

NOTICES

Paid up members of the AAH are entitled to a \$12.80 (20% discount) subscription rate to the *American Journal of Ancient History*. Write to: Editor, *AJAH*, Harvard University, Robinson Hall, Cambridge, MA 02138.

The term of the current President expires in 1986/7. Nominating petitions signed by three members in good standing and not belonging to the same institution and countersigned by the nominee must be received by the Secretary by April 15, 1987.

The NEH has funded a Summer Seminar, "Modern Approaches to Ancient History," to be held at the University of Washington, 28 June-7 August, 1987. Professor Carol Thomas will direct the Seminar. Further details will appear in the next issue of the *Newsletter*.

Sir Moses Finley (1912-1986)

Sir Moses Finley died on June 23 after suffering a stroke within an hour of the sudden death of his wife Mary. A native of New York, Finley graduated from Syracuse University in 1927 and then took a Masters Degree at Columbia University two years later in public law. Only then did he begin serious training in ancient history under W.L. Westermann and in Roman law under A.A. Schiller.

In the early phase of his career he published several articles and reviews, after which there is a gap of more than a decade between publications. During that time he read voraciously in other disciplines, worked with the Frankfurt Institute of Social Research in exile in New York, and taught at C.C.N.Y. At the end of this formative period, he again appeared in print in the early fifties, but now with the qualities that have distinguished his published work ever since. *Studies in Land and Credit in Ancient Athens* (1952) displayed interest in the central institutions of the ancient economy that differentiate it from modern capitalism; in *The World of Odysseus* (1954) his critical skills in interpreting classical texts were used to describe and analyze a set of coherent social customs and practices.

Ironically, just as Finley was establishing his reputation for excellence as a Greek historian, he was forced to leave the United States for Great Britain, following his refusal to "name names" before the Senate Subcommittee on Internal Security and his subsequent dismissal from Rutgers University. In England he received college fellowships at Oxford and Cambridge, and chose the latter, where he was a Fellow of Jesus College, Reader and then Professor of Ancient History, and finally Master of Darwin College.

Finley's thirty-two years in Cambridge were extraordinary for the quality and quantity of his writing and teaching. With the planned republication of his *Use and Abuse of History* in the near future, all fifteen of his books will be in print – an indicator of the durability and influence of his work over more than three decades. Finley's greatness lay in his unfailing ability to pose important questions of interest not just to classical historians but also to other historians and social scientists. His critical dialogues with those in other disciplines give him a place in the western intellectual tradition that very few ancient historians have enjoyed. His work on slavery has earned him the respect of specialists in American slavery as the doyen of slave studies, and his stature in economic history prompted an Italian historian to comment that, whether they agree or disagree with Finley, all Italian students of the subject now define their position with reference to *The Ancient Economy*.

As a teacher, Finley was indefatigable. His students received tough criticisms of their work, but also until his death firm, conscientious support that will be missed with profound sadness.

Richard Saller

University of Chicago

FIRST INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON ANCIENT WORLDS

The **FIRST INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON ANCIENT WORLDS** was held at the Fuji Institute of Education and Training in Japan between January 5 and 8, 1986. At the suggestion of the **SOCIETY FOR STUDIES OF RESISTANCE MOVEMENTS IN ANTIQUITY**, the organizing committee selected "Forms of Control and Subordination in Antiquity" as the symposium's theme. Initial notices promised a meeting with many participants from all corners of the world. Ultimately, 72 scholars gave papers, of whom 39 were Japanese. North America was represented by one Canadian, one Mexican and five U.S. professors. Eight speakers came from the so-called socialist countries (1 Bulgarian, 4 Poles & 3 East Germans), and the rest from Western Europe (1 Belgian, 5 French, 2 Italians, and 3 West Germans). Beside Japan, South Korea was the only Far Eastern country participating with seven representatives.

Organization and logistics were excellent. From the first moment of arrival the organizing committee's polite hospitality created an atmosphere of collegiality which turned the entire meeting into a stimulating and rewarding scholarly experience.

The tone of the symposium was set by the chair of the first session by introducing it the following way: "It is well known that capitalist historiography always concentrated on the history of the rulers and never on the history of the ruled." Not surprisingly, just as at any international meeting of historians, a great number of the papers were influenced by Neo-Marxist, or traditional Marxist-Leninist thought in interpreting phenomena that had some pertinence to "Forms of Subordination and Control in Antiquity". In addition to scholarly contributions employing traditional historiographical methods, many speakers turned to the methodologies of the social sciences to test the applicability of the ideologies to ancient history. As expected, the controversies could not be resolved. Yet in the final publication (to appear at the end of 1986) I do see the symposium's long-range, scholarly importance for the humanistic disciplines — a publication that will include the questions and answers of the debates and discussions that compared and contrasted various approaches to the study of a well-focused, relatively neglected problem in ancient history.

