Vol. 10
Jan Lucassen (ed.)

Wages and Currency
Global Comparisons from Antiquity to the Twentieth Century

ISBN 978-3-03910-782-7 hardback
sFr. 99.– / €* 68.30 / €** 70.20 / € 63.80 / £ 41.50 / US-$ 82.95

The basic hypothesis of this volume is that currency patterns may tell us something about the spread of wage payments in specific societies in history. As far as wages are paid in currency, in particular in coin, specific patterns of denominations produced and used in space and time may provide insights into the importance of wage labour in those societies. In this book, a number of specialists discuss the relationship between wages and currency, with reference to different countries and regions in Europe, Asia, and South America over more than 2000 years. The main purpose of this volume is to look for new sources from the fields of monetary history and numismatics for the occurrence and importance of wage labour in general. More specifically, the contributions offer new perspectives on those periods and those parts of the world where alternative sources for labour history were hitherto lacking; or, where a fresh view on the occurrence and nature of wage labour would be worthwhile.


Vol. 9
Jan Lucassen (ed.)

Global Labour History

A State of the Art
Second Printing

sFr. 95.– / €* 65.50 / €** 67.30 / € 61.20 / £ 39.80 / US-$ 79.95

The recent wave of globalization has a profound impact on labour. Consequently, research in the field of labour and working-class history has become less Eurocentric and more global over the last twenty years. Outstanding specialists take stock of the globalization of the field in eighteen essays. Two introductory essays discuss the theoretical consequences of this development as well as the early historiography of labour and working-class history. Next, ten essays provide an exceptionally complete coverage of recent historiographical trends in the labour history of Western Europe, Eastern Europe, North America, South America, Africa, the Middle East, South Asia, China, Japan, and Australasia. Finally, six case studies research world-wide and comparative aspects of global labour history, developing best practices in this new and difficult field. They include a wide variety of occupations and economic sectors: agricultural labour, domestic labour, brick making, coal mining and the work done in the docks and on the railways on different continents.


Vol. 8
Lex Heerma van Voss / Patrick Pasteur / Jan De Maeyer (eds)

Between Cross and Class
Comparative Histories of Christian Labour in Europe 1840-2000

sFr. 96.– / €* 66.20 / €** 68.10 / € 61.90 / £ 43.30 / US-$ 73.95

In the late nineteenth century in a number of continental European countries Christian associations of workers arose: Christian trade unions, workers’ cooperatives, political leagues, workers’ youth movements and cultural associations, sometimes separately for men and women. In some countries they formed a unified Christian labour movement, which sometimes also belonged to a broader Christian subculture or pillar, encompassing all social classes.

In traditional labour history Christian workers’ organizations were solely represented as dividing the working class and weakening the class struggle. However, from the 1980s onwards a considerable amount of studies have been devoted to Christian workers’ organizations that adopted a more nuanced approach. This book takes stock of this new historiography. To broaden the analysis, each contribution compares the development in at least two countries, thus generating new comparative insights.

This volume assesses the development of Christian workers’ organizations in Europe from a broad historical and comparative perspective. The contributions focus on the collective identity of the Christian workers’ organization, their denominational and working-class allegiances and how these are expressed in ideology, organization and practice. Among the themes discussed are relations with churches and Christian Democracy, secularization, the development of the Welfare State, industrial relations and the contribution to working-class culture.

This volume is the result of a joint intellectual enterprise of the International Institute of Social History (IISG) in Amsterdam (Netherlands) and a group of scholars linked to the KADOC – Documentation and Research Centre for Religion, Culture and Society of the KU Leuven (Catholic University Leuven-Belgium).


