Polish National Committee during the First World War, as reborn Poland's first envoy in Rome, as foreign minister at the time of the Genoa Conference (1922) and the crowning posts of his career, the post of Polish envoy in London and then ambassador to the Court of St. James's; the last chapter of the book shows the retired diplomat in his estate in Polesie and in Warsaw during the Nazi occupation. The author emphasises Skirmunt's services as minister of foreign affairs; she writes about his well thought-out cohesive concepts of foreign policy which were to ensure external peace to Poland through alliances with France, Romania and Czechoslovakia. Skirmunt also endeavoured, though without success, to normalise Poland's relations with Soviet Russia.

The author has made use of unknown Polish and foreign materials and sources, in particular shorthand reports on the meetings of the Russian State Council and the Legislative Sejm of the Polish Republic, documents of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Polish embassies in Western capitals, Skirmunt's official and private correspondence and his reminiscences published in 1997. (MM)

*Posłowie i senatorowie Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej 1919–1939. Słownik Biograficzny (The Sejm Deputies and Senators of the Polish Republic 1919–1939. Biographical Dictionary)*, vol. I. A–D, compiled by Małgorzata Smogorzewska, sc. ed. Andrzej Krzysztof Kunert, Warszawa 1998, Wydawnictwo Sejmowe, 494 pp., annexes, illustr.

The aim of the publication is "to present documented personal data of all parliamentarians and to verify or supplement the information published previously in Poland and abroad". The biographies give information on the parliamentarians' birth- and death-dates, family connections, education, career, activity in public life, parliamentary activity and decorations. The expanded bibliographic specification provides information on materials kept in the Sejm library, the National Library, the Archives of Modern Records and other archival materials and publications. The book also lists the parliamentarians' most important publications. The personal entries are supplemented by annexes showing the duration of the Sejm, the constituencies, electoral lists, parliamentary committees, parliamentary factions and groups, members of the praesidia of each Sejm and Senate. The publication is to have five volumes. (WM)

*Skazani jako "szpiedzy Watykanu". Z historii Kościoła katolickiego w ZSRR 1918–1956 (Convicted as "Vatican Spies". From the History of the Catholic Church in the USSR 1918–1956)*, ed. Father Roman Dzwonkowski SAC, Żabki 1998, Apostolcum, 302 pp.

The author depicts the tragic, little known fate of the Catholic Church and Catholic clergymen of various nationalities and rites in the former USSR. The studies in the book are based on sources from Russian archives, which until recently were inaccessible. The volume contains studies by Roman Dzwonkowski SAC (*Repressive Measures Applied against Catholic Clergymen in the USSR in 1918–1939; Untied in Defence of Truth and Dignity*); Irina Osipova, collaborator of the Russian "Memorial" research centre (*The Fate of Russian Catholics 1918–1956; Catholic Clergymen on Solovetski Islands, Convicted as Vatican Spies*); Ida Zalkina, also a collaborator of "Memorial" (*We Heard Their Voices*), Helena Owstany (*From the History of Camps on the Solovetski Islands 1920–1939; The Paradoxes of Solovetski Camps*). (DJ)

Marek Stażewski, *Exodus. Migracja ludności niemieckiej z Pomorza do Rzeszy po I wojnie światowej (Exodus. The Post-World War I Migration of German Population from Pomerania to the Reich)*, Gdańsk 1998, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Gdańskiego, 321 pp., sum. in German.



The reborn Polish state included large territories which had belonged to Germany. At the end of the war, some 1,000,000 people lived in the Pomeranian voivodship, of whom about 40 per cent were Germans. Intensive migrations took place in the first post-war years. A large inflow of Polish people was accompanied by a large-scale emigration of Germans. The last large wave of Germans left in 1925. Some 300,000 Germans left the Pomeranian voivodship in 1919–1925. By the end of 1925 the percentage of Germans had dropped to 13 per cent of the total population of the Pomeranian voivodship and by 1931 to 10 per cent. The emigration decreased steadily in the years that followed.

