

# Short notes

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## GENERAL WORKS\*

Piotr Guzowski and Marzena Liedke (eds.), *Człowiek wobec miar i czasu w przeszłości* [Man's Attitude to Measures and Time in the Past], Kraków 2007, 'Avalon', 275 pp., sum. in English

This is a collection of studies which were read at a conference entitled 'When people ceased to be happy: man and the measures of time and distance in the past'. The conference was held in Białystok in 2006. The volume deserves attention for the studies concern subjects which belong to the auxiliary sciences of history: chronology, metrology and historical geography. In accordance with the editors' intention, the book is divided into these three parts. The fourth part is of a different character; it comprises historiographic essays of little historical value.

Particularly worthy of mention in the first part are the studies by Robert Suski and Janusz Łosowski. Suski deals with the chronology of political events in 3rd century Rome on the basis of preserved inscriptions. He proposes a new date for the emperor Aurelian's victory in Gaul. In his very interesting study, well substantiated by sources, Łosowski analyzes changes in the measuring of time which took place in Polish towns between the 16th and the 18th century. That was the period when the 12-hour system of measuring time gained popularity in Poland, as the author shows using Cracow, Poznań and Warsaw as his examples. He compares the results of his research with the situation in small towns, where changes were much slower.

The second part, devoted to metrology, contains studies dealing with measurement of area in Greater Poland and Kuyavia (Joanna Karczewska), the measuring of corn fields (Krzysztof Boroda), the development of measuring systems in Volhynia (Władysław Berkowski), and volume measurements in the territory belonging to the Lviv Orthodox chapter (Witold Bobryk). All these studies are based on inspections of landed estates and churches and on law court books. Since many different measures were used in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, the studies on local conditions, on individual regional systems of measuring weight, volume and area are really very important and are a valuable supplement to the most important publications published during the last few years by Witold Kula, Jerzy Topolski, Andrzej Wyczański, Grzegorz Myśliwski and Anna Dunin-Wąsowicz.

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The third part of the volume comprises articles by Karolina Stojek-Sawicka and Stanisław Alexandrowicz. Alexandrowicz's article is an introduction to historical geography and to the accessible literature dealing with this subject. Stojek-Sawicka's study discusses the concept of distance in the correspondence which Catholic clergymen conducted in the 18th century with their patrons from the Nieśwież line of the Radziwills. The author views distance as a social structure and the aim of the study is not to show the geographical range of the correspondence or present the journeys of clergymen who were in the service of the Radziwills but to analyze how distance was assessed.

Then volume is certainly noteworthy for history's auxiliary sciences still suffer from a lack of new studies and syntheses. What is praiseworthy is that each study is followed by a summary in English. Unfortunately, many studies are in the form of papers to be read out and they are not all on an equally high level. (MP)

Eduard Mühle, 'Najnowsze tendencje w niemieckich badaniach historii Polski' [The Latest Trends in German Research into Poland's History], *Kwartalnik Historyczny*, cxv, 3 (2008), 61–161

This extensive article depicts the state of German historiographic research (the part within the framework of studies conducted in German research institutes) on the history of Poland. It points out areas which have attracted greatest interest and emphasizes the achievements attained so far. The author points out that the interest of German researchers in Polish questions has greatly increased since the fall of the communist system and it is the post-1989 achievements of German science that are the subject of his reflections. The material discussed by the author is chronologically divided into the main great epochs: the Middle Ages, the early modern period, the 'long' 19th century, and the 'short' 20th century. Each epoch is subdivided into the most important subjects. As regards the Middle Ages, Mühle discusses separately the studies which concern the formation of the Polish state, its territorial expansion and the internal crisis of the Church at the end of the epoch. The early modern period is divided into: humanism and the 'metropolises', the Reformation and Counter-Reformation, the structure and functioning of the noblemen's Commonwealth, social history, the partitions and the modernization of the noble society. The part devoted to the 19th century discusses studies on the liberation movements and the formation of a modern nation, social and economic modernization, and the history of Jews. As far as research on the 20th century is concerned, Mühle points out that German researchers have been particularly interested in the establishment and consolidation of the Second Republic, the question of national minorities, the Nazi occupation, persecution of the Jews, the question of collaboration with Germany and the Polish resistance movement and the Polish Underground State during the Second World War, the consolidation of communist power and the question of population transfers. The text is equipped with extensive bibliographic notes concerning the studies discussed in the text. (DD)

Joachim Zdrenka, *Urzednicy miejscy Gdanska w latach 1342–1792 i 1807–1814* [Town Officials in Danzig in 1342–1792 and 1807–1814], i: *List of Officials*; ii: *Biographies*, Gdańsk 2008, Muzeum Archeologiczne w Gdańsku; 270+408 pp.; indexes of persons, ills., series: *Fontes Commentationesque ad Res Gestas Gedani et Pomeraniae*

Joachim Zdrenka's book is an expanded version of the edition of lists of Danzig (Gdańsk) officials from the 14th to the 19th century. It comprises mayors, members of the council and of the bench. The second volume contains short biographies of 1320 members of the town authorities. It is based on town books and other archival materials kept in the State Archives in Gdańsk and on manuscripts from the Gdańsk Library of the Polish Academy of Sciences.

The two volumes are an extremely valuable aid for all researchers interested in Danzig and its patriarchy. Zdrenka has succeeded in establishing the names and in compiling short biographies of 95 per cent of all members of the municipal authorities. The biographies give the name, place of birth or baptism, and of the death or burial of each member, data concerning his family, his education and information on his career. Each biography refers to the respective archival sources and literature. (MP)

#### MIDDLE AGES

Marzena Matla-Kozłowska, *Pierwsi Przemyslidzi i ich państwo (od X do połowy XI wieku). Ekspansja terytorialna i jej polityczne uwarunkowania* [The First Premyslides and Their State (10th — Mid 11th Century): Territorial Expansion and Its Political Conditions], Poznań 2008, Wydawnictwo Poznańskie, 576+3 pp., 2 maps, 7 tables, 1 genealogical table

The author describes the territorial formation of the Czech state from the beginning of the rule of Vratislav I (915), regarded by some scholars as the originator of the Czech policy of territorial expansion, to the death of Bretislav I (1054). She says that because of the necessity of consolidating the Czech Valley politically, conditions for further expansion did not arise until ca 935–40, during the rule of Boleslav I. The Czechs conquered Moravia, Silesia, southern Lesser Poland and a part of present-day Slovakia; their frontiers determined the borderline of German expansion in the Elbe region and of Hungarian expansion in the Pannonian Valley. In ca 985 the Czechs began to lose the conquered lands because of an internal conflict between the Premyslides and the Slavnikovich family, the support they extended to Henry the Wrangler in Germany, and the growing importance of Poland and Hungary, which were allied with Otto II and Otto III. The possibility of regaining the lost territories appeared when the Polish state was in crisis after 1025, but the Czechs did not make full use of it because of the policy pursued by the emperor Henry III, who sought to keep balance between Poland and the Czech state. (JA)

Dariusz Dąbrowski, *Genealogia Mścislawowiczów. Pierwsze pokolenia (do początku XIV w.)* [The Genealogy of the Mstislavovich Family: The First Generations (up to the Beginning of the 14th Century)], Kraków 2008, 'Avalon', 816+14 pp., 35 genealogical tables, index of persons, sum. in English

The author discusses one of the lines of the Russian Rurikovich family, the line of Mstislav, son of Vladimir Monomakh (b. 1076, prince of Kiev from 1125, d. 1132) and five generations of his descendants (the last generation examined by Dąbrowski died out at the turn of the 14th century). On pp. 67–730 the book presents the biographies of 162 known members of the family, including 52 women and eight children whose gender has not been established. The biographies, the fruit of the author's own research, correct many items of fallacious information which have appeared in the earlier literature. Thus, according to Dąbrowski, 116 of these persons definitely, 10 persons probably, belonged to the Mstislavovich family, and 36 have been wrongly included in the family. The author emphasizes the important role played by the Mstislavovich family in the history of Ruthenia; the ancestor of the family was the last medieval duke to govern the whole country and his descendants for a long time wielded power in the Duchy of Smolensk (12th–15th centuries), the Duchy of Halich–Vladimir (12th–14th centuries) and for some time also in Novgorod the Great, Pskov and Polotsk. (JA)

Daniel Bagi, *Królowie węgierscy w 'Kronice' Galla Anonima* [Hungarian Kings in the Anonymous Gaul's *Chronicle*], Kraków 2008, Oficyna Wydawnicza–Drukarska 'Secesja', 238 pp., 2 maps, index, series: Polska Akademia Umiejętności, Rozprawy Wydziału Historyczno–Filozoficznego, vol. 108

This is an enlarged Polish translation of the Hungarian 2005 edition. According to the author, the way in which Gallus selected and presented the kings of the Arpad dynasty, the fact that he wrote about places in Hungary and the terminology used by him indicate that he was well acquainted with Hungarian writings from the time of Coloman the Learned. This means that the chronicler must have spent quite a long time in Hungary between ca 1099 and ca 1110. Bagi emphasizes that at the end of the 11th century and the beginning of the 12th all Hungarian intellectuals were from outside Hungary. Gallus was not an exception. His language indicates that he must have come from northern France or Flanders, where he had acquired education. A separate digression (pp. 176–201) is a polemic with Tomasz Jasiński in whose opinion Gallus was connected with a monastery on the Venetian Lido and was 'Monachus Littorensis', the author of the *Historia de translatione sanctorum Magni Nicolai...* (JA)

Łukasz Burkiewicz, *Na styku chrześcijaństwa i islamu. Krucjaty i Cypr w latach 1191–1291* [At the Point of Contact between Christianity and Islam: The Crusades and Cyprus in 1191–1291], Kraków 2008, Towarzystwo Wydawnicze 'Historia Iagellonica' 166+8 pp., 12 ill., indexes, sum. in English

The author depicts the history of Cyprus from the time when Richard the Lionheart took the island to the fall of the Kingdom of Jerusalem. He emphasizes the strategic importance of Cyprus which was the last stop (a place of rest and food supplies) for the crusaders on their way from Europe to the Holy Land. The rulers of Cyprus were all the more committed to the defence of the Kingdom of Jerusalem as in the years 1269–91 they governed both states. The Kingdom of Cyprus did not have a large fleet even though it lay on an island and was endangered by Muslims. Its defence and contacts with Western Europe depended on help from Pisa and from 1218 from Genoa, whose support was secured in return for economic privileges. The internal stability of the Kingdom depended on relationship between the Latin power elite and the Greek majority on the island. The Latin elite tolerated the functioning of the Orthodox Church but in 1220 the kings deprived it of a part of its property and in 1261 forced Greek bishops to recognize the supremacy of the pope. (JA)

Bogusław Kochaniewicz OP, *Średniowieczni dominikanie o Matce Bożej. Wybrane zagadnienia* [Medieval Dominicans on Blessed Virgin Mary: Selected Problems], Kraków 2008, 'Societas Visitulana', 270 pp., one table

The volume contains nine studies which survey the Dominicans' attitude to the theological questions concerning the Blessed Virgin, as it was reflected in treatises, commentaries, sermons and hagiography. The author focuses on the Immaculate Conception, the Blessed Virgin's participation in the Secrets of the Cross, the Assumption, and the main holy days devoted to Mary. He points out that alongside the unfavourable attitude to the idea of Immaculate Conception, which dominated among the Dominicans, there was also a trend supporting the idea. It was represented in sermons which adopted some aspects of folk piety. Kochaniewicz examines more closely the attitude which James of Voragine presented in his *Sermones de Sanctis*. He negated the Immaculate Conception and emphasized Mary's divine motherhood. In a separate study the author analyzes the influence of the *Golden Legend* on the catechetical-pastoral treatise written by Peregryn of Opole, who presented the Blessed Virgin as the advocate of the people and a model of virtues everyone should follow. In addition to the controversial question of the Immaculate Conception, Kochaniewicz also deals with the Dominican theologians' and preachers' growing interest in the Blessed Virgin's participation in the secrets of the Cross. As regards the Assumption, he points out that since the evidence in this respect is weak in the Holy Scriptures, the Dominican theologians referred to the patristic writings which contained quotations from the Apocrypha. This was how they found their way into sermons.

A similar technique of argumentation was used in the Dominicans' hagiographic writings on Mary, which explained the significance of the holy days devoted to the Virgin: the Offertory (*purificatio Mariae*) and the Annunciation were explained by the Holy Scriptures, and the Nativity and the Assumption by the writings of the Fathers of the Church. What was important in this literature was reference to mystical experiences and to the miracles performed through the intercession of Mary. Two studies deal with the works of Thomas Aquinas. In the first the author says that Thomas Aquinas regarded Mary's sainthood as a result not so much of her own virtues as of God's grace. In the second study he discusses the authenticity of Thomas's two sermons on Mary: *Germinet terra* — which he regards as authentic for it contains the same elements as those in *Commentary on Ave Maria* — and *Lux orta est*, which, in his view, is not authentic, for it includes formulations, concepts and Mary's titles not used by Thomas Aquinas. Finally, Kochaniewicz analyzes the Dominicans' contribution to the development of rosary prayers, saying that there was a strong link between the Dominicans' activity and the services of the Virgin Mary confraternities. It was the Dominicans who were the first authors of treatises on the rosary in which they explained how to pray it and emphasized the principles of spiritual life. (JA)

Ryszard Kiersnowski, *Historia, pieniądz, herb. Opera selecta* [History, Money, Coats of Arms], ed. Stanisław Suchodolski, Stefan K. Kuczyński *et al.*, Warszawa 2008, Instytut Historii Polskiej Akademii Nauk, 548+47 pp., 130 ills., 6 maps, 19 tables, sum. in English, German, French and Czech

This is a posthumous edition of works by Ryszard Kiersnowski (d. 2006), a leading 20th century researcher of medieval coins in Poland. The volume contains 29 studies which were originally published in 1960–98. Most of them were to be included in a book on the history of coins in Poland in the full and late Middle Ages, a book which Kiersnowski promised to write in 1969 but which never appeared in print. This was a period which in Poland, and in the whole of Europe, was marked by the appearance of thick coins. The author presents the oldest forms of these coins, silver and gold non-monetary coins; he then goes on to present the emissions of silver quarts and *groszys* and the gold florins issued in Silesia, whose rulers enjoyed a relatively strong economic base and had their own silver mines. Finally Kiersnowski describes the economic changes introduced in the Polish Kingdom by Ladislas the Short and Casimir the Great. The author depicts how the iconographic motifs of the coin dies entered Poland mainly from Bohemia but also from French territories. A separate article deals with the beginnings of minting in Lithuania, which, in the author's opinion, was a result of Lithuania's union with Poland. This part of the book opens with texts on the non-monetary forms of metal coins. The next group of studies depicts the mints of Silesian dukes who were the first in the Polish territories to strike thick silver and gold coins. A study on the borrowing of iconographic motifs shows how the motifs of stamps wandered from French territories, through Germany and Silesia to mints in Poznań and Grodzisk Wielkopolski. The next group of

studies discusses the monetary policy and the coins issued by the last kings of the Piast dynasty, and the beginning of minting in Lithuania.

