

## ***English summaries***

### ***History as a State-Run Institution: the Soviet Archives***

A. SALOMONI

*The Soviet archives are from their constitution the result of a project to write the history of communism in Soviet Russia. In this paper, the mechanism which guided the conservation of historical documents in the USSR is analysed, on the assumption that there is a homophony between State historiography and the collection of data, in other words between library and archives. The Russian archives were formerly an institution destined to provide confidential information to State civil servants. After the October revolution, they were transformed into research centers controlled by the Party. These new institutions anticipated the utilisation of a new source of history, memory, which was immediately integrated into the actual practice of writing history.*

### ***Capitalism and Industrialization in New England 1815-1845***

F. WEIL

*This article offers a reinterpretation of the industrialization of New England in the first half of the nineteenth century. It builds on a critical assessment of the widely-accepted yet seldom-discussed notion of the Boston Associates, to demonstrate the necessity of rethinking New England's industrial development. As the analysis of the case of Springfield, Massachusetts, shows, industrialization was often first the result of local investment, not the product of the action of Boston capitalists. This suggests the importance of reversing the usual perspective and envisioning the emergence of a milieu of Boston industrial capitalists as a consequence, not a cause, of the process of industrialization.*

### ***From Nylon to the Bomb: Du Pont de Nemours, the American Stak, and Nuclear Development, 1930-1960***

P. NDIAYE

*Before World War II, the chemical company Du Pont championed free enterprise. Nylon was promoted as demonstrating that free enterprise could produce better things for better living without aid from New Dealers.*

*But the same company and its chemical engineers who converted the laboratory wonder of nylon into the commercial blockbuster it became, were the ones, who, a few years later, produced plutonium for the making of atomic bombs. In the 1940s and 1950s, Du Pont built huge atomic plants for the U.S. Government at Hanford, Washington, and Savannah River, South Carolina. This close collaboration with govern-*

ment officials produced a new type of politically sophisticated executives, who discovered not only the possibility of working with the Government, but also the advantage of doing so. In the same time, the Federal State, rather than being merely client and consumer, became a partner of Big Business for the mass-production of high-tech military-related products.

### ***Christian Penitence and Muslim Gold in the Cid's Spain***

F. BEZLER

*Among the many penitents who were subjected to a pecuniary penitence introduced onto the continent by Anglo-Saxon and Irish monks in the viith century, that which has come down to us in the form of a manuscript from the Silos Abbey in Spain is unique because of the commutation system of expiatory fees which it proposes.*

*Its author, a monk, designed them with society as a whole in mind, which he divided into two groups: the clergy and the lay people, the latter divided according to a social hierarchy of nine degrees. For clerics wishing to avoid penitential fasts, he offered redemption in the form of aescetic exercizes; to lay persons, however, redemption took a monetary form, money thus incarnating the frontier between the sacred and the profane.*

*A study of these commutations allows one to date them and to show that Castille, around the year 1050, still did not have its own monetary system, but used that of Muslim Spain.*

*Moreover, since these commutations required liquidities which only soldiers possessed, thanks to their forays into the neighboring muslim's territory, they came to symbolize a penitential institution in which faith, war and money were intricately intertwined.*

### ***Jews, Violence, and the Sacred***

D. NIRENBERG

*Holy Week violence against Jews is seldom studied in detail, in part because it seems a transparent sign of popular hatred toward the Jews, evidence of the mounting intolerance of medieval Europe. This article studies the annual outbreaks of Holy Week violence in the fourteenth-century Crown of Aragon, and argues that these were ancient rituals which sought to experience the sacred through stylized forms of violence. These riots reenacted the conquest of Jerusalem by the Romans in 70 C.E. and performed them as ritual sacrifice which, once a year, reemphasized the boundary between Christian and Jew. The article explores three broad implications of this argument for the history of intolerance. First, as calendrical rituals, these events suggest that an episodic model of religious intolerance should complement more traditional progressive ones. Second, because Holy Week riots represented notions of the divide between secular and clerical power and served to criticize structures of power within the Crown, they suggest a complex relationship between majoritarian hierarchies and violence against minorities. Finally, the same rituals that violently challenged the presence of Jews in Christian society reiterated the primary discourses legitimating that presence. Holy Week riots criticized the toleration of Jews, but they also made this toleration possible, a double role which warns against any easy equation of violence with intolerance.*

***The Evolution of Merchant Capitalism in Venice:  
the Financing of the galere da mercato  
at the End of the xvth Century***

B. DOUMERC AND D. STOCKLY

*Venice built its fortune upon the good management of its naval potential, the flower of which remains its navigation line. The financial resources of the city-state converged with this activity and the auction system enabled a great number of patricians to participate in the enrichment of the city and their own lineage. The difficult conjuncture of the 1490s greatly disturbed the normal exploitation of the mude. Multiple problems of functioning interfered with the principle of a large participation and, little by little, only the most influential and richest lineages maintained control of the economic sector. In the beginning of the xvth century, a small group of families dictated their will by imposing their choices in the Senate and thereby obtained important advantage. However, the Senate majority, tired of such manipulation, reacted violently and persuaded the Nation of the necessity of abandoning the navigation lines.*

***The Mercantile Style or Mode of Finance, the Choice  
of an Accounting Model in France under the Old Regime***

Y. LEMARCHAND

*Investigations into the accounting practices of French compagnies in the xviii<sup>th</sup> century show that they used two principal models: double entry and charge and discharge accounting. We have attempted to verify that the choice of an accounting model was determined by the social class of the shareholder as well as by the traditions and operating conditions particular to each branch of activity. For example, double entry, the merchant's model, was used in the textile industry, where the capital came from trade. Charge and discharge accounting, on the other hand, was the mining and metalurgist's model in which capital was injected mainly by the nobility or financiers. Nevertheless the dominance of stewardship accounting in these sectors is not entirely due to custom. Founded upon the separation of capital ownership and management, focused upon the notions of responsibility and control, this model met the needs of the first joint stock companies. But the use of double entry won out, becoming widespread among the large industrial enterprises between the years 1810 to 1830, not without having incorporated certain basic concepts borrowed from its rival model.*