According to the author, "it was individual consciousness that lay behind the decision to emigrate. This is proved by the indisputable fact that forcible migration, in the sense of direct coercion or administrative order, concerned a relatively small number of the German emigrés". Stażewski says that the migration led to considerable changes in the national and social structure of the region.

The book is based on materials of Polish administrative authorities, national censuses and literature concerning this subject. (WM)

Rafał Stobiecki, *Bolszewizm a historia. Próba rekonstrukcji bolszewickiej filozofii dziejów (Bolshevism and History. A Tentative Reconstruction of the Bolshevik Philosophy of History)*, Łódź 1998, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Łódzkiego, 170 pp., bibliogr., sum. in English.

The author focuses attention on "the reinterpretation and revision of the orthodox Marxist view of history by the bolshevik movement and its new Marxist–Leninist interpretation which became an effective tool for the totalitarian practices of the party and state". The study is based mainly on texts of the architects of bolshevism, special attention being paid to the pronouncements of the party theoreticians: Nikolai Bukharin, Vladimir I. Lenin, Joseph Stalin and Lev Trotsky. Stobiecki analyses the concept of bolshevism, the genesis of the "macrometaphor of science and its role in the bolshevik vision of the world", the role played by the metaphors of the revolution and the party, the definition of the concept of leader and enemy. In his view the principle that there was no alternative to communism, the dichotomy of history, activism and the integral link with the socio-political system in the USSR were the constitutive features of the bolshevik vision of history. (DJ)

## WORLD WAR II

Krzysztof Woźniakowski, *W kręgu jawnego piśmiennictwa literackiego Generalnego Gubernatorstwa 1939–1945 (Overt Literary Writings in the General Gouvernement 1939–1945)*, Kraków 1997, Wydawnictwo Naukowe Wyższej Szkoły Pedagogicznej, 474 pp., bibliogr., index of persons.

In this documented study the author analyses overt literary life in the General Gouvernement. He focuses attention on the occupier's policy towards the Polish population, the activity of such institutions as Warsaw's "literary kitchen", the formation of milieux of "writers of the General Gouvernement" and literary and publishing centres. He also analyses quasi cultural periodicals in Polish ("Ilustrowany Kurier Polski", "7 Dni", "Co miastąc powieść", "Fala"), literature published in periodicals for peasants ("Stew", "Rolnik") as well as literary and cultural questions discussed in the monthly "Kolejowiec". In the last chapter of the book Woźniakowski discusses the literary value of these contributions (prose, drama), their different currents (literature for peasants or workers), propaganda pronouncements and the presence and functioning of Polish historical and literary traditions in these overt writings. In Woźniakowski's view the optimal solution for Polish writers was full subordination to the commands of the underground state, that is, non-participation in the creation of overt literature. But even those who partly violated these commands did not always deserve to be condemned. In

Woźniakowski's view it was a lesser evil to cooperate with Polish publishing firms than with Nazi firms which published in Polish, to write for children than for adults, to create entertainment apolitical literature than politicised literature in the Nazi spirit. (DJ)

## RECENT HISTORY

Leszek Dzięgieł, *Paradise in a Concrete Cage. Daily Life in Communist Poland. An Ethnologist's View*, Kraków 1998, Wydawnictwo Arcana, 307 pp., bibliogr.

Leszek Dzięgieł is professor of ethnology at the Jagiellonian University in Cracow. His book is a pioneering analysis of some aspects of daily life in communist Poland. It is based on published studies and on the author's own observations of life in the 1940s and 1950s. It consists of the following chapters: *Citizens' Living Standards as an Instrument of Political Manipulation, The Indoctrination of Secondary School Students in the 1940s, The Reception of Western Films by the Younger Generation under Stalinism, University Education in the Grip of Ideology and Poverty, Students in the Cultural Landscape of Postwar University Towns, Fashion among Cracow Students in the Early 1950s, The Subculture of Escapism, Social Frustrations, Political Conformism and Private Cars, Towns in the Governance Philosophy and Practice of Postwar Poland, Poland's Closest Neighbours: Official Communist Stereotypes and Popular Myths*. (DJ)

Dariusz Jarosz, *Polityka władz komunistycznych w Polsce w latach 1948–1956 a chłopi (The Policy of the Communist Authorities in Poland and the Peasants in 1948–1956)*, Warszawa 1998, Wydawnictwo DiG, 542 pp., bibliogr., tables.