The second part of the book comprises articles on various aspects of numismatic research: its methodology, the iconographic motifs, the beginnings of minting in Western Pomerania and in the land of the Elbe Slavs. Two articles refer to foreign influence, Italian and Hungarian, on the iconography of Polish coins. Separate studies are devoted to the most prominent Polish 19th century numismatists: Joachim Lelewel and Kazimierz Stronczyński. In an article 'Troubles with Numismatics' (pp. 13–22) Kiersnowski tried to describe his role in the development of numismatics. He says that he helped to rejuvenate the study of many important phenomena (for instance, the beginnings of Western Pomeranian and Lithuanian minting and of some emissions and monetary reforms of the last Piast kings) which for 'patriotic' reasons had been placed by some scholars in more remote times.

The last part of the book consists of studies on questions which have been neglected in post-1945 Polish research, questions to the revival of which Ryszard Kiersnowski made an important contribution after 1989. These are studies on heraldry and on various aspects of the history of Poland's former Eastern Borderlands (where he himself was born), on the specific characteristics of Poles from that region, on the persons and places which served Adam Mickiewicz as prototypes in his *Pan Tadeusz* and on the Smorgonie Academy, a bear training centre. This is accompanied by a study 'The Sky over Medieval Poland' (pp. 433–46) which deals with unusual weather conditions.

Since many of the original publications appeared a long time ago, the editors have supplied the individual texts, as far as this has been possible, with lists of later publications discussing the same subject. (JA)

*Tadeusz Szczurek, Obrót pieniężny w Nowej Marchii w okresie askańskim (ok. 1250–1319) w świetle mennictwa krajów niemieckich [The Circulation of Money in the New Mark during the Ascanian Period (ca 1250–1319) in the Light of Coinage in German Countries], Warszawa [2007], Polskie Towarzystwo Numizmatyczne, 416 pp., 12 illustrated plates, 3 maps, 3 diagrams, 21 tables, 4 inventories of find-spots, indexes, sum. in German*

The author depicts the circulation of money in the Brandenburg territories east of the Oder (in addition to the New Mark also in the Lubes [now called Lubusz] region). He has used numismatic materials as his source, supplementing them with relatively few written sources. He points out that in the area examined by him there is a lack of find-spots of coins from before 1280 (which he explains by the settlement in Brandenburg at that time and the establishment of the apparatus of power). Neither have any coins dating from after 1310 been found (which is difficult to explain). *Denarii* (pfennigs) issued in central Brandenburg (Mittelmark) predominated in the remaining period; there were no Brandenburg mints east of the Oder, and the western part of the country (Altmark) had a different system

of coinage. Compared with Mittelmark, the numismatic materials from the area examined by the author have a higher proportion of halved *denarii* and West Pomeranian coins. A large part of the book consists of catalogues of find-spots of coins from ca 1250–1319, from the region examined by the author, from Mittelmark and Altmark, and from other find-spots containing Brandenburg coins as well as other coins regarded as Brandenburg ones by researchers. (JA)

Marian Biskup and Roman Czaja (eds.), *Państwo Zakonu Krzyżackiego w Prusach. Władza i społeczeństwo* [The State of the Teutonic Order in Prussia: The Authorities and Society], Warszawa 2008, Wydawnictwo Naukowe PWN, 580+40 pp., 78 ills., 17 maps, indexes

This latest Polish synthesis of the history of Teutonic Prussia is the work of: Marian Biskup, Roman Czaja, Wiesław Długokęcki, Marian Dygo, Sławomir Józwiak, Andrzej Radziwiński and Janusz Tandecki. In the authors' intention, the book, which covers the political and social history of the Teutonic Order, is part of a larger synthesis. It differs from previous histories in that it takes into account the research achievements of the last 25 years and departs from the national point of view, visible especially in older Polish and German historiography. Chapter I (pp. 23–50) presents a geographical characterization of Prussia and its history before it was conquered by the Teutonic Order. The largest part of the book (pp. 51–401) discusses the political history of the Teutonic Order's state: the conquest of Prussia, the organization of the apparatus of power, the social base, ideology, relations with foreign countries, ecclesiastic organization, the development of settlement and the crisis of the state after the 1409–11 war against Poland and Lithuania. The last chapter (pp. 403–94) characterizes the individual groups of society in Teutonic Prussia. In the preface, the editors announce that the second part of the synthesis will present the economic and cultural history of Teutonic Prussia. (JA)

Iwona Pietrzyk, *Kancelaria i dokument Przemysłidów opawskich w XIV i początkach XV w.* [The Chancellery and Documents of the Opava Premyslides in the 14th and Early 15th Centuries], Katowice 2008, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Śląskiego, 194+8 pp., 23 ills., 5 tables, annex, sum. in English and German, series: Prace naukowe Uniwersytetu Śląskiego w Katowicach, No. 2557

The book concerns the period from the time when the Duchy of Opava seceded from the Czech Kingdom (1318) to the death of the last dukes of Opava: John II (1424) and Přemek (1433). The author has based her research on 188 surviving documents (also copies and registers) and five letters issued by the rulers. She points out that the chancellery had a staff of only 2–3 persons. Each monarch organized the chancellery anew, without benefiting from the services of the clerks



employed by previous dukes. The rulers also used the services of municipal clerks. The merger of the Duchy of Opava with the Duchy of Racibor in 1337 did not result in any changes in the functioning of the chancellery. The documents were written at first in Latin which in the second half of the 14th century was replaced by German (Latin remained to be used in documents for the Church). One letter and one charter from the beginning of the 15th century are in the Czech language. The change of language exerted an influence on the form of documents, those written in German did not state the reason why a charter was issued. The appendix on pp. 149–73 presents a list of the surviving documents issued by the dukes of Opava. (JA)

Tadeusz Grabarczyk and Tomasz Nowak, *Mieszczanie wieluńscy do początków XVI wieku. Biogramy* [Townsmen of Wieluń up to the Beginning of the 16th Century: Short Biographies], Łódź 2008, Wieluńskie Towarzystwo Naukowe, 287 pp., index of place names, appendices

The book contains information on the townsmen of Wieluń from 1299 to 1512. In the first part the authors present an outline of the town's history on the basis of Polish historiography. They pay attention not only to the political history of the town and the region surrounding it but also to demographic and territorial changes. The second part contains 640 short biographies of the townsmen, including some representatives of the nobility. The inhabitants who did not have municipal rights, that is also the clergymen living in Wieluń, are not included.

The work is based on source material kept in the archives of Warsaw, Cracow, Poznań, Gniezno, Częstochowa and Włocławek. It has an appendix with a list of the mayors and councilors of Wieluń, and genealogies of the most important families. (MP)

Dominik Nowakowski, *Siedziby książęce i rycerskie księstwa glogowskiego w średniowieczu* [Ducal and Knightly Residences in the Duchy of Glogau during the Middle Ages], Wrocław 2008, Wydawnictwo Instytutu Archeologii i Etnologii PAN. Oddział we Wrocławiu, 641 pp., 209 ill., 2 maps, one table, indexes, sum. in German

The author presents the residential–defensive buildings erected between the 10th and the 16th centuries in the Duchy of Glogau (Głogów), in the frontiers the duchy had in the third decade of the 14th century (including Glogau, Sagan [Żagań], Steinau [Ścinawa] and Lubin). According to the author, the small wooden and earthen castles from the turn of the 11th century and some larger 12th century ones are relics of Poland's rule in Silesia. They were probably administrative centres of supra–local level. Brick castles, modelled on German ones, appeared in the first half of the 12th century. Knights began to erect residences in the country (they are accessible in the archaeological record) during the formation

of the knights' estate in the second half of the 12th century; in the 14th century representatives of this social group were endowed with small castles. The spread of fire-arms led to the construction of strong fortifications. The first noblemen's Renaissance manor houses were built between 1530 and 1560. A catalogue of the structures discussed in the book is on pp. 229–575; it describes 44 ducal residences and 229 residences of knights, it shows what they looked like, presents their owners (and also the clerks in the case of ducal residences), and supplies information on sources, literature and archaeological work. (JA)

Jan Szymczak, *Pojedyunki i harce, turnieje i gonitwy. Walki o cześć, sławę i pieniądze w Polsce Piastów i Jagiellonów* [Duels and Combats, Tournaments and Races: Fights for Honour, Fame and Money in Poland under the Piasts and the Jagiellons], Warszawa 2008, DiG, 288 pp., 21 ill., sum. in German

The author discusses various kinds of fighting in which knights took part individually or in small groups. He divides them into three categories. The first category consisted of duels, which originated from trials by ordeal, but after some time their aim was to defend a person's honour. The second category, combats, preceded battles and were fought in front of the troops. Originally, they served to display the skill of heavily armed knights, and from the 16th century they were the domain of light horse and a means used to ascertain the strength of the adversary. It was believed that they predicted who will win the battle. The third category consisted of tournaments which originated from knights' exercises and assumed a popular character in the late Middle Ages. After analyzing the opinions on duels and tournaments expressed in sources, the author comes to the conclusion that they became more and more ambivalent, for on the one hand, they were regarded as a senseless and sinful bloodshed, while on the other, preparation for participation in them was thought to be an indispensable element of the education of noble knights and courtiers. (JA)

### EARLY MODERN TIMES

Grażyna Jurkowlaniec, *Epoka nowożytna wobec średniowiecza. Pamiątki przeszłości, cudowne wizerunki, dzieła sztuki* [The Early Modern Period and the Middle Ages: Tokens of the Past, Miraculous Images, Works of Art], Wrocław 2008, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego, 589 pp., 133 ill., indexes, bibl., sum. in English, series: Monografie Fundacji na rzecz Nauki Polskiej

The author discusses the reception and use of medieval works of art in the early modern epoch. This extensive and richly illustrated book consists of three parts. The first part deals with the reception of medieval works of sacral art, liturgical instruments and elements of interior decorations in churches. The second part

concerns the setting of these works of art, and the third presents opinions on old works of art and their aesthetic value.

The author concentrates on the attitude which the post-Tridentine Catholic Church and the new Protestant churches had to art. In the preface she recalls the confession theory, analyzes the theoretical demands and instructions put forward by theologians of various denominations and shows how they were implemented in practice in the interiors of churches.

Impressing the reader by her erudition and broad-mindedness, the author cites examples from the whole of Europe, concentrating on the Germany, Italy and the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. (MP)

Piotr Birecki, *Sztuka luterańska na ziemi chełmińskiej od drugiej połowy XVI do pierwszej ćwierci XVIII wieku* [Lutheran Art in the Chełmno Region from the Middle of the 16th Century to the Early 18th], Warszawa 2007, DiG, 485 pp., 85 ill., bibl., index of persons.

Piotr Birecki's book paints the picture of Lutheran art in Chełmno (Kulm) Land, a region whose main towns are Toruń, Chełmno, Brodnica, Grudziądz and Lubawa. The aim of the study is to present a full picture of Protestant art in that region from the 16th to the 18th century, and analyze its Reformation-inspired ideological content.

In ten chapters, the author presents the historical context in which art functioned in that region, focusing on its doctrinal and ideological content and analyzing the interior elements of Lutheran churches. Altars, pulpits, baptismal fonts, organs, confessionals, pews, stalls, galleries, clocks and money-boxes are all discussed separately. Birecki then deals with paintings in the interior of churches, portraits of townsmen and clergymen, liturgical vessels, epitaphs and tombstones. Finally he discusses the influence which the Reformation exerted on secular art.

This synthesis of Lutheran art, based on handwritten sources, is certainly noteworthy. The author has not confined himself to iconographic material but has also carried out research in the archives of Toruń, Gdańsk, Pelplin and Berlin. (MP)

Małgorzata Mieszek, *Intermedium polskie XVI-XVIII w. Teatry szkolne* [Polish Entr'actes from the 16th to the 18th Century: School Theatres], Kraków 2007, Collegium Columbinum, 504 pp., index of persons, 4 ill., sum. in German

Małgorzata Mieszek's study deals with the entr'actes performed in school theatres in the Polish-Lithuanian state. This is a re-edited version of the doctoral thesis she presented at Lodz University. It covers the period from 1579 to 1765. The first entr'acte was shown at the Jesuits' college in Pułtusk. 1765 is the year when the National Theatre was founded.

The texts analyzed by the author were created for school theatres active in schools run by Jesuit, Piarist, Basilian and Theatine monks, for the Protestant secondary schools in Royal Prussia and Greater Poland and for the Cracow Academy.

