

ABSTRACTS (Zusammenfassungen)

Arthur McIvor

Labour History in England: A Survey of Recent Developments
(Die Forschung zur Geschichte der Arbeiterbewegung und der Arbeiterschaft
in England: Ein Überblick über die jüngsten Entwicklungen)

This short article reviews the recent evolution of the discipline of labour history in England from institutional history towards an expanded agenda as the social history of the working class - organised and unorganised. The key role of individual scholars and organisations in this professionalisation is noted and the main labour history research libraries and archives identified. The expansion and historiography of new areas of research - women, the unskilled, relations between the working class and labour politics, the milieux and politics of the workplace, labour management and the convergence of business and labour history - are discussed, together with the weaknesses in the discipline and the erosion in funding for labour history which has characterised the 1980s.

Conan Fischer / William Knox

Labour History in Scotland: The Last Twenty Years
(Geschichte der Arbeiterschaft und der Arbeiterbewegung in Schottland: Die
Geschichtsschreibung der letzten zwanzig Jahre)

Scottish labour history has developed within the distinctive context of a nation which possesses a well-defined set of civil institutions and a fiercely-held identity, but which lacks a legislature of its own. The involvement of

the Scottish labour movement in the campaign to restore Scotland's parliament complicates its historiography, while historians themselves have, directly or indirectly, become caught up in attempts to assert a Scottish national identity. Thus, in addition to the more familiar and universal issue of social class, questions of nationhood define the subject matter of Scottish labour history.

Labour history writing in Scotland has also been influenced and, to a degree, inspired, by external factors - notably by the work of the English historian E.P. Thompson - and all in all a flourishing labour history literature based both in the universities and more widely has developed. This work, however, has yet to examine all the facets of the working class' historical experience; work on popular struggle, women's history and the rise of the salaried employee are among themes to be explored more fully. In more general terms Scottish labour historians have yet to integrate themselves significantly within a broader, European historiography.

Deian R. Hopkin

**The Social, Economic and Political Historiography of Modern Wales
(Die soziale, wirtschaftliche und politische Historiographie des modernen Wales)**

Despite its small size, Wales has a long-established and rich cultural tradition, and this is reflected in historiography, notably in Labour history. The enormous growth in the Welsh coal industry up to 1914 produced the foundations for a flourishing Labour movement which has subsequently provided much of the leadership for the British Labour and trade union movement. Historians have found considerable inspiration in this, but they have also sought to discover where the source of the Labour movements was; they found it in the dissenting and radical traditions of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries which produced riot and upheaval as well as intellectual ferment. The di-

iversity of Wales is also evident in the historiography, not only the contrasts between remote rurality and profound industrialism but also between ancient Welsh-language culture and the more recent and pervasive English culture. Recently, important debates have sprung up over the very meaning of the term Wales and Welshness and this debate, a spill-over from contemporary politics, is producing some of the most important new work.