This is a scholarly monograph discussing the relations between the communist authorities in Poland and the peasants during the period of Stalinism.

The book, arranged in chronological-thematic order, has six chapters: I. *Attitude to Co-operative Farms*; II. *The Dilemmas of the Peasants' Endeavours to Cling to Their Land*; III. *Stalinist Agitation and Education*; IV. *The Attitude of Peasants to the Stalinist Religious Policy*; V. *The Attitude to Stalinist Institutions, Offices and "People's Power"*; VI. *Stalinism and the Social and Economic Evolution of Peasant Holdings and Peasant Families*.

Most of the documents on which the book is based have been accessible only since 1989 and have therefore never been used before; they come from central archives: the Archives of Modern Records (including documents handed over by the Central Archives of the Polish United Workers' Party), Archives of the Ministry of International Affairs and Administration, Archives of the Centre for the History of the Peasant Movement, the Record Office and Archives of the State Security Bureau, as well as regional archives (in Katowice, Cracow and Warsaw). The author has also analysed documents found in the archives of the Ministries of Finance, Agriculture and Food Economy, the Office of the Council of Ministers, Archives of the Trade Union Movement, Archives of Radio Documentation of Polish Radio and Television, etc. Jarosz does not confine himself to analysing the collectivisation policy and the agricultural policy of the Polish communists but presents a broad picture of peasants' attitudes to the authorities' policy towards rural areas, also in such fields as culture, education and religion. He has consulted archival sources not used before in studies of this kind, such as rumours, gossips, peasants' letters to central offices and diaries sent in by inhabitants of rural areas for competitions organised in the fifties and sixties. In conclusion Jarosz places the Polish peasants' attitudes to the communist authorities in a broader context of relations between the authorities and society in the countries of East-Central Europe and defines their place in the typology of peasant social movements. (DJ)

Wojciech Łysiak, *Wielka kontestacja. Folklor polityczny w PRL (Great Contestation. Political Folklore in the Polish People's Republic)*, Poznań 1998, PSO sp. z o.o., 168 pp.

In the author's view, political folklores is an element of contestation, an art of words "marked by spontaneity, by an emotionality born of current events and of a stereotyped picture of the world, an art bearing the traits of folk literature". Łysiak is interested in the verbal repertoire of this folklore, in things "that were spontaneously talked about, sung and written on the walls and posters in the Polish People's Republic". He takes an ethnologist's attitude to the phenomena he describes; he shows the mechanism of common peoples' reaction to the reality and their vision of the world. He also deals with the role of political folklore in strikes, its stereotyped character (the contrast between "we" and "they", its genres and significance. (DJ)

Andrzej Małkiewicz, Krzysztof Ruchniewicz, *Pierwszy znak solidarności. Polskie odgłosy powstania ludowego w NRD w 1953 (The First Sign of Solidarity. Polish Echoes of the Popular Rising in the German Democratic Republic in 1953)*, Wrocław 1998, Wydawnictwo Arboretum, 192 pp., bibliogr., illustr., sum. in German.