A most significant surprise for me was the discovery of Far Eastern scholarly expertise and flourishing research activity in the history of the ancient Mediterranean world. At the beginning of the symposium, a bibliography of ancient Greek and Roman history was presented to us. The bibliography contains 582 titles of books, monographs, articles by Japanese scholars in Japanese. A few translations were listed, mostly ancient authors but some moderns, e.g. J. Chadwick's *Decipherment*, M. Webster's *Agrarverhältnisse*, A.J. Toynbee's *Hannibal*. The listings cover roughly the past fifteen years, although some collections or multivolume works date from the 1920's. From the titles, Japanese scholars' research efforts appeared noteworthy. That they should be read became a firm resolve after hearing the papers of the Japanese scholars. Like Russian now, Japanese reading ability may become in the near future of considerable importance in all fields of historical study. G.J. Szemler, Loyola University of Chicago.

JAMES H. BREASTED PRIZE

The James H. Breasted Prize for 1986 was awarded to John Van Seters (Univ. of N. Carolina, Chapel Hill) for *In Search of History: Historiography in the Ancient World and the Origins of Biblical History* (Yale Univ. Press, 1983).

CALLS FOR PAPERS

The 1989 AAH meeting will be held at Brown University, probably in conjunction with an international conference on a topic of comparative history (under consideration: "City-State, Territory and Empire from Antiquity to the Renaissance"). Suggestions for topics for the sessions of the AAH meeting proper should be sent to: Kurt A. Raaflaub, Dept. of Classics, Brown University, Providence, RI 02912. Preference will be given to topics that have not received much attention in recent years.

The second Brown conference on Augustus and the Emergence of the Imperial Ideology will be held in Spring, 1987. Interested scholars should write to Prof. Kurt A.

Raaflaub at the above address. Particularly desired are papers on the interpretation of new evidence (inscriptions, coins, art, monuments) pertaining to the beginnings of imperial ideology.

REVIEW

Frank L. Vatai. *Intellectuals in Politics in the Greek World*.

London: Croom Helm, 1984. Pp. 184. \$32.00.

This book sets out to discuss the role of the "intellectual" in Greek politics from archaic to Hellenistic times. The question that emerges first is what is an "intellectual"? Vatai states that a term "cannot be defined with any precision" (p. 1), and then offers the selection of modern discussions drawn mostly from sociologists such as Max Weber. This is not a happy solution to the problem and neglects to consider Greek "intellectuals" within the context of the ancient world and as "men of letters." That is, Plato, Aristotle, and others were interested not only in the acquisition of knowledge, but also in current issues, especially politics, and the world around them. V. does not inquire into this area (and this criticism may then seem unfair), but he does raise the question when he discusses the intellectual as a nineteenth century development (p. 133, n. 1). For the appearance of the intellectual is a reflection of the growing sophistication of the later nineteenth century, which saw the intellectual emerge from the man of letters.

Another methodological approach endorsed by V. is the argument by analogy (see especially pp. 6-12). For instance, he likens Henry Kissinger (p. 5) to Plato, Aristotle, et al., as a successful political adviser, which creates the image of globe-trotting trouble-shooters in the ancient world. V. assumes the validity of analogies, but seems not to realize that argument by analogy is generally a weak argument, one which can distort rather than illuminate the past (see the discussion by M. Oakeshott, *On History* [Totowa, 1983], p. 92).

The core of the book consists of three chapters: "Pythagoras and the Pre-Socratics," "Plato and the Academy," and "From Polis to Monarchy" (i.e., the Hellenistic period). Discussion of Pythagoras begins with a brief introduction to the Ionians, who are styled variously "intellectuals" and "philosophers," a definition V. employs throughout. Pythagoras' career in Samos is treated and then his immigration to Italy, where Pythagoras and his school played an influential role in the affairs of Magna Graecia. V. thinks that the Pythagoreans were a "club" like Athenian political groups (p. 36, but cf. his discussion of the Academy, pp. 85-86), but offers no explanation for this view. The chapter on Plato and the Academy discusses the usual political adventures: Plato's trips to Syracuse and the courts of Dionysius I and II; the acts of political violence carried out by Callippus and Chion. Yet V. says nothing of two Platonic students, Phocion and Lycurgus, who evidently did learn something about justice from Plato which they brought to their political careers. In the final chapter, V. discusses the late fourth century B.C. and the Hellenistic age, beginning with Isocrates and his school. V. asserts that Isocrates' teaching was more practical than Plato's, but V. contradicts his own view. Plato's teaching

included practical lessons as Plato's reference to the value of geometry in laying out a camp shows (R. 526 D). Moreover, V.'s assertion is contradicted by his own statement that the Academy was a "potent political force" (p. 10). How could the Academy be politically influential if its teaching was so impractical? The political careers of (e.g.) Lycurgus, Phocion, Chabrias suggest that this was not the case.