In nine chapters the author characterizes the interludes performed at individual schools, compares them with the entr'actes created in popular and royal court milieus, analyzes the structure and elements of their plots and depicts their comic aspects. The study shows that the entr'actes existed in theatre schools as a separate genre of drama. (MP)

Danuta Künstler–Langner, *Aniol w poezji baroku. Dzieje postaci w kulturze dawnej Europy* [The Angel in Baroque Poetry: Its History in the Culture of Old Europe], Toruń 2007, Wydawnictwo Naukowe Uniwersytetu Mikołaja Kopernika, 233 pp., ill., sum. in English, French, German

Danuta Künstler–Langner's book deals with the figure of the angel in Baroque poetry, but the author's reflections also refer to visual arts and are preceded by a preface discussing medieval ideas about angels. The author examines angelological themes in the works of most important Baroque poets: Mikołaj Sep–Szarzyński, Sebastian Grabowiecki, Kacper Twardowski, Zbigniew Morsztyn and Stanisław Herakliusz Lubomirski. She compares their ideas about angels with the ideas of the best European creators: George Herbert, Henry Vaughan, Richard Crashaw, Jean de la Cepped, Jean–Baptiste Chassignet and with the mystical works of Angelus Silesius.

Old Polish authors attributed functions to angels which were known already in the Middle Ages. They regarded them as protectors, interpreters of the world, guides to God's house, commentators of individual fates, defenders against the forces of darkness and death witnesses. In poetry the figure of an angel appeared most frequently in a religious context, as an emanation of God and a sign of God's presence.

The study is an attempt to interpret well known poems from another point of view. It does not present new theories, nor does it put new ideas into scientific circulation. (MP)

Radosław Skrycki, *Dzieje kartografii Nowej Marchii do końca XVIII wieku* [The History of the Cartography of the New March up to the End of the 18th Century], Warszawa 2008, DiG, 152 pp., bibl., index of persons, 22 ill.

Radosław Skrycki's study is the first attempt in Polish historiography to describe the development of cartography in the New Mark; it is also an important supplement to Karol Buczek's synthesizing works. It deserves all the more attention as the part of Brandenburg beyond the Oder has rarely been researched by Polish historians during the last fifty years.

The first independent map of the New Mark was created by Elias Camerarius after John I Hohenzollern, Margrave of Brandenburg-Küstrin, having accepted the Reformation, reorganized the state. The next maps were created by Olof Jansson Svart, Nicolas Sanson d'Abbeville, Jacob Paul von Gundling and Ludwig Gusefeld.

The book has eight chapters, the first six of which deal with the self-contained maps of the New Mark and their authors, while the last two with the maps of towns, the regulation of rivers, plans of battlefields, and the way the New Mark was presented on the maps of neighbouring regions. Among the most important maps of neighbouring regions are those by Bernard Wapowski, Waclaw Grodecki, Eilhard Lubinus and David Gilly.

The book is important for the history of cartography and it is a pity that it has not been equipped with a summary in a foreign language. (MP)

Małgorzata Borkowska OSB, *Leksykon zakonnic polskich epoki przedrozbiorowej*, iii: *Wielkie Księstwo Litewskie i Ziemia Ruskie Korony Polskiej* [Lexicon of Polish Nuns in the Pre-Partition Era, iii: The Grand Duchy of Lithuania and the Polish Crown's Ruthenian Territories], Warszawa 2008, DiG, 370 pp.

This encyclopedic publication is the third volume of the series, the first volume of which covered Greater Poland, Kuyavia and Pomerania; the second volume concerned central and southern Poland. The lexicon contains brief biographies of all nuns and novices who were members of religious congregations in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania and in the Polish Crown's Ruthenian territories. The material in the first part of the volume is divided into two parts which correspond to the geographical division signalled in the title. Within each of these two geographical sections, the biographies are arranged by religious orders and contain brief information on the history of each order. The biographies follow one pattern, but not all of them contain full information. This is a result of the fact that not all source materials have been well preserved and some religious orders have not yet been fully researched.

As far as this is possible, the author gives the name and surname of each nun, her name in the congregation, information on the dates of her birth and death, her origin, information on the dowry she brought into the convent, the position she held in the congregation, possibly also information on her obituary if it has survived and very brief bibliographical information. This is supplemented with a specific index: an alphabetical list of all persons whose biographies are in the first part of the book. The name of each person on the list is followed by a reference number which makes it easy to find the respective biography. The lexicon not only provides useful materials for researchers into the history of religious orders in the early modern era but is also a very valuable supplement to the information contained in the Polish Biographical Dictionary whose authors have often paid little attention to well known men's daughters and widows who took the veil. (DD)

Marek Ferenc, *Mikołaj Radziwiłł 'Rudy' (ok. 1515–1584). Działalność polityczna i wojskowa* [Nicholas Radziwiłł, the Red (ca 1515–1584): His Political and Military Activity], Kraków 2008, Towarzystwo Wydawnicze 'Historia Iagellonica', 670 pp., bibl., index of persons, appendix

Marek Ferenc's monumental study is devoted to one of the most important politicians of the Polish–Lithuanian state in the 16th century, a representative of a powerful Lithuanian family closely linked to the royal throne. Nicholas the Red, who for some time was overshadowed by his elder brother Nicholas the Black, was active during a period which abounded in dynamic political changes. This extensive biography is therefore something more than a mere analysis of the career of a magnate; it reveals the mechanisms of power in an early modern state.

Ferenc — basing mainly on Radziwiłł's correspondence and on documents kept in many archives and libraries in Poland, Russia, Belarus, Austria, Ukraine and Lithuania — focuses on Nicholas's political and military activity. In seven chapters he presents the foundations of his hero's career, the beginnings of his independent activity, his work during the wars against Moscow and during the process which led to the conclusion of the Union of Lublin, during the interregnum and the reign of Stephen Bathory. The most important moments in Nicholas the Red's career were the negotiations and conclusion of the Union of Lublin which united Lithuania more strongly with Poland. Like other Lithuanian magnates, Nicholas the Red was against the Union. The author discloses his hero's behind-the-scenes policy, regarding the him mainly as a continuator of Nicholas the Black. What is praiseworthy is that Ferenc has not let himself be fascinated by his protagonist and has retained objectivity; in his view, Radziwiłł was neither an outstanding politician nor a talented military man.

The study is a valuable complement to Raimonda Ragauskienė's biography which appeared in 2006, it expands the information provided by the Lithuanian writer. Given the international significance of the Radziwiłł family and the importance of this new study, it is surprising that the book has no summary in a foreign language. (MP)

Bonawentura Czarliński and Stefan Giżycki, *Księżę Janusz Wiśniowiecki (1598–1636) w lubelskich kazaniach pogrzebowych* [Prince Janusz Wiśniowiecki (1598–1636) in the Funeral Sermons Delivered in Lublin], ed. Michał Kuran, Lublin 2007, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Marii Curie–Skłodowskiej, 118 pp., index, glossary

The publication contains two funeral sermons which were delivered and published after the death of the Borderland magnate Prince Janusz Wiśniowiecki, who died in the prime of his life. The prince, who was very well educated, is remembered in history as the patron of the poet Samuel Twardowski. The sermons were delivered by two Bernardine monks Bonawentura Czarliński and Stefan Giżycki.

Even though interest in funeral sermons has been growing for years, Polish research on this subject still lags behind the studies conducted, for instance, on British, French and German funeral sermons. This solidly prepared edition, equipped with a critical apparatus and an extensive introduction, is therefore most welcome. (MP)

Ryszard Szmydki, *Artystyczno-dyplomatyczne kontakty Zygmunta III Wazy z Niderlandami Południowymi* [Sigismund III Vasa's Artistic and Diplomatic Contacts with the Southern Netherlands], Lublin 2008, Wydawnictwo Katolickiego Uniwersytetu Lubelskiego, 350 pp., 33 ill., appendix of sources, bibl., indexes, sum. in English

Ryszard Szmydki's interesting study discusses the contacts between the king Sigismund III, the first king of the Swedish Vasa dynasty, and the Southern Netherlands in 1598–1632, that is, between the death of the king's first wife, Anna, and the death of the king. The memorial ceremonies organized in Brussels after the death of Anna, who came from the Habsburg family, provided an opportunity for enlivening contacts with the artists of the Netherlands. These contacts had a long tradition which is described in the first part of the book. In the next three parts the author discusses Sigismund's patronage of the arts, the reasons why the king ordered paintings, his collections and his building investments. According to the author, the facts he has established make it possible to compare Sigismund Vasa's collection with the collection of Rudolf II, for it included works by Peter Paul Rubens, Johann Brueghel, Anton van Dyck, Jacob Jordanes and Pieter Claesz Soutman.

The facts and works discussed by the author are not, of course, unknown and have already been analyzed by Jan Białostocki, Juliusz Chrościcki, Jerzy Lileyko and Adam Miłobędzki. But thanks to his research in the archives of Amsterdam, Antwerp, Brussels, The Hague, Leiden and Lille, Szmydki has been able to present new conclusions and make the known facts more precise. (MP)

Mariusz Drozdowski, *Religia i kozaczyzna zaporoska w Rzeczypospolitej w pierwszej połowie XVII wieku* [Religion and the Cossacks of Zaporozhe in the Polish–Lithuanian Commonwealth in the First Half of the 17th Century], Warszawa 2008, DiG, 268 pp., bibl., appendix, index of persons

Mariusz Drozdowski discusses the religiousness of the Cossacks of Zaporozhe after the Union of Brest which was to unite the Orthodox Church with Catholicism. The Cossacks, most of whom were of the Orthodox faith, came out against the Union, like the majority of their co-religionists. The author presents changes in the religiousness of this military community in four chapters. In the first, he deals with the fate of the Cossacks after the Union of Brest (1596). In the second chapter, he discusses the Cossacks' aspirations to secure the regulation by the

Polish–Lithuanian Commonwealth of the legal situation of the Orthodox Church. The third chapter presents the reasons for the Cossacks' anti-Union activity and the fourth shows what the Uniates thought of Cossacks' religiousness. The author notices changes in Cossacks' religiousness during the period he has examined, and says that the fact that they were ignored by the contemporaries led to serious political consequences.

The book is based on solid source materials kept in the archives of Warsaw, Gdańsk, Cracow, Kórnik, Wrocław and Kiev. The author deserves credit for an ingenious approach to the subject and a scrupulous use of sources, but what is objectionable is the construction of the book (the introduction makes up 20 per cent of the book, and there are too many quotations from other studies dealing with this subject).

In view of the weight of the study, its international character and the author's research into sources, it is regrettable that the book lacks a summary in a foreign language. (MP)

Piotr Kroll, *Od ugody hadziackiej do Cudnowa. Kozaczyzna między Rzeczpospolitą a Moskwą w latach 1658–1660* [From the Hadziacz Treaty to Cudnów: The Cossacks between the Commonwealth and Moscow in 1658–1660], Warszawa 2008, Wydawnictwa Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego, 452 pp., appendices, maps, bibl., indexes

The book presents the history of the Cossack region in the years between the death of Bohdan Chmielnicki and the Cudnów agreement which concluded the Cossacks' war with Moscow, leading to Ukraine's division into a part on the right bank of the Dnieper, ruled by the Polish–Lithuanian state, and a part on the Dnieper's left bank subordinated to Moscow. The period analyzed by the author witnessed a gradual decline of the Dnieper Cossacks' importance. Kroll starts with the Hadziacz treaty: the political situation in the Dnieper Cossacks immediately before the negotiations with Poland and the circumstances in which the agreement was concluded. The main part of the book is an analysis of the policy pursued towards the Polish–Lithuanian state and Moscow by Hetman Ivan Vyhovskii, who strove for a revision of the Hadziacz treaty in order finally to gain sovereignty for the Cossacks. The author presents the reasons for Vyhovskii's fall and for the collapse of his idea, and describes the activities of the courts in Moscow and Warsaw, each of which wanted to win the Cossacks over to its side. Kroll also analyzes the reasons for the split among the Cossacks after their subordination to the tsar in 1659. He concentrates on political history but does not avoid military matters (e.g. description of the Konotopsk and Cudnów campaigns). The book is based mainly on Vyhovskii's correspondence kept in AGAD (Central Archives of Historical Records) in Warsaw, and other source materials from the Czartoryskis' Library, the libraries of the Polish Academy of Sciences and the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences in Cracow, and the Stefanyk Library in Lviv. (DD)



Antoni Mironowicz, *Diecezja białoruska w XVII i XVIII wieku* [The Byelorussian Diocese in the 17th and 18th Centuries], Białystok 2008, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu w Białymstoku, 351 pp., bibl., index, sum. in English and Russian

In this extensive study Antoni Mironowicz presents the Byelorussian Orthodox diocese in a synthesizing way and sums up the research he has conducted for many years and the conclusions of his publications. The book is based mainly on handwritten sources kept in the archives of Saint Petersburg, Warsaw, the Vatican, Vilnius, Cracow, Kiev and other towns.

The eparchy was set up in 1633, when Ladislaus IV tried to normalize religious matters; it functioned in the Polish–Lithuanian Commonwealth up to 1772. After the fall of the state it was incorporated into the Russian Orthodox Church and after some time was abolished. The author describes the history of the diocese chronologically, dividing it into the terms served by successive bishops. Each chapter begins with a biographical outline which is followed by a description of the situation of the bishopric and the Orthodox church in the Polish–Lithuanian state. The last two chapters deal with the monasteries in the Byelorussian diocese and the situation of the Orthodox Church in the Polish–Lithuanian state in 1772–95 (between the first and the last partition of Poland).