The study analyses Polish reaction to the workers' rising in the German Democratic Republic in June 1953. The authors have examined not only the official reaction of the Polish communist authorities but also the commentaries and rumours which circulated in various social milieux in Poland. They have made use of reports sent by security offices (Archives of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Administration), local committees of the Polish United Workers' Party (Archives of Modern Records, State Archives in Wrocław and Katowice) as well as by the Polish Diplomatic Mission in Berlin and notes of employees of the Polish Embassy in Berlin (Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Warsaw). They have also studied relevant German documents (Politisches Archiv des Auswärtigen Amtes, Bestand: Ministerium für Auswärtige Angelegenheiten der DDR in Berlin — Sektion Polen). (DJ)

*Marzec '68. Między tragedią a podłością (March 1968. Between Tragedy and Ignobleness)*, selected, prefaced and edited by Grzegorz Sołtysiak and Józef Stępień, Warszawa 1998, Wydawnictwo PROFI, 406 pp., index of persons.

This is a source publication comprising 67 documents which concern various questions connected with the March 1968 events in Poland. The documents are all the more valuable as they do not come from archives accessible to historians but mostly from the private collections of persons who were then in the centre of power; but they were issued by official party and state institutions. The documents have been arranged chronologically and thematically in five chapters (*The Events, Items of Information, People, Their Stance and Their Fate, Balance Sheet, Varta*). The publication is an interesting complement of the previously published studies and source publications dealing with the March 1968 events. (DJ)

*Marzec 1968. Trzydzieści lat później (March 1968. Thirty Years After)*, eds Marcin Kuła, Piotr Osęka and Marcin Zaręba, Warszawa 1998, Wydawnictwo Naukowe PWN, vol. I *Referaty (Papers)* 352 pp., vol. II *Aneks źródłowy (Source Annex)* 274 pp., index of persons.

The publication comprises materials from a conference organised at Warsaw University on March 6 and 7, 1998 by the Historical Institute of Warsaw University, the Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences and the Jewish Historical Institute. Volume I comprises papers by experienced professional historians as well as young persons (even students) who are taking

the first steps as historians. It includes papers by Feliks Tych (*A Few Remarks on March 1968*), Błażej Brzostek (*Everyday Life on the Eve of March*), Paweł Włóczorkiewicz (*The Struggle for Power in the PZPR (Polish United Workers' Party) Leadership in March 1968*), Piotr Osęka (*The Attitude of the PZPR Central Committee to March. The Year 1968 in the Light of Party Archives*), Jerzy Poksiński (*The Attitude of the Polish Army to March*), Włodzimierz Borodziej (*The Part Played by the Diplomacy of the Polish People's Republic in the March Events and Its Attitude to Them*), Anna Barbara Jarosz (*March in the Press*), Jacek Kochanowicz (*March 1968 and the Intellectual Life of the University*), Marcin Zaręba (*Poor Poles in 1968. The Attitude of Polish Society to the March Events in the Light of Reports of the Warsaw Committee and the Ministry of Internal Affairs for the PZPR Leadership*), Krystyna Kersten (*March 1968 and the Intellectuals' Attitude to Communism*), Andrzej Friszke (*A Difficult Test. The "Znak" Sejm Deputies' Circle during March 1968*), Maciej Górny (*The March Events in Czechoslovak Opinion*), Jakub Tyszkiewicz (*March 1968 in the Eyes of American Diplomats in Warsaw*), Mikołaj Lewicki (*The Absence of the State. May in Nanterre — An Event Similar to or Different from Students' March?*), Michał Głowiński (*The March after March*), Ireneusz Krzemieński (*Anti-Semittism, Socialism and a "New Consciousness". Long-term Consequences of March 1968*), Dariusz Gawin (*The Power of a Myth. The Style of Political Thinking of the March 1968 Generation*), Jakub Karpiński (*"Short Circuit" and Pictures of March 1968*), Jerzy Eisler (*The State of Historical Research on March 1968*). Volume II consists of source materials: *Annexes to Internal Bulletins* prepared by the Cabinet of the Minister for Internal Affairs, and *Information* drawn up by the Organisational Department of the PZPR Central Committee on the events which took place between March 8 and 30, 1968 (except for the first document concerning the period from January 30 to March 9). (DJ)

*Obchody milenijne 1966 roku w świetle dokumentów Ministerstwa Spraw Wewnętrznych (The Millennium Celebrations in 1966 in the Light of Documents of the Ministry of Internal Affairs)*, Warszawa 1998, Centralne Archiwum MSWiA, 445 pp., Index of persons and places, maps, illustr.