Vol. 7

Aad Blok / Keith Hitchins / Raymond Markey / Birger Simonson (eds)

Urban Radicals, Rural Allies

Social Democracy and the Agrarian Issue, 1870-1914


451 pp., 1 ill., num. tables

sFr. 106.– / €* 73.10 / €** 75.10 / € 68.30 / £ 48.– / US-$ 81.95

Social democracy experienced a dramatic growth in the four decades prior to World War I. In this period, the era of the Second International, orthodox Marxism was the official ideology for most social democratic and labour parties. As these parties sought effective parliamentary representation, increasing tension developed between social democratic theory and practice. One of the greatest expressions of the contradiction between theory and practice was the social democratic approach to the peasantry and the rural sector in general. The eighteen contributions to this volume examine the attitudes of social democratic parties in Australia and Europe towards the peasantry and the agrarian issue. The contributors show how these attitudes varied greatly among the different countries, depending on the socio-economic and political structure, the role of radical populism and the situation within the social democratic party in the countries in question.

Vol. 6
Marcel van der Linden / Richard Price (eds)

The Rise and Development of Collective Labour Law

ISBN 978-3-906760-36-0/
sFr. 95.– / €* 70.20 / €** 72.20 / € 65.60 /
£ 42.– / US-$ 78.95

The essays in this book are written by recognised experts and provide a comparative overview of the development of labour law in different countries. The book aims to give a concise account of the history of labour law and goes on to provide a critical historiography for each country with supplementary essays on international dimensions. This collection will be of interest to historians, labour lawyers, industrial sociologists and labour economists.

Contents:

Vol. 5
Tom Brass / Marcel van der Linden (eds)

Free and Unfree Labour

The Debate Continues

ISBN 978-3-906756-87-5/
sFr. 105.– / €* 77.40 / €** 79.50 / € 72.30 /
£ 47.– / US-$ 86.95

Historically, capitalism has always integrated various forms of unfree labour, including chattel slavery, convict labour and debt bondage. Contrary to purported wisdom, these forms of exploitation have not disappeared during the twentieth century. Fascist and Stalinist dictatorships used forced labour on a massive scale, while unfree labour has been increasing in several parts of the world in recent years.

Labour historians have traditionally somewhat neglected the problem of coerced labour. Focusing on so-called «free» wage labourers, their living conditions, cultures and struggles, they implicitly supposed a more or less unilinear development from unfree to «free» labour to have taken place under the influence of emerging capitalism, gradually encompassing the globe.

The present collection of 24 essays attempts to rethink these issues. The volume is divided into two sections: the first deals with theories about unfree labour while the second consists of case studies examining its presence or absence in particular historical contexts in the «first», «second» and «third» world. The authors use various Marxist or neoclassical approaches and disagree on four substantive points: the market, labour scar-
During the last decade studies have indicated that migration has been a normal, structural element of human societies throughout history. Progress in migration and settlement studies under this new paradigm has been so substantial that a new state of the art is needed. This book presents a reconsideration of current theoretical perspectives encompassing enlightened insights in diverging specialisms in the field of migration history, such as slavery studies, ethnic history, macro-economic migration studies, and gypsy studies. The seventeen essays in this volume, written by leading scholars in the field, collectively represent a pioneering effort in migration and settlement studies. They address the problems of ongoing specialization (and hence the need for synthesis) and the difficulties of integrating the consequences of this new paradigm into general histories.


Vol. 3

Anthony Carew / Michel Dreyfus / Geert Van Goethem / Rebecca Gumbrell-McCormick

The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions

Edited by Marcel van der Linden

The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) was set up in 1949 and now has 215 affiliated organizations in 145 countries and territories on all five continents, with a membership of 125 million. It is a confederation of national trade union centres, each of which links together trade unions of that particular country. The ICFTU cooperates closely with the International Labour Organization and has consultative status with the United Nation’s Economic and Social Council.

The present book is the first history to be written of this important organization. A team of researchers describes the development of the ICFTU’s precursors (the International Secretariat of National Trade Union Centres, the International Federation of Trade Unions, and the early World Federation of Trade Unions), and reconstructs the complicated history of the ICFTU itself, from its origins during the Cold War, through anti-colonial struggles, European unification, international campaigns against Apartheid and many other issues. A final chapter discusses the organization’s prospects in the twenty-first century.

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