Mironowicz shows the fate of the Byelorussian diocese against a wide historical background, taking into account Rome's policy towards the Orthodox Church, the policy pursued by the rulers of the Polish–Lithuanian state and the activities of Moscow rulers. According to Mironowicz, the Orthodox Church, faced with political pressure, owed its survival to the bishops, many of whom were very well educated, had great preaching talents and were strongly attached to the Orthodox faith. (MP)

Konrad Bobiatyński, *Michał Kazimierz Pac — wojewoda wileński, hetman wielki litewski. Działalność polityczno-wojskowa* [Michał Kazimierz Pac — Voivode of Wilno, Grand Hetman of Lithuania: His Political and Military Activity], Warszawa 2008, Neriton, 458 pp., ill., genealogical table, bibl., index of persons, sum. in English and Lithuanian

This is the first scientific biography of Michał Kazimierz Pac, a Grand Hetman of Lithuania and Voivode of Wilno who exerted considerable influence on the history of the Polish–Lithuanian Commonwealth in the second half of the 17th century. On the basis of still unused, very extensive source materials preserved in Polish, Lithuanian, Ukrainian, Byelorussian and also Swedish, German and Austrian archives, the author presents his protagonist's public activity and military career. The book is chronologically divided into nine chapters. In addition to describing, and frequently re-interpreting, certain facts from Pac's life story, the author tries to point out the factors which made it possible for him to make such a rapid career, and to explain whether his career was typical of the times. Bobiatyński depicts in a very interesting way Pac's changing political

sympathies, the sudden way in which he switched his support from one political party to another. He also discusses the functioning of the Pac party in Lithuania. He portrays its leader against the background of his party and explains the role the voivode played in it. Another question raised in the book is the structure and functioning of Pac's civilian and military clientele. (DD)

Piotr Napierała, *Sir Robert Walpole 1676–1745. Twórca brytyjskiej potęgi* [Sir Robert Walpole 1676–1745: The Architect of Britain's Might], Poznań 2008, Wydawnictwo Naukowe UAM, 214 pp., ill., bibl., sum. in English

This is the first Polish biography of Robert Walpole, the first prime minister of Great Britain. The author focuses on the political career and public activity of his hero. The book is arranged chronologically, nine chapters present the successive years of Walpole's activity from 1700 to 1745, while the first chapter concerns his childhood and youth. Napierała has made use of an extensive literature, mostly in English, but he has also studied published source materials concerning mainly political matters, especially diplomacy, during Walpole's rule. Thanks to this he has succeeded in weaving the biography of his protagonist into the history of Britain's policy and diplomacy during the first part of the 18th century. The author pays much attention to British political culture during that time. Unlike many of his predecessors and contrary to the black legend surrounding Walpole, Napierała tries to enhance the virtues of his hero, regarding him as the architect of the might of the British Empire. He draws attention to the close links between Walpole's internal policy and the activity of British diplomacy in the international forum. What is interesting is that Napierała also writes about Britain's diplomatic relations with such countries as Denmark, Sweden, Russia and Poland, the significance of which is usually belittled by British researchers. (DD)

Krzysztof Obremski, *Jakub Kazimierz Rubinkowski. Dziejopis i człowiek saskiego półwiecza* [Jakub Kazimierz Rubinkowski: Historiographer and Man of the Half-Century Saxon Rule], Warszawa 2008, DiG, 340 pp., ill., appendices, bibl., index of persons

This historical-literary work is a collection of studies devoted to literature and culture during the period of Saxon rule in Poland (four of the 15 chapters have been published separately earlier). This is also an attempt at a new interpretation of the hero of the book, a voice in the discussion on the person and literary achievements of Jakub Kazimierz Rubinkowski; it is a polemic against Kazimierz Maliszewski's study, *Jakub Kazimierz Rubinkowski: szlachcic, mieszczanin toruński, erudyta barokowy* [Jakub Kazimierz Rubinkowski, a Nobleman, Patrician of Thorn, Baroque Erudite] published in 1982. Obremski starts with reflections on Sarmatism and Sarmatian messianism. Two studies deal with the works *Psalmody* and *Janina*. The next chapter concerns *The Rays of Royal Virtues* which, in the

author's opinion, is the crowning piece of old Polish royal panegyrics. Obremski also analyses Rubinkowski's attitude to the Thorn tumult of 1724. Much space is devoted in the book to the *Chronicle of Polish Monarchs*. The second part of the book contains some additions to Rubinkowski's biography. The book is supplemented with appendices containing some of Rubinkowski's short studies. (DD)

Marian Surdacki, *Urzędów w XVII i XVIII wieku. Miasto — społeczeństwo — życie codzienne* [Urzędów in the 17th and 18th Centuries: The Town — Its Inhabitants — Everyday Life], Lublin 2008, Towarzystwo Naukowe Katolickiego Uniwersytetu Lubelskiego Jana Pawła II, 660 pp., 316 ill., appendix, bibl., index of persons, sum. in English, series: Źródła i Monografie

This is a monograph of Urzędów, a typical town in the Lublin region during the Old Polish period. Despite the chronological restriction in the title, the author starts his reflections with the 1560s and brings them up to the 19th century. The book is based on over a dozen municipal books preserved in the State Archives in Lublin and on church sources kept in Cracow and Lublin. In the first part of the work, the author depicts the layout of the town, the size of the population and its religious and socio-occupational structure. He describes how the town was run and the functioning of the individual structures of power, including the council and the courts of law. A separate part is devoted to the economy, that is, trade, handicrafts and the sale and purchase of land. The next chapter concerns the role played by *starosts* in the town's life. Surdacki also discusses the town's finances and the taxes paid by the townsmen. He depicts the structure of the parishes and of the clergy. A separate part is devoted to the religious brotherhoods existing in the town and to religious ceremonies. The other chapters concern schools, education, culture and social assistance as well as the everyday life and customs of the inhabitants of Urzędów. A small chapter discusses political life. The book is equipped with an appendix which contains a list of the municipal officials of the town, indicating the name of the office and the time when each official was employed. (DD)

## NINETEENTH CENTURY

Jerzy Kukulski, *Państwo — chłop — kościół w okresie wielkich reform na ziemiach Królestwa Polskiego w latach 1768–1890* [The State — the Peasants — and the Church during the Great Reforms Carried Out in the Territories of the Polish Kingdom in 1768–1890], Piotrków Trybunalski 2007, Naukowe Wydawnictwo Piotrkowskie, 509 pp., tables, appendices, index of persons

The book is divided into two parts. The first part deals with relations between the state and the peasants and the second part with relations between the state and the church in the territories which in 1815 became the Congress

Kingdom of Poland. The author describes these relations in the last few years of the Polish state and in the first 100 years after the loss of independence. The arrangement is chronological in both parts. The book is based mainly on legal acts of a normative character. After briefly discussing the state's attitude to the peasant question during the reign of Stanislas Augustus, at the turn of the 19th century, and during the period of the Duchy of Warsaw, the author concentrates on the 19th century, devoting two extensive chapters to this epoch: 'From Rent Reforms to Enfranchisement' and 'The Enfranchisement of Peasants and Farming Townsmen in 1864 and 1866'. In the first chapter Kukulski discusses the peasants' situation during the time when the Polish Kingdom enjoyed autonomy, the programme of rent reforms, the peasants' attitude to the act of 1864 and its consequences. In the latter chapter he starts with the enfranchisement law of 1864 and then focuses on its implementation and consequences. The second part of the book, devoted to the influence which the Polish-Lithuanian state and later the occupying powers exerted on the situation of the Catholic Church and the fate of its clergymen, starts again with a brief review of the situation before the partitions and in the three zones under foreign rule until the establishment of the Duchy of Warsaw. The author then discusses in detail the legal and economic situation of the Catholic Church in the Duchy of Warsaw and the Polish Kingdom. Separate chapters have been devoted to the period between the November 1830 Uprising and the January 1863 Uprising and to the years 1863-90. (DD)

Jerzy Szczepański, *Książę Ksawery Drucki-Lubecki, 1778-1846* [Prince Ksawery Drucki-Lubecki 1778-1846], Warszawa 2008, DiG, 278 pp., ill., genealogical table, maps, bibl., indexes, sum. in English

This is a biography of Ksawery Drucki-Lubecki, one of the most important Polish politicians of the first half of the 19th century. Although a rich literature has been devoted to Drucki-Lubecki, the author has made use of previously unknown Lithuanian sources (the archives of the Drucki-Lubeckis from Szczuczyn, kept in the State Historical Archives in Vilnius) and of Russian sources. Thanks to this, he has been able to draw readers' attention to less known aspects of Drucki-Lubecki's life and activity, but has refrained from a detailed analysis of elements of his biography which are known from other books. Szczepański also discusses the black legend surrounding his protagonist. The book has been arranged in chronological order. The author starts with the private life of Drucki-Lubecki and then goes on to describe his political career and economic activity when he was Minister for the Treasury. In separate chapters Szczepański discusses Drucki-Lubecki's attitude to the November 1830 Uprising, his mission to Saint Petersburg and his work in the Russian Council of State. The author portrays the life and career of Drucki-Lubecki against a wide background of Polish-Russian relations during that time. (DD)

Marcin Wodziński, *Władze Królestwa Polskiego wobec chasydyzmu. Z dziejów stosunków politycznych* [The Attitude of the Authorities of the Congress Kingdom of Poland to Hasidism: A History of Political Relations], Wrocław 2008, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego, 283 pp., bibl., index, sum. in English

On the basis of archives in Poland, Vienna and Jerusalem, as well as diaries and various published materials, the author presents the relations between the authorities of the Kingdom of Poland (established at the Congress of Vienna in 1815) and the Jewish population in the country in 1815–30. He is interested in the functioning of Jewish communes and the scope of their competence in questions referring to religious cult and politics, as well as in the debate on the modernization of Polish Jewry, as a contribution to a debate which had been going on since the middle of the 18th century.

Wodziński records the activities of three main forces: the authorities of Congress Poland, the conservative Hasidic movement, and the Jewish enlightenment movement, which turned out to be the weakest factor in everyday practice and in intellectual debates. The confrontation between Jews and the bureaucratic government led to the victory of the Hasidic movement, which became the dominant factor in Jewish life in Polish territories (not only in Congress Poland) in the remaining years of the 19th century and at the beginning of the 20th. The book is a specific treatise showing how a movement fighting for democratization (the *Haskalah*) suffered a crushing defeat in its struggle against an undemocratic state, while benefits were derived by a formation which declared itself to be a religious, anti-modern movement and kept referring to sacred things in politics. (MM)

Jan Wnęk, *Krakowskie środowisko historyczne 1815–1860* [The Cracow Historians' Milieu 1815–1860], Kraków 2008, Oficyna Wydawnicza Impuls, 316 pp.

The author deals with a period which is relatively little known in the history of Cracow and its university, the oldest educational institution of this type in Poland. The time-frame he has chosen includes two completely different stages in the city's history: the period of the independent Republic of Cracow established at the Congress of Vienna in 1815 and abolished after the fall of Cracow Uprising of 1846, and the first fifteen years after the city's incorporation into Polish Galicia. Whereas in the first period the city and its university were the most important enclave of a practically unhampered Polishness and one of the main intellectual centres of divided Poland, the years after 1846 witnessed a marginalization of the city and the germanization of its structures. This trend was brought to an end by the reforms introduced in the Habsburg monarchy in the 1860s and at the beginning of the 1870s.

Wnęk says that in 1815–60, 26 historians worked in Cracow or were closely linked to the city. Among them were professional researchers as well as amateurs,

mostly of noble background. They dealt mainly with Poland's history, not only political history but also the history of art, law and medicine, as well as local and regional history. What characterized their works was provincialism, and the fact that their aims, subjects and research methods were not original but derivative. This is visible if we compare them not only with German and Austrian historiography but also with Polish historiography, especially with the works produced at the University of Wilno, where Joachim Lelewel was active at that time. This changed in the 1860s, when Cracow became the cradle of a historical school which used scientific methods to question the achievements of Polish Romantic historiography.

The author has made use of reminiscences and the press of the epoch but, first and foremost, he has based his book on an analysis of over 120 published works and manuscripts. (MM)

Jerzy Kukulski, *Generałowie carscy i ich majątki ziemskie w Królestwie Polskim, 1835–1920* [Tsarist Generals and Their Estates in the Polish Kingdom, 1835–1920], Warszawa 2007, Neriton, 393 pp., annexes, index of persons, sum. in Russian

On the basis of a decree issued by Tsar Nicholas I in 1835, senior Russian officers who distinguished themselves in suppressing Polish fights for independence were rewarded with estates in the Polish Congress Kingdom. The majority of the estates were treasury estates which after the last partition of Poland became state property of the Russian Empire; some were confiscated from the Catholic Church or from individual owners. The awards were granted after the defeat of successive uprisings — the November Uprising of 1830–1 (the first wave of endowments occurred after the above-mentioned decree of 1835) and the January Uprising of 1863–4; individual grants were awarded after 1870 and later. More than 200 persons received estates. The tsar's decree had strictly political aims in view; the endowment fees were a form of reprisal for the insurrections and were to pave the way for the Russification of the landowning class in central Poland. The aim was, however, not achieved; the new owners, preoccupied with military service or wishing to advance in their career, usually left the management of their estate to administrators (who did their best to plunder it) or if they lived there, they succumbed to the influence of Polish landowning neighbours and Polish culture. The outbreak and course of World War I deprived the Russians of contact with their estates. The resolution adopted by the Sejm in reborn Poland on 25 July 1919 abolished the endowments and returned the estates to the Polish state.

Kukulski's book, based on solid materials from Polish and Russian archives as well as on published sources, does not make exciting reading and requires a great deal of goodwill and concentration from the reader. But it is certainly very useful for researchers interested in property relations in the Congress Kingdom in the 19th century, especially those who try to reconstruct the relations between Poles and Russians when Poland was under Russian rule. (MM)

Eugeniusz Niebelski (ed.), *Zesłańcy postyczniowi w Imperium Rosyjskim. Studia dedykowane Profesor Wiktorii Śliwowskiej* [Post-January Exiles in the Russian Empire: Studies Dedicated to Professor Wiktoria Śliwowska], Lublin — Warszawa 2008, Wydawnictwo KUL, IH PAN, 445 pp., index of persons, sum. in English

The exiling of Poles into the depth of Russia and Siberia was an essential part of Polish reality from at least the middle of the 18th century and of Polish historiography from the middle of the 19th. Professor Wiktoria Śliwowska to whom the volume is dedicated has been an unquestionable leader in research on this subject for several score years. The book contains texts by authors from various Polish, Lithuanian and Russian centres which have contributed studies to this vast subject. After the January Uprising of 1863–4, some 40,000 persons — insurrectionists as well as civilian activists, men and women, landowners, priests, intellectuals and plebeians — were exiled from Polish territories. Their fate — during the insurrection and in exile, during the brutally suppressed attempt to escape from Siberia to China, known as the 1866 Baikal Uprising, and finally after their return to Poland — has attracted the interest of the authors of this volume. Attention has also been paid in the book to texts by diarists who wrote about the exile and to studies by historians.