Though these brief remarks have focused on areas of disagreement, V.'s discussion remains a useful survey of the contribution and role of "intellectuals" in Greek politics.

Lawrence A. Tritle
Loyola Marymount University

BOOKS

Kurt A. Raaflaub, *Die Entdeckung der Freiheit: Zur historischen Semantik und Gesellschaftsgeschichte eines politischen Grundbegriffes der Griechen*, Vestigia 37 (Beck, Munich, 1985).

Morton Smith & E. Gabba, ed., Elias J. Bickerman, *Religions and Politics in the Hellenistic Roman Periods*, Athenaeum Supp. 5 (Como, 1985). Prof. Smith has available for AAH members a few copies for \$15.00 each (prepaid by check or money order in US dollars). Write to: Prof. M. Smith, 165 W. 66 St. #J, NYC, NY 10023.

A SPECIAL ISSUE OF HELIOS ON WOMEN IN ANTIQUITY

The journal *Helios* will publish in fall 1986 a special issue on women in antiquity: *Rescuing Creusa: New Methodological Approaches to Women in Antiquity*, guest edited by Marilyn Skinner. The issue is intended for anyone working in women's studies or interested in the history of women. The ten articles and two review-essays will be concerned with new methods and approaches to the study of women, historical and social realities of ancient women's lives, and ancient social and literary constructs of the female. The fall 1987 issue, edited by Adele Scafuro, will be devoted to new critical studies of Roman women. Each issue may be purchased for \$5.00 (individual) or \$9.00 (institution). *Helios* actively seeks and publishes articles that explore the ancient world through feminist theory and other critical methodologies. Correspondence may be addressed to Steven M. Oberhelman, Editor, Box 4649, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX 79409-4649.

MISCELLANEA

On Monday, December 1st and December 8th, Sir Ronald Syme will give consecutive seminar talks on Tacitus at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Persons interested in attending should write to Prof. F. M. Clover, Dept. of History, Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706.

G.W. Bowersock's paper "Rostovtzeff in Madison", a highlight of the 1983 AAH meeting, has been published in *The American Scholar* (55 Summer, 1986) 392-400).

Studies in Medieval and Renaissance History is now published by AMS Press. Contributions are invited. Persons interested should write to: Prof. J.A.S. Evans, editor SMRH, Dept. of Classics, Univ. of Brit. Columbia, Vancouver, BC, V6T 1W5, Canada.

A.J. Podlecki is editor of a new, interdisciplinary series of monographs on classical subjects intended for classicists, ancient historians and the educated general reader to be published by Peter Lang (Bern & NY) under the title *Studia Classica*. Book length manuscripts (200-300 pages), including Ph.D. theses with a multidisciplinary perspective and rewritten for the above readership, are now being solicited. Preliminary inquiries should be sent to: A.J. Podlecki, Editor, *Studia Classica*, Univ. of Brit. Columbia, Dept. of Classics, Vancouver, BC, V6T 1W5, Canada.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

A scholarship of \$1,500 for a student or teacher of the classical languages and/or classical civilization to attend the summer session of the American Academy in Rome is being offered by the Classical Society of the Academy. For application forms (due 2/15/87) write: Prof. S.K. Dickison, Dept. of Classics, Univ. of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611.

For a free copy of the *NEH Overview of Endowment Programs* write: July 1986 Overview, Room 409, NEH, 1100 Pennsylvania Ave., NW Washington, DC 20506.

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PERSONALIA

T.M. Banchich completed his dissertation *The Historical Fragments of Eunapius* (SUNY Buffalo, 1985) under the direction of Prof. G.L. Kustas.

Walter Donlan has been appointed Prof. of Classics at the Univ. of Calif. at Irvine.

Donald Engels has been appointed Asst. Prof. of History at the Univ. of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

Gary Reger will be a Fulbright Fellow at the Univ. of Munich (1986/7) working on his Ph.D. topic: "The Economy of the Cyclades in the Hellenistic Age".

Prof. S.M. Burstein
California State University, Los Angeles
Dept. of History
5151 State University Dr.
Los Angeles, CA 90032