This is a supplement to the 1996 publication entitled *Millennium Celebrations in 1966. Reports of Offices for Internal Affairs*, which contained archival materials of only one kind, namely reports of the Ministry of Internal Affairs' offices. The new volume includes documents drawn up in several institutions representing the apparatus of power as well as by the Church. Documents Nos. 1-96 concern preparations of the Ministry of Internal Affairs for the planned millennium celebrations, the progress of the celebrations, the methods and extent of reprisals and the Ministry's summing up of its activities. Documents Nos. 97-123 illustrate events which, although they had repeatedly occurred before, were treated with exceptional sternness by the authorities in 1966 (e.g. registration of clergymen, annual Church celebrations, the organisation of a "summer campaign" to restrict pastoral work during holidays and hamper pilgrimages). (DJ)

*Raport komisji Mazura (Report of Mazur's Commission)*, "Gazeta Wyborcza" (Warszawa) 22 I 1999.

This is an extensive report of a commission set up on December 10, 1956 under the chairmanship of Marian Mazur, deputy prosecutor general of the Polish People's Republic. This is the first time that the report has been published in full. The commission was to examine "violations of the rule of law by military prosecution organs (Information), the Supreme Military Prosecutor's Office and the Supreme Military Court in the past period and the responsibility of individual functionaries (workers) employed by these organs". The report formulates accusations against the organs in question and against individual persons who applied repressive measures. What detracts from the value of the publication is the

absence of notes, which is only natural as the report has been published by a daily paper. (DJ)

Andrzej Sakson, *Stosunki narodowościowe na Warmii i Mazurach 1945–1997 (Nationality Relations in Warmia and Mazuria 1945–1997)*, Poznań 1998, Wydawnictwo Instytutu Zachodniego, 428 pp., bibliogr., indexes of persons and localities, sum. in German.

A new book by a specialist in the situation of the autochthonous population of Warmia and Mazuria in the Polish People's Republic; this time Sakson analyses nationality relations in these regions from 1945 to the present day. The book is divided into the following chronologically arranged chapters: I. *Political and Demographic Changes in East Prussia in 1945*, II. *Nationality Relations in Warmia and Mazuria — A Clash of Cultures (1945–1949)*, III. *The Stalinist Nationality Policy 1950–1955*, IV. *New Hopes and Prospects (1956–1959)*, V. *Changes in Nationality Relations (1960–1989)*, VI. *Formation of a New Identity (1989–1997)*. The author presents not only the situation of the autochthons but also the coexistence of Ukrainians, Germans, Byelorussians, Gypsies and other nationality and religious groups in these territories. In addition to documents from central archives, the author has made use of the collections of the State Archives in Suwałki and Olsztyn (starosts' offices in Goldap, Olecko and Ełk). (DJ)

*17 lat nauczania religii w Polsce Ludowej. Wybór dokumentów (17 Years of Religious Instruction in People's Poland. Selected Documents)*, ed. Hanna Konopka, Białystok 1998, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu w Białymstoku, 262 pp., index of persons, annex.

This is a source publication comprising 82 documents on education policy and the fight against religion in Polish schools in 1945–1961. The sources published in the book come from the Archives of Modern Records (sets: Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, Office for Religious Denominations, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Public Administration) and from the Archives of the Secretariat of the Conference of Poland's Episcopate. (DJ)

*Sprawozdanie stenograficzne z posiedzenia Komitetu Centralnego Polskiej Partii Robotniczej 31 sierpnia – 3 września 1948 (Shorthand Report of the Meeting of the Central Committee of the Polish Workers' Party Held from August 31 to September 3, 1948)*, edited, prefaced and annotated by Aleksander Kochański, Pułtusk–Warszawa 1998, Wydawnictwo Naczelnej Dyrekcji Archiwów Państwowych i Wyższej Szkoły Humanistycznej w Pułtusku, 408 pp., index of persons.