The book contains many interesting articles which break a new trail for Siberian historiography. Among them are studies devoted to individual exiles (for instance, 'The Exile of the Bishop of Wilno Adam Stanisław Krasiński' by Aldona Prašmantaitė) or groups of exiles (e.g. Polish students and graduates of the university in Dorpat, now called Tartu), studies presenting places to which persons sentenced to *katorga* (penal labour) in Siberia were sent (such as the Usol salt settlement in Irkutsk province) and Polish exiles' contacts with local groups of the Yakuts and other far-eastern nations. Let us also mention texts presenting the efforts made to secure the prisoners' return to Poland and their future fate in the Polish Kingdom and in Galicia, the Austrian partition of Poland from whose several thousand strong contingent of volunteers over 2,000 were exiled after the uprising. The reader will also find here reflections on historians who have dealt with the Poles' exiles or in general with Siberia, that vast 'prison' of the Romanovs, from texts by Polish exiles who carried out research work in the 19th and 20th centuries (such as the writers Agaton Giller and Waclaw Sieroszewski or the Capuchin Father Waclaw Nowakowski) to the American George Kennan, who is the subject of Mirosław Filipowicz's article. A volume devoted to the 'Post-January Exiles' could not of course do without articles dedicated to their distinguished researcher. The reader will find here information on Wiktoria Śliwowska's contribution to Siberian historiography, a bibliography of her ca 300 publications from 1954 to 2007 and a few reflections (by Anna Brus, Mirosław Filipowicz and Eugeniusz Niebelski) on her historical writings about the fate of Poles in Siberia. (MM)

Henryk Piersa, *Wiedza astronomiczno-fizykalna w twórczości literackiej Bolesława Prusa* [Knowledge of Physics and Astronomy in Bolesław Prus's Literary Works], Lublin 2007, 'Norbertinum', 99 pp.

Being an outstanding journalist and publicist, the great Polish 19th century novelist Bolesław Prus (pen name of Aleksander Głowacki) was convinced that the world, societies and individuals were governed by the laws of the exact sciences (especially mathematics) and natural sciences. As a result, his works contain many themes, terms, problems, phenomena and devices (real or imagined) which had previously been rarely referred to in literature. In his plots and digressions Prus loved to make use of the latest achievements of chemistry, medicine, psychology, technology, especially physics and astronomy, including cosmology. His novels contain, for instance, a precise description of an eclipse of the sun in ancient Egypt (*Pharaoh*), a vision of metals lighter than air, which will enable man to fly (*The Doll*), and a suggestive description of a village boy's fascination with the inaccessible world of science and technology represented by the windmills he watches from across the river (the short story *Antek*).

The author, a physicist by education, reconstructs in a concise but convincing way the connection between the astronomical and physical themes in Prus's works and the state of science at that time. According to him, the novelist could boast a wide knowledge in these fields, even though literary fantasy led him astray at times. (MM)

Zofia Romanowiczówna, *Dziennik lwowski 1842–1930* [Lwów Diary 1842–1930], ed. Zbigniew Sudolski, Warszawa 2005, Ancher, i: 1842–1887, ii: 1888–1930, 715+615 pp., ill., annexes, index of persons

Zofia Romanowiczówna (1842–1935) was a model representative of Polish 19th century intelligentsia in the Austrian partition of Poland. Daughter of a Lwów barrister and sister of Tadeusz Romanowicz, a journalist, member of the National *Sejm* (Galician *Landtag*), one of the leading Galician politicians in the 19th–20th centuries, she was from her early youth an indefatigable national and social activist and writer, and in the final years of her long life was one of the most respected personalities in Polish Lwów. Her diary is probably her most important achievement, the most extensive, anyway, it covers nearly 90 years (with a break in 1869–75, caused by a painful disappointment in love). It includes intimate notes about the author's personal experiences and reflections as well as her opinions on matters which were important for Galicia and the whole of partitioned Poland.

Romanowiczówna was an ostentatiously but deeply religious person like many members of the Galician elite, both men and women, at that time. Many pages of her diary are filled with reflections on the role of the Roman Catholic Church in Poland's history with notes on her spiritual semimystical experiences. They detail her laborious efforts to improve herself, to improve her character. These,



together with the setbacks in her emotional life, turned that romantic girl into an activist fully devoted to the national cause, into an altruist who took the welfare of other people to heart. The diary also includes many interesting remarks covering events, set down on paper as they happened, including during the January Uprising of 1863–4, on the emergence of Galicia's political autonomy and the disputes over the shape of Galician Poles' patriotism, the First World War and the reconstruction of independent Poland. The diary ends with short biographies of the persons mentioned by the author, and annexes which include the author's reminiscences, 'The Persons I Have Known', and a letter written by her brother from the Olomouc (Olomuniec) fortress where he was imprisoned for taking part in the January Uprising. All in all, this extensive book, though written in maudlin style, is an interesting record of a large part of Galicia's history and of the reborn Polish Republic.

*Dziennik* has been published from handwritten exercise books kept in the National Ossoliński Institute. Care was taken to limit the editor's interference to the minimum so as to allow the author herself to speak. (MM)

Krzysztof Zajas, *Nieobecna kultura. Przypadek Inflant Polskich* [Polish Livonia — An Absent Culture], Kraków 2008, 'Universitas', 393 pp.

This is the first attempt in Polish historiography to tackle the phenomenon of Polish Livonia, a Baltic region which, as a result of dynastic agreements, had belonged to Poland until the fall of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth at the end of the 18th century, was then incorporated into the Russian Empire and is now part of Latvia and Estonia.

The author discusses in detail the historical and anthropological roots of the Livonian phenomenon: the fact that the country lay at the point of contact between Polish, German and Russian expansion, at the point where three religions, Catholic, Protestant and Orthodox, met. He presents Polish 19th and 20th century Livonians (or Livonian Poles) as a redundant and completely forgotten link in the process of regional evolution. The book is based on literary and scientific texts from the region, from the period discussed by the author.

The author claims that the issue of Polish Livonia is rarely discussed in the Polish humanities, nor is it present in Russian or German humanities. He tries to give it the place it deserves as a typical example of the identity of a multicultural, heterogeneous borderland region and, as a unique phenomenon of a region at the point of contact between many cultures. This attempt will most probably end in failure. (MM)

Jarosław Klaczkow, *Protestanckie wydawnictwa prasowe na ziemiach polskich w XIX i pierwszej połowie XX wieku* [The Protestant Press in the Polish Territories in the 19th and Early 20th Centuries], Toruń 2008, Wydawnictwo Adam Marszałek, 456 pp., bibl., indexes, sum. in German, English, Ukrainian and Russian

The Protestants were the third largest Christian community in the Polish territories between the Third Partition of Poland (1795) and the outbreak of World War II (1939). They lived in many regions from Pomerania, Greater Poland, Mazuria, Upper Silesia, Teschen Silesia (in which regions they constituted the majority or a significant minority of the population), through central Poland (Warsaw, Łódź) up to the eastern areas, including Volhynia and Wilno. They belonged to various Churches, the Augsburg Lutheran Church and the Reformed Church having the largest number of believers. There were also other Protestant churches in Poland such as, for instance, the Adventists, the Baptists and the Methodists. The Protestants also differed from the national point of view, having Poles, Germans, Czechs, Ukrainians, Byelorussians and even Jews among their members.

The 19th and 20th century press of the Protestant communities has not yet been the subject of a monograph. Klaczkow's book is a pioneering attempt. It is made up of two parts. In the first, the author characterizes Protestant periodicals and calendars, dividing them into those published by the Lutheran, Calvinist and other churches. The second, a very valuable part, contains an alphabetical bibliography of Protestant periodicals from the years 1822–1939. The bibliography comprises 356 press items published or circulated in Polish territories in the languages of the respective communities. Each item contains basic information on the publisher, on the place where the issues are kept, a short characterization of the content of each periodical and the subjects raised in its columns. Klaczkow's conclusions as well as the list compiled by him, based on his own search in Polish, German and Lithuanian archives and on the periodicals themselves, make interesting reading and broaden our historical knowledge. (MM)

Bernadetta Wójtowicz–Huber, *'Ojcowie narodu'. Duchowieństwo greckokatolickie w ruchu narodowym Rusinów galicyjskich, 1867–1918* ['The Fathers of the Nation': Greek Catholic Clergy in the Galician Ruthenians' National Movement, 1867–1918], Warszawa 2008, Wydawnictwa Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego, 336 pp., ill., index of persons, series: Druga Europa

The work conducted by churches to spread national consciousness among the societies of East–Central Europe is a question which still requires profound research. 'The Fathers of the Nation' is a monograph which presents the work carried out by the Greek Catholic clergy to modernize and awaken the Galician Ruthenians' national consciousness. Wójtowicz–Huber concentrates on relations between Galician local societies and representatives of two rival options: the

Orthodox Russophile trend and the national Ukrainian (Greek Catholic) trend during the period of Galician autonomy. The other important subject raised in the monograph is the attitude of the Greek Catholic Church to socialist and radical movements and the participation of clergymen in the life of rural population. The author has based her book mainly on sources kept in Ukraine's Central State Historical Archives in Lviv, the Stefanyk (former Ossolineum) Library and in Viennese archives (Haus-, Hof- und Staatsarchiv, Allgemeines Verwaltungsarchiv). She devotes much space to presenting the literature dealing with this subject. (OL)

## TWENTIETH CENTURY

Joanna Goszczyńska (ed.), *Procesy autoidentyfikacji na obszarze kultur środkowoeuropejskich po roku 1918* [Post-1918 Self-identification Processes in the Area of Central-European Cultures], Warszawa 2008, Instytut Slawistyki Zachodniej i Południowej Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego, 386 pp., sum. in English

This volume of studies edited by Joanna Goszczyńska contains over twenty papers on self-identification processes in Central Europe. They were read at a scientific conference which was organized by the Institute of Western and Southern Slavic Philology at the University of Warsaw in 2007. The papers were written by scholars from the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland and Hungary. Most papers deal with debates on national identity or with the national consciousness of the Czechs and Slovaks during the inter-war period. Although the authors based their research mainly on literature, their reflections may inspire all persons interested in an analysis of the past and in the social history of that part of Europe.

The central question in the Czech debates was the role which culture and history had played in national identification. After World War II essays on this subject were written by Karel Čapek, Milan Kundera and Bohumil Hrabal. In the article 'Misto pro Jonathana or Czech Contemporary Essays about Czech Attempts to Find Their Place in Europe', Dorota Bielec emphasizes that in their attempts to build Czech national identity the Czechs always referred to West European culture and denied eastern influence, especially that of Russia. In an article 'A Choice to Make — Projects on Masculinity Models in Czech War Literature after 1918' Marcin Filipowicz analyzes the experiences of World War I and its influence on masculinity patterns in Czech literature. The author tries to find a correlation between changes in the masculinity pattern and the emergence of Czech national consciousness. The articles are in Polish. Each of them is followed by a summary in English. Unfortunately, the book provides no information on the authors. (OL)

Robert Witalec, *Spółdzielczość kredytowa systemu Schulzego w Małopolsce w latach 1873–1939* [Credit Co-operatives of the Schulze System in Lesser Poland in 1873–1939], Rzeszów–Warszawa 2008, Muzeum Historii Polskiego Ruchu Ludowego w Warszawie, Instytut Pamięci Narodowej. Oddział w Rzeszowie, 294 pp., tables, index

The book presents the development of credit co-operatives of the Schulze system which, alongside the Reiffeisen co-operatives, was another type of organized co-operative movement. Franz Herman Schulze, a lawyer from Saxony and a member of the Prussian parliament, was one of the initiators of mutual-aid co-operatives. They developed in Galicia after 1873 when the law on profit-making and economic companies came into force, for the law made it easier to set up new firms. The introductory chapter provides general information on the socio-economic conditions in Galicia and the forms of the population's organizations. The next two parts depict the credit co-operatives, their legal foundations and structural changes up to 1918 and in the Second Republic. The author compares the development and results of the Schulze system co-operatives with those of the co-operatives of the Reiffeisen type. He shows the participation of auditing unions in the work of co-operatives (it differed in each system) and the role played by the state in their consolidation. The book is based on documents from the Archives of Modern Records in Warsaw and the State Archives in Rzeszów. (OL)

Włodzimierz Mich, *Wyzyskiwacze przeciwko wywrotowcom. Walka Związku Ziemian ze Związkiem Robotników Rolnych Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej w latach 1919–1926* [Exploiters against Subverters: The Fight Conducted by the Landowners' Union in 1919–1926 against the Union of Agricultural Workers of the Polish Republic], Lublin 2008, UMCS, 245 pp., index of persons

During the last few years Włodzimierz Mich has been conducting research on Polish landowners in the Second Republic. His previous book ('The Landowners' Union in Warsaw [1916–1926]', Lublin), published in 2007, depicted the development of the Landowners' Union, an organization set up on the basis of the Landowners' Mutual-Aid Society, which had existed for a year in the Congress Kingdom of Poland. The author wanted to reconstruct the strategy used by the Landowners' Union to regulate relations between employers and farm-hands. The book covers the years between the outbreak of agricultural strikes at the beginning of the inter-war period and the verdict of the Supreme Administrative Tribunal of March 1926, which laid the legal foundations for the regulation of labour relations. After a radicalization of relations in 1920 and 1921, the trade unions slackened their activity and the moods calmed down. The workers' organizations, including the Trade Union of Agricultural Workers (ZZRR), the adversary of the Landowners' Union, strengthened their organizational structures. Both sides tried to secure

the goodwill of state organs and public opinion. Even though the landowners presented the ZZRR as an organization acting against the interests of the Polish state, their efforts to weaken the influence of the trade unions failed to produce the desired results.

