Abstracts

■ *Klaus Tenfelde: Schmelztiegel Ruhrgebiet? Polnische und türkische Arbeiter im Bergbau: Integration und Assimilation in der montanindustriellen Erwerbsgesellschaft*

As one of the most important heavy-industrial regions of Europe in the 19ᵗʰ and 20ᵗʰ century, the population of the Ruhr district was largely formed from migration that originated, first, from the nearby agrarian regions, and from the 1880s onwards, from far distant regions as well. Among the migrants, Poles from the Eastern territories of Prussia became dominant prior to the First World War. In an attempt of comparison with the other important group of ethnically divergent migrants that come in more recently, the Turkish population of the Ruhr, this article re-evaluates the well known assumption of the Ruhr as a successful "melting pot" of migrants and indigenous populations, an assumption that has frequently been taken as a most distinctive feature of the working-class population of the region.

■ *Christel Karlheim: Katholische Kirche und Sonntagsarbeit. Entwicklungslinien am Beispiel der Eisen- und Stahlindustrie im Ruhrgebiet*

Since the middle of the 19ᵗʰ century, industrialisation has changed the working conditions in the Ruhr Area tremendously. Considering social questions, the poor working conditions have been for a long time a major topic of political debate – especially before the law for the protection of working people has passed. Though working on Sunday and public holidays is constitutionally protected by the basic law of the in the Federal Republic of Germany, in modern European societies Sunday working is no longer a taboo. The article reveals the cleavages and actors in the different debates focussing in particular on Sunday working in the iron- and steel industry of the Ruhr area.

■ *Alfred Hintz: World War I memorials by the middle classes in the Ruhr area as social ideas of the home front*

Since summer 1915 several war memorials were erected in the entire Ruhr area. In the course of the war these (nail-)memorials ("Nagel-Wahrzeichen") did not only prepare the ground for easing social need and raising new financial sources, but also helped to increasingly mobilize the moral and patriotic attitude of people. Being faced with the tense financial situation of the communities and legal obligations to financially support the families of war veterans and war-disabled persons, the memorials served as an emotional link between front and homeland. By introducing the memorials in the media "the spirit of 1914" – implored by municipal notables and middle-class elites– should be brought to wide public attention and create continuous lasting enthusiasm for being at war, however, with moderate success only.

■ *Dimitrij Owetschkin: Sozialisationsforschung und religiöse Sozialisation im 20. Jahrhundert aus historischer Sicht. Ein Forschungsaufriss*

The article analyses problems of historical research into socialization with special regard of the field of religious socialisation. This issue attracts growing interest because transformation processes of religion in modernity express themselves – among others – in terms of socialisation. Yet, a consistent theory of socialisation does not exist. Socialization research is an interdisciplinary branch of study with each discipline focusing on its own key aspects of activity. This applies to historical socialization research, too, which initially roots in historical pedagogy. However, to assess changes in religious socialization a social historical perspective is required. This implies that both objects and agents of socialisation – primarily family and church – are considered carefully.

■ *Andrew Perchard: "Colliers with a collar on": The mine management professions in the Scottish coal mining industry, 1930–1966*

This paper draws on the author's forthcoming monograph and associated work to address the subject of management employees in the Scottish coal mining industry. With a few exceptions, colliery managers and other mining professionals – referred to collectively here as the mine management professions- have been excluded from the history of the British, and particularly the Scottish, coal mining industries. The work contributes to redressing that imbalance by examining these groups within the most crucial period of their ascendancy, 1930–1966, in the Scottish coal industry. It places them within the context of both private and state ownership and examines their role, status and behaviours through their relationship with their employers, and the prosecution of their functions in the fields of production, health and safety and industrial relations. It also examines their terms and conditions of employment and outlook of their professional associations, and, in the nineteen years under nationalisation, that of their union. This coincided with an intense public discussion, within the mining professions, over their future shape, principles and occupational standards. In so doing the author's work repositions the mine management professions as distinct from, rather than simply an adjunct to, their employers. However, it shows the parameters within which mining professionals were constrained by both private colliery companies and the National Coal Board. Mining professionals' outlook and behaviours, like other social groupings within the industry, were permeated with both common themes and a diversity of approach.