Aleksander Kochański's edition of the shorthand report of the plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Polish Workers' Party (PPR) is a very competent work. The meeting in question was of key importance for a substantial change in the party's political line and the policy of the state. It decided to speed up the Stalinisation of social life, and this envisaged the collectivisation of agriculture and departure from the "Polish road to socialism". It also disposed of the general secretary of the party, Władysław Gomułka, who was replaced by his political adversary in the PPR, Bolesław Bierut. In addition to the shorthand report, the volume also includes other documents connected with the change in the party's line, e.g. the speech made by Gomułka at a meeting of the PPR Central Committee on June 3, 1948, and Bierut's notes on his talks with Stalin on the removal of the PPR leader. (DJ)

Stefan Stępień, *Związek Parlamentarny Polskich Socjalistów w działalności prawodawczej Krajowej Rady Narodowej (The Parliamentary Union of Polish Socialists in the Legislative Activity of the National Home Council)*,

Lublin 1998, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu im. Marii Curie-Skłodowskiej, 537 pp., bibliogr., index of persons.

The author has thoroughly researched sources in many archives, especially those kept in the Archives of Modern Records (in particular the sets: Polish Workers' Party, Polish Socialist Party (PPS), National Home Council, Ministry of Public Administration, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Education). He has also made use of published memoirs. Stępień discusses the establishment of a group of socialists rallied round Edward Osóbka-Morawski and the formation of the Parliamentary Union of Polish Socialists, the socialists' attitude to the laws adopted by the National Home Council, the legislative initiatives of the Polish Socialist Party's parliamentary faction and of its members, and the attitude of the faction to the decrees issued by the government. Stępień has no doubt that the establishment of the party was authorised by the communists. He recalls that of the 264 decrees sent to the National Home Council the PPS fully approved 118. (DJ)

Bohdan Urbankowski, *Czerwona msza czyli uśmiech Stalina (The Red Mass or Stalin's Smile)*, Warszawa 1998, Wydawnictwo "Alfa", vol. 1, 640 pp., vol. 2, 653 pp., index of persons, illustr.

This is a revised, greatly expanded edition of a book published in 1995. The author is a poet, expert in Polish philology, philosopher and socio-political activist (linked to the Confederation of Independent Poland). In his study he analyses Polish writers' links with the communist movement and the authorities from World War II to the 1950s. He reprints many poems which, in his opinion, show that Polish writers brought ignominy on themselves by collaborating with the authorities. Urbankowski's commentaries represent in a condensed form the current of reflections initiated and continued by Jacek Trznadel and Stanisław Murzański. His conclusion is: "The hands of Polish writers were stained with blood. No, they themselves did not commit crimes, but they got blood stains by eagerly shaking the hands of criminals". (DJ)

Jan Żaryn, *Stolica Apostolska wobec Polski i Polaków w latach 1944–1958 w świetle materiałów ambasady RP przy Watykanie (The Attitude of the Apostolic See to Poland and the Poles in 1944–1958 in the Light of Materials of the Polish Embassy to the Vatican)*, Warszawa 1998, Wydawnictwo Neriton i Instytut Historii PAN, 263 pp., illustr., index of persons.

The publication opens with an extensive analytical study (pp. 1–107) which is followed by selected documents of the Polish Embassy to the Apostolic See. The documents come from three archives: the Papal Institute for Ecclesiastical Matters (Pontificum Institutum Studiorum Ecclesiasticorum) in Rome, the Polish Institute and the General Sikorski Museum in London, and the Hoover Institute in Stanford (California). The volume, which is to be the first part of a larger whole, covers the years 1944–1951. Most of the documents in the volume are notes and reports of the Polish ambassador to the Holy See, Kazimierz Papée (1889–1979), on visits by Polish Church and political personalities to the Vatican, the pope's opinions on detailed questions concerning Poland, including the agreement between the State and the Church of April 1950. (DJ)