The author presents the events from the landowners' point of view. He appraises the activity of the Landowners' Union and the influence it exerted on relations between employers and workers. The book is based on documents referring to the Landowners' Union activity in Warsaw, kept in the State Archives in Kielce and in the Library of Lublin's Catholic University. (OL)

Zbigniew Karpus, Grzegorz Radomski and Witold Wojdyła (eds.), *Zamach stanu Józefa Piłsudskiego i jego konsekwencje w interpretacjach polskiej myśli politycznej XX wieku* [Józef Piłsudski's Coup d'Etat and its Consequences in the Interpretations of Polish 20th Century Political Thought], Toruń 2008, Wydawnictwa Uniwersytetu Mikołaja Kopernika, 376 pp.

This volume, devoted to a momentous event in the history of the reborn Polish state, contains papers which were read at a conference organized by the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń in 2006. The volume is divided into four parts. The texts in the first part depict the new political situation and the functioning of the state after 1926. The next two parts deal with the attitude of the Piłsudski's camp and other political parties to the coup; the last part contains publicists' comments on the coup and the views of public opinion.

It is worth drawing attention to Henryk Składanowski's article (in the second part of the book) entitled 'Józef Piłsudski's May Coup d'Etat in the School History Textbooks'. It discusses the tasks set state schools and their gradual ideologization. The author analyzes the content of textbooks (the choice of materials, the language, the interpretation of events, the cult of state dignitaries), the new curricula in the first years of the Piłsudskiite camp's rule and during the *Sanacja* period. Very interesting is also Ewa Maj's article 'The Attempt to Demythologize the May Coup in the Political Concepts of the National Democratic Party', which presents the methods and propaganda measures used to demythologize the Piłsudskiites and discredit them in the eyes of public opinion. The author analyzes the language and symbols used by the National Democrats to enhance the political image of their party in its rivalry with other political groupings. Unfortunately, the book does not provide information on the authors and origin of the texts. It is only from the texts themselves that the reader can learn that the papers were read at a conference. (OL)

Rafał Habielski and Jerzy Jaruzelski (eds.), *Zamiary, przestrogi, nadzieje. Wybór publicystyki. 'Bunt Młodych', 'Polityka' 1931–1939* [Intentions, Warnings, Hopes: Selected Articles on Public Affairs — *Bunt Młodych, Polityka* 1931–1939], Lublin 2008, UMCS, 529 pp., index of persons

The book recalls the achievements of the pre-war group of publicists rallied round Jerzy Giedroyc, a journalist and politician who after the war founded *Kultura*, the most important periodical of the Polish emigration. The initiators of the volume emphasize that many things concerning the programme of the group and its work have not yet been fully researched. The articles published in the periodicals *Bunt Młodych* and *Polityka* dealt with foreign affairs and the internal questions of the Second Republic, especially the nationality problems, the political system of the state and political disputes with the National Democratic Party and the *Sanacja* (Sanation movement). The articles published in *Bunt Młodych* and *Polityka* were written, among others, by: Ksawery Pruszyński, Mieczysław Pruszyński, Stanisław Mackiewicz, Henryk Rolicki, Adolf Maria Bocheński, Piotr Dunin-Borkowski, Stanisław Łoś, Stefan Kisielewski and Ferdynand Goetel.

The articles are arranged chronologically and are divided into eight parts. The first six parts present texts which appeared in *Bunt Młodych* in 1932–7. The last two parts contain articles published in *Polityka* in 1938 and 1939. The book is supplemented with a calendar of the most important events connected with Giedroyc's circle. (OL)

Sebastian Pilarski, *Polskie ugrupowania polityczne wobec Czechosłowacji 1938–1939* [The Attitude of Polish Political Groupings to Czechoslovakia, 1938–1939], Warszawa 2008, Instytut Pamięci Narodowej, Neriton, 342 pp., index of persons, sum. in English

Polish–Czechoslovak relations were strained from the beginning of the inter-war period. The first tensions were connected with the demarcation of frontiers and with the territories claimed by both countries: Silesia, Spisz (Spiš, Zips) and the Orava region. As a result of the post-World-War-I peace provisions and the division of some territories between Poland and Czechoslovakia, a Polish minority was left on the Czech and Slovak side while a Slovak minority remained in Poland. The controversial territories and the status of the minorities were a source of constant conflicts. Poland's aspirations to play a leading political role in East-Central Europe, the rivalry over the position of France's key ally, and Czechoslovak–Soviet co-operation made agreement impossible. The situation was made even more difficult by Poland's support for the Slovak autonomous movement and Czech support for the Ukrainians' aspirations to independence.

The author examines the development of relations between Poland and Czechoslovakia throughout the entire inter-war period but he concentrates on the last two years before the outbreak of World War II, that is, on the crisis and fall of the Czechoslovak state. Pilarski shows the polarization of attitudes to the

Czechoslovak Republic on the Polish political scene. The parties which after the May coup d'état (immediately after 1926 or in the following years) were opposed to the ruling camp, that is the National Democratic Party, Christian Democrats, Socialists and the peasant party, were in favour of co-operation and partnership between the two states. The Piłsudskiites and the conservatives were against a rapprochement with Czechoslovakia. The *Sanacja* (Sanation movement) and conservative newspapers presented Czechoslovakia as an unstable country, open to communist influence, a country hostile to all things Polish. The author reconstructs the views of the opposition and the ruling camp on the basis of documents kept in Czech and Slovak archives (especially in the Archives of the Czech Republic's Ministry of Foreign Affairs) and an analysis of the contents of the Polish press. (OL)

Radosław Paweł Żurawski vel Grajewski, *Brytyjsko-czechosłowackie stosunki dyplomatyczne, październik 1938 — maj 1945* [British–Czechoslovak Diplomatic Relations from October 1938 to May 1945], Warszawa 2008, DiG, 651 pp., index of persons, annexes

The new book by Radosław Żurawski vel Grajewski deals with diplomatic relations between Great Britain and Czechoslovakia from the end of the inter-war period to the conclusion of World War II. It is divided into eleven chapters each of which consists of a short introduction with precisely set research questions, a recapitulation, and conclusions. The clear structure of the book facilitates orientation in this extensive text. The book opens with the events which accompanied the Munich conference (1938) and the fall of the Czechoslovak Republic, that is a period in which Great Britain was gradually renouncing all efforts to exert a political influence on that country. Britain was interested in maintaining mutual relations for casual reasons: to make use of Czechoslovak intelligence and of the achievements of Czechoslovak engineers and workers employed in the armaments industry. Czechoslovakia regarded the United Kingdom as an ally ready to support its independence. Czechoslovakia sought to secure its interests also through an alliance with the Soviet Union. The author depicts Czechoslovakia's efforts to set up a government in exile and have it recognized by Great Britain, to persuade the British to annul the provisions of the Munich dictate, and the British attempts to prevent the conclusion of a treaty between Czechoslovakia and the USSR. The author brings his reflections up to May 1945, when the Czechoslovak Government returned home and British diplomats returned to their post in Prague. He focuses on the political strategy of both sides, the evolution of their stance and the most important factors which influenced British–Czechoslovak relations. The main text is supplemented with short biographies and maps which present: Czechoslovakia's nationality structure, the situation after the fall of the Second Republic, the uprising in Slovakia (1944), and the front lines during the war operations in 1944 and 1945. The book is based on the research conducted by the author in Czech and British archives, especially in the National Archives in London. (OL)

Mirosław Wójcik (ed.), *Wielkie rzeczy zrozumienie. Korespondencja Jerzego, Witolda i Wandy Hulewiczów z Emilem Zegadłowiczem, 1918–1938* [Deep Understanding of Things: The Correspondence of Jerzy, Witold and Wanda Hulewicz with Emil Zegadłowicz, 1918–1938], Warszawa 2008, PIW, 308 pp., ills., index of persons, annex

This valuable source publication presents the Hulewicz family's correspondence with Emil Zegadłowicz, a novelist (*Zmory* [Nightmares], 1935), poet and playwright. The first part contains letters written by Jerzy Hulewicz, an expressionist artist and writer from a landowning family. Jerzy Hulewicz founded and co-operated with the periodical *Zdrój* and the *Ostoja* publishing house which published Zegadłowicz's works. His family estate at Kościanki near Września was a centre of artistic life. This fragment of correspondence, from the years 1918–32, provides information on the expressionists' artistic activity and the work of the *Skamander* group, active during the twenty inter-war years, a group which included such poets as Julian Tuwim, Jan Lechoń, Kazimierz Wierzyński, Antoni Słonimski and Jarosław Iwaszkiewicz. The second part of the book contains letters written by Jerzy's brother, Witold Hulewicz, a translator and head of the Wilno radio station. The letters refer to the years 1921–35. The letters of Jerzy's wife, Wanda, from the years 1923–33, concern mainly private affairs.

These materials have never been published before. They were kept in Emil Zegadłowicz's family archives at Gorzeń Górny near Wadowice. At the beginning of the 1960s some of them were deposited in the Main Library of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań. The others are kept at the Museum in Bielsko-Biała since 1989. The volume has been edited with great care. (OL)

Aleksander Wat, *Publicystyka* [Articles on Public Affairs], ed. Piotr Pietrych, Warszawa 2008, Czytelnik, 873 pp., index of persons, 'Pisma zebrane' ('Collected Works'), 5

Volume 5 of Aleksander Wat's works contains mainly texts dealing with public affairs and a few of his literary studies, all arranged in chronological order. The texts are divided into those written between 1920 and 1926, texts which appeared in the monthly *Miesięcznik Literacki* (1929–31), wartime texts written when the author lived in Lviv (Lwów) and Kazakhstan, texts published in Poland (1947–58) and those which appeared abroad (1963–7). The last part of the book contains unpublished articles and texts written between 1956 and 1967. Piotr Pietrych has edited the volume with great care and supplied it with notes which make it easier to understand Wat's most important works and his biography. The book is of great historical value as a testimony to the epoch. (OL)



Anna Kowalska, *Dzienniki 1927–1969* [Diaries 1927–1969], ed. Paweł Kądziała, Warszawa 2008, Iskry, 579 pp., ill., index, annex

Anna Kowalska (née Chrzanowska), a writer and philologist, was born Lwów in 1903. In the 1920s, during her studies at the University, she met her future husband, Jerzy Kowalski, a professor of classical philology. Until the outbreak of the Great War they worked together and spent much time travelling in Europe. The notes made during the inter-war period were irregular. It is only from 1943 that Kowalska gave a systematic account of practically every day; this is why the manuscript version of her diary is very extensive. Her descriptions and reflections focus on social and society life, political events and personal experiences. Kowalska devotes a great deal of space to Maria Dąbrowska (1889–1965) with whom she was linked by intimate emotional ties. The two writers lived together in Warsaw from 1954.

It took several years to prepare the manuscript before it could be put into print. Paweł Kądziała has equipped the diary with notes and with a chronicle of Kowalska's life and works. The diary is preceded by an introduction written by Julia Hartwig. The manuscript is kept at the Museum of Literature in Warsaw. (OL)

*Klische przechowuje się. Stefania Gurdowa* [The Negatives Are To Be Stored: Stefania Gurdowa], Kraków 2008, Fundacja Imago Mundi, Muzeum Etnograficzne im. Seweryna Udzieli, 'czysty warsztat', 220 pp., photos.

An interesting exhibition entitled 'The negatives are to be stored' was held in Cracow in May 2008 in the Photography Month. On view were portraits of pre-war inhabitants of Dębica and its environs (before the war Dębica was in Cracow province). They were persons of different age and different social status who lived in the small towns and villages of Galicia. The photographs were taken by Stefania Gurdowa, an artistic photographer born in Bochnia in 1888. Gurdowa was educated in Bochnia and Lwów. From 1923 to 1937 she ran her own studio in Dębica. She died in 1968. During the liquidation of her flat, her photographic archive was thrown into a dustbin. In 1997 over a thousand negatives in a rather bad state were found in the wall of an attic in the house in which Gurdowa had her studio before the war. Most of them were portraits, some showed views of the town. Only a part of the collection has been studied and made accessible so far. The album published in an English–Polish version is supplemented with texts by the anthropologist Dariusz Czaja, the photographer Jerzy Lewczyński and Agnieszka Sabor, a journalist and art historian who helped to organize the exhibition. Detailed information on this venture, its history and the exhibition (in Polish and English) can be found on the Internet: <http://www.gurdowa.pl/> (OL)

Barbara Suchoń-Chmiel, *Spóźnione spowiedzi czyli autobiografie uwikłanych w historię pisarzy słowackich XX wieku* [Belated Confessions or the Autobiographies of Slovak 20th Century Writers Entangled in History], Kraków 2007, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Jagiellońskiego, 214 pp., ill., index of persons

The author analyzes the autobiographies of three Slovak writers: Tido J. Gašpar, Milo Urban and Ján Smrek. These are not only the life stories of three writers but, first and foremost, records of the experiences gained by the Slovak intelligentsia. Like every source based on reminiscences, the autobiographies require a specific approach, the use of methods applied in sociology and anthropology. In all texts some things are concealed or falsified, and this is an important problem, especially when we are faced with persons entangled in history, persons of dubious moral standards. The texts contain arguments to justify the path chosen by each author. They are based on the authors' own experiences and on reminiscences of other persons.

Despite some differences, the biographies show that the authors born at the turn of the 20th century shared a joint experience: a feeling of communion based on the Romantic tradition, enthusiasm characteristic of the first years after Slovakia gained independence, participation in the establishment of state structures, and ideological choice. The accounts of the first twenty years are strongly idealized and are in opposition to the period of nationalism and later of fascism. Gašpar and Urban supported the establishment of Tiso's pro-German Slovak State (Gašpar not only supported it but was deeply involved in its politics), Smrek stopped writing and withdrew from public life. The author tries to find out the attitude of Slovak society to questions which are of key importance for its historical memory and modern national consciousness (relations with the Czechs, Germany and Russia; attitude to Hungary and to the Jews). (OL)

Kaja Kaźmierska, *Biografia i pamięć. Na przykładzie pokoleniowego doświadczenia ocalonych z Zagłady* [Biography and Memory: The Generational Experience of the Survivors of the Holocaust], Kraków 2008, Nomos, 416 pp., ill., tables, index of concepts, sum. in English

The previous book by Kaja Kaźmierska, a sociologist at the University of Lodz, entitled *Doświadczenia wojenne Polaków a kształtowanie tożsamości etnicznej. Analiza narracji kresowych* [The Poles' War Experiences and the Emergence of Ethnic Identification: An Analysis of Accounts from the Borderlands] (1999) was a biographical study. This time she examines the experiences of a group of persons for whom the wartime period and the Holocaust are the main points of reference in considering and interpreting their lives. The author analyzes the experiences of Jews on their return to their birth places, presenting them against the background of the migrations and population transfers which took place in East-Central Europe during the war and after 1945. The book is divided into two parts. The first shows the strategy used by the

authors to present their accounts. The successive chapters depict individual experiences of return, their interpretation in the context of individual biographies, the significance of these biographies for collective memory, and the problem of returns as they were seen by Poles and Jews. The second part of the book analyzes individual biographies. The book is based on interviews with inhabitants of Israel, and on published reminiscences analyzed by the author according to the methodological principles of interpretative sociology. They have been supplemented with materials which present Jewish experiences from the point of view of the Polish inhabitants of these localities. (OL)

Monika Tomkiewicz, *Zbrodnia w Ponarach 1941–1944* [The Crime at Ponary 1941–1944], Warszawa 2008, IPN, 444 pp., indexes, annexes, ill., series: Monografie

Ponary is a locality near Wilno, in the Second Republic's old north-eastern borderlands. During the Second World War the Germans, who occupied these territories since 1941, chose Ponary as a place for mass executions. Some 80,000 Polish citizens of Jewish origin, soldiers and activists of the Polish Underground State, clergymen, the Romani people, and Soviet prisoners of war were murdered there. One of the most important witnesses who publicised the truth about the genocide at Ponary when the war was still going on was the Polish writer Józef Mackiewicz. In her book Monika Tomkiewicz presents the history of the German occupation in the Wilno region from July 1941 to July 1944, paying special attention to the persecution and extermination of persons regarded as enemies of the Third Reich. In the first part she depicts the structure of the German civilian and military administration and discusses the activity of the Lithuanian police service, which collaborated with the Germans. In the second part she analyzes the successive stages of the extermination policy. In the third part she describes the Ponary region as well as the executions themselves and tries to estimate the number of victims. In the fourth part Tomkiewicz shows how the Germans, faced with ultimate defeat, tried to obliterate the traces of their crime. As in other places of mass executions, the bodies were exhumed, mainly by prisoners, and burned. The book ends with a description of the trials of the perpetrators of the Ponary crime (including the trial before the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg). The book is based on rich source materials from Lithuanian, German, Polish and Latvian archives. The names of persons executed at Ponary are in the appendices. (KK)

Władysław Bułhak (ed.), *Wywiad i kontrywiad Armii Krajowej* [The Intelligence and Counter-Intelligence Service of the Home Army], Warszawa 2008, IPN, , 424 pp., index of persons, annexes, series: Monografie

The following opinion expressed after the war by Colonel Jan Rzepecki, chief of the Information and Propaganda Bureau of the Home Army's High Command,

could serve as a motto of this book: 'I think that there is not a shadow of a doubt that an objective evaluation would recognize that the boundless work of our intelligence service, a work which cannot be measured, helped more to defeat Germany than all the battles with arms in hand'. This book is yet another attempt to verify this opinion. It consists of six articles written by Władysław Bulhak, Ziemowit Chomiczewski, Andrzej Gąsiorowski, Waldemar Grabowski, Janusz Marszałec and Andrzej Krzysztof Kunert. The authors refer to the rich scholarly literature and journalistic studies devoted to the Home Army's activity, but they have also tried to present a new interpretation of the archival materials that have already been used and to get access to rich Soviet and German archives (access to the former is not easy). As regards the studies included in the book, mention should be made especially of Andrzej Gąsiorowski's essay 'The Counter-intelligence of the Polish Victory Service — the Union of Armed Struggle — the Home Army in Pomerania in 1939–1945' which discusses little known operations against the Gestapo, and Janusz Marszałec's article 'The Home Army's Intelligence and Counter-intelligence during the Warsaw Uprising', which shows the contribution of the Home Army's intelligence service to the planning of military operations and political activities during the Warsaw Uprising. The book ends with Andrzej Krzysztof Kunert's extensive study 'Counter-intelligence in Underground Warsaw'. The volume depicts what is known about the intelligence and counter-intelligence operations of one of the most important conspiratorial organizations in occupied Europe. (KK)

Krzysztof Lesiakowski, *Powszechna Organizacja 'Służba Polsce', 1948–1955. Powstanie, działalność, likwidacja* [The 'Service to Poland' Organization, 1948–1955: Its Establishment, Activity and Liquidation], Łódź 2008, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Łódzkiego, 2 vols., 822 pp., index of persons, ill.

This is a monograph presenting the 'Service to Poland' Organization, which functioned in 1948–55. The author says that communism, irrespective of its national versions, always tried to mobilize people. The transformation of socio-political life it wanted to implement required the commitment of millions of people. By creating 'Service to Poland' the leadership of the Polish United Workers' Party (PZPR) wanted to mobilize all young people from the age of 16 to 21 to participate in the political and economic projects it was carrying out. This was to help create 'a new mentality', a united society ready obediently to carry out all instructions. The 'Service to Poland' Organization was to be helped by the monopolistic youth organization, the Union of Polish Youth, modelled on the Soviet Komsomol. Lesiakowski points out that in fact 'Service to Poland' duplicated military organizational methods. He pays much attention to the everyday activity of 'Service to Poland', describes the living conditions of the organization's summer brigades, the forms of training, the work done by the young people. He draws attention to the youth's increasing opposition to the duty of serving in the brigades during summer holidays, and to military drills. The liquidation of 'Service to Poland' in 1955 was a sign of the 'thaw'. The book is based on the author's large-scale

research in archives (central and provincial ones), which allowed him to reconstruct the genesis of 'Service to Poland', its aims, its organizational structure, its personnel, and its everyday activity. (KK)

Adam Dziurok, Bernard Linek and Krzysztof Tarka (eds.), *Stalinizm i rok 1956 na Górnym Śląsku* [Stalinism and the Year 1956 in Upper Silesia], Katowice–Opole–Kraków 2007, Wydawnictwo Towarzystwa Naukowego 'Societas Vistulana', 383 pp., index of persons

This is a collection of studies depicting the main social processes and political events in Upper Silesia (one of Poland's most important economic regions) in the years 1945–60. The book consists of four parts. The first, entitled 'The Stalinist System and Its Regional Dimension', presents the latest theories put forward by Łukasz Kamiński, Krzysztof Szwaagrzyk and other historians from Wrocław. They discuss 'the role of terror in the Stalinist system' and the system of power in Upper Silesia in 1945–56. The next parts contain analyses of the state security system in Upper Silesia. Adam Dziuba depicts the activity of underground organizations. Adam Dziurok discusses the communist authorities' policy towards the Catholic Church, taking the Katowice diocese as an example. Worth mentioning is also Bernard Linek's article on German revisionism, in which the author analyzes the genesis of the concept of revisionism and presents the security system's activity against revisionists. The fourth part of the book presents three studies on the events of 1956. The three authors — Jarosław Neja, Krzysztof Tarka and Stanisław Jankowiak — pose a provocative question: 'was this a turning point or a continuation?'. In their opinion the events of 1956 showed the failure of efforts to transform social consciousness. The defeat of the Stalinist social plan did not mean that the plan lacked lasting consequences, the most important being the predominant fear of the authorities. The establishment of 'Solidarity' in 1980 marked a turning point in this respect. Another lasting consequence was that Polish society had learned to function in the communist system, and this in turn led to conformist attitudes. It can therefore be said that despite the specific character of that region, stalinism in Upper Silesia was a reflection of the situation which prevailed in the whole country. (KK)

Justyna Jaworska, *Cywilizacja 'Przekroju'. Misja obyczajowa w magazynie ilustrowanym* [The Civilization Promoted by *Przekrój*: Moral Mission in an Illustrated Magazine], Wydawnictwa Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego, 293 pp., ills., index of persons, annex, series: *Communicare* — historia i kultura

The series *Communicare* edited by Andrzej Mencwel presents both Polish translations of works by well known humanistic researchers (Jacques Le Goff, Jack Goody) and studies by young Polish scholars. Justyna Jaworska's book is based on the dissertation she wrote at Warsaw University's Institute of Polish

Culture. Jaworska has undertaken the difficult task of reconstructing the morals and customs promoted by the weekly *Przekrój* in 1945–62. Her book is therefore not a classical monograph presenting the weekly. The structure of the study, though interesting and original, can give rise to doubts. The introductory chapter is followed by a part devoted to Marian Eile, the periodical's first (and most important in its history) editor-in-chief. In the third chapter, which is of key importance in her analysis, Jaworska explains and interprets the term civilization on the basis of the reflections of Norbert Elias and Jerzy Jedlicki. In the fourth chapter entitled 'Miscellany' she presents the periodical's 'visiting card', the feuilletons published on its last page. The next parts discuss subjects belonging to the three fields in which *Przekrój* had the ambition to shape the tastes and customs of its readers: fashions, drinking and cuisine. In the rather short eighth chapter she describes two social campaigns in which the periodical took an active part: the fight against the custom of kissing women's hands and the popularization of motorization. A separate place is devoted to the weekly's graphic aspect and the presence of art in the periodical. Jaworska analyzes the civilization promoted by *Przekrój* and the mentality and customs of its readers, being aware of the fact that what she examines is a past epoch, a closed world in which different experiences, norms and ideas prevailed. (OL)

Tadeusz Paweł Rutkowski, *Nauki historyczne w Polsce 1944–1970. Zagadnienia polityczne i organizacyjne* [Historical Sciences in Poland 1944–1970: Political and Organizational Questions], Warszawa 2008, Wydawnictwa Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego, 630 pp., index of persons

The author discusses the development of historical sciences in the first 25 years of the Polish People's Republic. His analysis is focused on two questions: the authorities' policy towards historical sciences and the organizational development of scientific institutions conducting historical research. The term 'historical sciences' is used in the book in a broad meaning which also includes related disciplines. The author says that from 1948 the authorities' tactics consisted in eliminating from scientific life persons regarded as ideological adversaries. But they lacked time completely to reorganize science and change the staffs during the Stalinist period. After 1956, scholars previously regarded as enemies returned to work. Nevertheless, the main aim of the 'scientific policy' pursued by the Polish United Workers' Party (PZPR) was to impose political control on scientific institutes. This was accompanied by the backing of historians who, as the author says, 'guaranteed loyalty and an active commitment to the implementation of the Polish United Workers' Party's policy.' In 1968 many scholars rebelled against the PZPR policy. As a result of the 'March events' the main role in historical science began to be played by a younger generation of historians, most of whom were linked to the PZPR. As the attempts to impose Marxist methodology on scientific research were inconsistent, the classical historical methodology was saved. The book is based on documents of the science section of the PZPR Central Committee, the Ministry of Higher Education, and acts of

the security section of the National Remembrance Institute. Rutkowski's study is a yet another contribution to research on the Polish People's Republic's scientific policy, a current which is becoming increasingly popular. (KK)

Dariusz Jarosz and Maria Pasztor, *Stosunki polsko-francuskie 1944–1980* [Polish–French Relations 1944–1980], Warszawa 1980, Polski Instytut Spraw Międzynarodowych, 480 pp., tables, index of persons

The book sums up the authors' research on Polish–French relations in the second half of the 20th century. The book is divided into periods marked by turning points which are significant in the history of both France and People's Poland: 1944–7, 1948–53, 1953–70, 1970–80. The study is preceded by a chapter entitled 'The Legacy of the Past' which briefly analyzes Polish–French relations in 1918–43. In the summing up the authors present events from the years 1980–9. They hold the view that international relations, though they need a political framework, are not confined to politics. They point out that economic, cultural and educational contacts increased during the Iron Curtain period. The book contains detailed reflections on this subject. The authors also discuss the contacts between the Polish and French communist parties, emphasizing that they went far beyond simple cooperation between the two parties. The study is based on sources from Polish and French archives, first and foremost on the archives of the foreign ministries of the two countries. The study of sources is supplemented by interviews with persons who played an important role in Polish–French relations. The authors have succeeded in gaining access to little known legacies of French presidents, Georges Pompidou and Valéry Giscard d'Estaing.

The book features 23 tables which depict Polish–French cooperation in statistical terms. (KK)

Wanda Jarzabek, *Polska wobec Konferencji Bezpieczeństwa i Współpracy w Europie. Plany i rzeczywistość 1964–1975* [Poland's Attitude to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Plans and the Reality 1964–1975], Warszawa 2008, Instytut Studiów Politycznych PAN, 282 pp., index of persons, annexes

The author has undertaken the difficult task of depicting the work of Polish diplomats during the times of the Polish People's Republic. The Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe offered them the possibility of large-scale activity. Its convening and the signing of the Final Act in Helsinki in 1975 were regarded as a success of the Polish People's Republic and the communist bloc. What is more, the Polish press promoted the view that the Conference was initiated by Adam Rapacki, Polish Foreign Minister in 1956–68, who, as it maintained, had proposed it in the United Nations in 1964. Wanda Jarzabek's book consists of five parts. In the first she shows how the concept took shape, analyzes the idea

of the conference against the background of the Polish People's Republic's foreign policy, and discusses the diplomatic consultations within the communist bloc. The second and third parts present the diplomatic negotiations held on the eve of the Conference to fix a joint stand of the communist bloc. She is particularly interested in how this was achieved. In the fourth part Tomkiewicz describes the negotiations in Helsinki, and in the fifth part she evaluates the results of the Conference. Like other researchers, she emphasizes that the most important achievement was that the Conference had raised the rank of human rights, which meant that they could no longer be regarded exclusively as an internal affair of individual countries. This created a chance to democratize the countries east of the iron curtain. The author comes to the conclusion that Polish diplomacy tried to work out its own concepts with regard to some questions, but generally speaking 'unanimity' prevailed in relations between Moscow and Warsaw in the 1970s. Tomkiewicz has based her book mainly on the extensive Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party. She has supplemented her research work with interviews with Polish participants and organizers of the Conference. (KK)

Stanisław Jankowiak, *Poznań i Wielkopolska w marcu 1968: 'taka jest prawda i innej prawdy nie ma'* [Poznań and Greater Poland in March 1968: 'This is the Only Truth'], Poznań 2008, Instytut Historii Uniwersytetu Adama Mickiewicza, 237 pp., ill.

The protests staged by young people, especially students, in 1968 were among the most important events in recent Polish history (it should, however, be remembered that they differed substantially from the youth revolt in the West). They have been usually discussed in their national context. The most important monograph on this subject is Jerzy Eisler's *Polski rok 1968* [The Year 1968 in Poland], (2006). Jankowiak emphasizes that there is a need for a detailed regional research. In his book he focuses on events in Poznań. But he presents them against a wider background: against the socio-political situation which prevailed at that time in the country and in the region. He has made use of documents issued at that time by the municipal authorities and the PZPR (Polish United Workers' Party) bodies in Poznań. He has also gained access to previously unknown shorthand records of the meetings of the Senate, of the faculty meetings and of the PZPR cells at Poznań University. He estimates that ca 2,000 persons, that is 15 per cent of the students (who predominated in the protests) took an active part in the demonstrations in Poznań in March 1968. The Poznań students did not create their own political programme. They organized the protest in order to express their solidarity with the students in Warsaw. According to Jankowiak, the 'March events' in Poznań had serious consequences; they divided the academic milieu into a group which later created the democratic opposition, and into those members of the staff who remained loyal to the party. Another result was that conformist attitudes intensified. (KK)



Jarosław Szarek, *Czarne juwenalia. Ludzie studenckiego komitetu solidarności* [Black Festivities: People of the Students' Solidarity Committee], Kraków 2007, 'Znak', 216 pp., ills., annexes, index of persons

The book discusses one of the most perturbing events of the 1970s. Stanisław Pyjas, a student of philosophy at the University of Cracow, was a collaborator of the Workers' Defence Committee (KOR), the most important democratic opposition organization at that time. On 7 May 1977, his body was found on the staircase of a house in the centre of Cracow. Pyjas's death shocked the academic milieu, not only in Cracow. A Students' Solidarity Committee was set up on 15 May 1977. Until 1980, when 'Solidarity' was established, the Committee was the main opposition group in Cracow. It shaped many activists who played a key role in the opposition in the 1980s, and also in the main political formations after 1989. The book sums up the research the author, a historian and journalist, had for many years conducted on the history of the opposition in Cracow. The author presents the influence exerted by the KOR on students and school pupils in Cracow, the forms of young people's cooperation with this organization, the specific character of Cracow academic circles, the circumstances in which Pyjas was murdered, the birth of an organized students' opposition, its political programme ('dreams about a free Poland'), the creation of independent periodicals, and students' participation in the establishment of 'Solidarity' in 1980. The author does not avoid thorny questions, such as the infiltration of student groups by agents of the Security Service. The book is an interesting contribution to the debate on the history of democratic opposition in the Polish People's Republic. (KK)

Andrzej Friszke and Marcin Zaremba (eds.), *Rozmowy na Zawracie. Taktyka walki z opozycją demokratyczną, październik 1976 — grudzień 1979* [Conversations on Zawrat: The Tactics of Fight against the Democratic Opposition, October 1976 — December 1979], Warszawa 2008, ISP PAN, 198 pp., series: Dokumenty do dziejów PRL (Andrzej Paczkowski [ed.]

These are valuable selected documents concerning the activity of the democratic opposition in the Polish People's Republic in the 1970s. They are preceded by an extensive article by Andrzej Friszke, who recalls one of the crucial moments of Poland's recent history: the systematic activity carried out by the opposition after the foundation of the Workers' Defence Committee (KOR) on 23 September 1976. The establishment of KOR was a challenge to the authorities. The leadership of the Ministry of Internal Affairs held long debates on how best to counteract the opposition. The authors of the volume, Andrzej Friszke and Marcin Zaremba, managed to gain access to documents which show the authorities' policy to combat the opposition. It was conducted in stages: the arrests of KOR collaborators after student demonstrations in Cracow (following the murder of student Stanisław Pyjas) in May 1977, activities against the Society for Educational Courses, which started in the autumn of 1978; the trials of the organizers of the manifestation

held on 11 November (in Warsaw); the restriction of operations in the summer of 1980 (a wave of strikes). Andrzej Friszke points out that the documents also make it possible to assess the scale of the democratic opposition's activity at the end of the 1970s. It was greater than has been previously thought. Every month the Security Service confiscated tens of thousands copies of illegal publications, but it estimated that it was taking over at most 20–25 per cent of the edition of each publication. This means that 75–80 per cent of the publications reached their readers. The volume also contains information on the behind-the-scenes policy of the party and state leadership. Friszke holds the view that the authorities' reaction to the opposition's activities was connected with their policy towards the Church. The book is an important contribution to the history of the democratic opposition in the Polish People's Republic and throws light on the mechanism of decision-making. (KK)

Sławomir Cenckiewicz, Piotr Gontarczyk, *SB a Lech Wałęsa. Przyczynek do biografii* [The Security Service and Lech Wałęsa: A Contribution to His Biography], Gdańsk-Warszawa-Kraków 2008, Instytut Pamięci Narodowej, 751 pp., index of persons, annex, ill., series: Monografie

This is one of the most controversial books published in 2008. The authors assert that in 1970–6 Wałęsa was registered by the Security Service as its secret collaborator 'Bolek'. The book evoked an animated debate in which historians, politicians and former activists of 'Solidarity' took part. The majority of the participants in the debate criticized the book, though its authors met with the support of some recognized historians. The authors say in the preface that their book is not a biography of Lech Wałęsa but a scientific attempt to explain the complex question of Lech Wałęsa's relations and links with the Security Service and their consequences. The book consists of two parts. The first is an extensive analysis of the Security Service's documents concerning Wałęsa and of the fate of these documents after 1989. The authors also discuss events which in their opinion could be directly or indirectly connected with the past of the legendary leader of 'Solidarity'. The second part of the book consists of a source annex comprising 86 documents, mainly the Security Service's operational materials, of an annex presenting photocopies of selected documents and press articles as well as photographs of Lech Wałęsa from 1971. In the authors' opinion, their reconstruction of 'Bolek's' case 'not only throws new light on Lech Wałęsa's activity in the Polish People's Republic but also makes it possible to understand the conditions in which he acted after 1989'. In their view at the end of the Polish People's Republic at least several score Security Service functionaries knew about Wałęsa's contacts with the Security Service in 1970–6. They suggest that 'Bolek's' original file is 'most probably' in Moscow. Readers may have doubts whether it is worth while (and permissible) to present the biography of any person (especially a prominent politician) in a fragmentary way, on the basis of materials, extensive though they are, coming from only one source. (KK)

Robert Klementowski and Sebastian Figarski (eds.), *Artyści a Służba Bezpieczeństwa. Aparat bezpieczeństwa wobec środowisk twórczych. Materiały pokonferencyjne* [Artists and the Security Service: The Attitude of Security Forces to Creative Milieus. Conference Materials], Wrocław 2008, Instytut Pamięci Narodowej, 255 pp., index of persons

The book presents 16 articles prepared for a conference which was held in 2007 under the auspices of the National Remembrance Institute. The aim of the conference was to sum up the scattered results of research on the authorities' attitude to creative milieus, with emphasis on the role played by the security forces. The participants in the conference discussed the following subjects: the methods of pressure on artistic milieus; the impact of the 1956 thaw on the attitudes of creators of culture; the role played by Jarosław Iwaszkiewicz, who for many years was chairman of the Polish Writers' Union; the Security Services' operations against writers (with Wrocław as an example); the way the cultural monthly *Odra* functioned under censorship and the pressure exerted by security forces; jazz fans in the 1960s (as they were described in the documents of the Security Service). Let us draw attention to an analysis of documents of the East German *Stasi* which since the foundation of 'Solidarity' had gathered data on Polish writers. Very interesting is the description of the artistic milieu written by Jacek Łukasiewicz, who points out that in practice it was impossible for a creator to make a debut in some official periodical without the backing of a trade union. 'It was a totalitarian system in the sense that all things were linked, they were united in one great institution in which we had to live', says Łukasiewicz. The book ends with a debate in which such well known writers as Ryszard Krynicki, Marek Nowakowski and Antoni Pawlak took part. The record of the debate contains a great deal of interesting information on the everyday life of writers in the Polish People's Republic, on customs in their milieu, literary cafés and on the influence exerted by censorship and the security forces on creative work and moods in artistic milieus. (KK)

Bogusław Kopka and Grzegorz Majchrzak, *Operacja Poeta. Służba bezpieczeństwa na tropach Czesława Miłosza* [Operation Poet: The Security Service on the Trail of Czesław Miłosz], afterword by Grzegorz Musidlak, Lublin 2007, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Marii Curie-Skłodowskiej, 208 pp., index of persons, ill.

Czesław Miłosz was awarded a Nobel literary prize on 9 October 1980. This meant that his works could be officially published in Poland for the first time since 1951, when he left the country. The poet's selected works appeared at the end of 1980. On 5 June 1981 Miłosz started a two-week visit to Poland under the pretext of being granted a honorary doctorate of the Lublin Catholic University. The visit became part of the 'Solidarity carnival' (which began when 'Solidarity' was established in the summer of 1980). On 12 June 1981, during a meeting

with Lech Wałęsa and other 'Solidarity' activists, held in the courtyard of the Lublin Catholic University, Miłosz said openly that 'the state had monopolized the power over words' and that it was 'necessary to restore the ordinary human sense to words'. Let us add that Miłosz did not revisit Poland until 1989. The book consists of three parts. The first, written by Bogusław Kopka and Grzegorz Majchrzak, discusses the most important events connected with the poet's visit. The second part contains a small glossary of terms used by the Security Service; the third part presents an extensive selection of documents produced by the Security Service within the framework of operations against the poet. The book is an interesting attempt to present, on the one hand, the operational techniques applied by the security apparatus and, on the other, a new approach to an important event of the 'Solidarity' epoch: a meeting with a Nobel prize holder. The study is supplemented with photocopies of documents with the cryptonym 'Poet', produced by the Security Service. (KK)

Adam F. Baran, *Walka o kształt harcerstwa w Polsce, 1980–1990. Niepokorni i niezależni* [The Struggle for the Shape of the Scouting Movement in Poland, 1980–1990: The Defiant and Independent], Warszawa 2007, ISP PAN, 'Rytm', Fundacja 'Historia i Kultura', 560 pp., index of persons, tables

The book portrays the history of the Polish scouting movement in the Polish People's Republic from a less known perspective, from the view of 'defiant' circles. These were groups of boy scouts and girl guides who tried to create an alternative to the communist model in the Polish Scouting Association (ZHP). The author concentrates on the 1980s, which witnessed many initiatives of this kind. He portrays the leaders of independent groups, and discusses their organizational activities. A great deal of attention is paid to the ideological programmes of the independent groups. Baran shows how the programme of independent scouting was formed, its links with 'Solidarity' (in 1980–1) and with the Catholic Church. He also discusses the strategy of the authorities towards illegal scouting organizations under martial law and later, up to the beginning of the Third Polish Republic and the amendment to the law on associations, adopted in March 1990, which made it possible to set up scouting groups not belonging to ZHP. In the last chapter the author presents the renewal of formal contacts with the world scouting movement. He has made use of still unknown source materials, e.g. materials from the National Remembrance Institute and the Polish Primate's Archives. An important role in the book is played by the accounts and private archives of 29 persons. The author has drawn much information from the illegal press. It is worth stressing that the book has been written under the direction of Tomasz Strzembosz, a prominent researcher who specialized in the history of the occupation in Poland and was one of the leaders of independent scouting groups during the times of the Polish People's Republic. (KK)

Małgorzata Szpakowska (ed.), *Obyczaje polskie. Wiek XX w krótkich hasłach* [Polish Customs: Short Entries for the 20th Century], Warszawa 2008, Wydawnictwo WAB, 503 pp., annex

Five young researchers have carried out an interesting experiment under the supervision of the well known anthropologist and historian of ideas Małgorzata Szpakowska. They have made up a list of phenomena and devices which influenced the Poles' everyday behaviour during the past century. Their main aim was to diagnose the impact of changes in customs on people's consciousness. This is why they have made less use of hard statistical or historical data and have relied rather on *belles lettres*, illustrated papers, television, films and sometimes also on publicists' studies. They refer to the methodology used by one of the creators of Polish sociology, Florian Znaniecki, who encouraged the use of artists' opinions as 'social facts'. The authors of the book chose, on the one hand, phenomena of a lasting character and, on the other, questions which reflected the most important changes that occurred in the past century. This was a risky approach for the book does not contain such entries as 'family', 'marriage' which constitute the core of customs in every epoch but contains the entry 'divorce' for, as the authors explain, the popularization of divorces reflects the most essential change that took place in the treatment of marriage and the family in the past century. The book is an inspiring intellectual and methodological proposal and has evoked animated discussions between historians and anthropologists. (KK)