SUMMARIES

CONFESSIONALISATION IN EASTERN EUROPE IN THE 17TH CENTURY:
THE APPLICABILITY OF A RESEARCH CONCEPT

Stefan Plaggenborg

The author puts the concept of "confessionalisation", with its origins in structural history, to the test by applying it to the two typologically seemingly incomparable cases of 17th-century Bohemia and Moscow. Focusing on the problem of religion, confessionalisation and modernisation, he almost entirely skips the controversial question of enforcing social discipline for want of preliminary historical research. Common to both cases is the marked aspect of state intervention including the use of force. In Bohemia, (catholic) confessionalisation meant in almost every area a strategy to prevent modernisation, whereas in the Muscovite Realm the (orthodox) Old Believers after the schism strengthened latent impulses towards modernisation; in Moscow there was a closer relationship between religion and modernisation than in post-White-Mountain Bohemia. This is evident even from the large period of time that elapsed between the respective tolerance laws. Thus, the author offers a critical view on "confessionalisation" but does not, in a departure from the trend in recent cultural history, entirely refute it.

DRAWING BORDERS BY COMING CLOSER TOGETHER:
SOME THOUGHTS ON CHURCH CONSTRUCTION
AND PAINTING IN PRAGUE DURING THE PERIOD
OF CONFESSIONALISATION

Kai Wenzel

The author develops some thoughts about changing views of the function of newly-built churches and their interior furnishing during the period of confessionalisation. The example of the Lutheran Trinity Church in the "Small Side" quarter of Prague demonstrates that the architectural solutions chosen for a church project could be closely intertwined with the confessional policy pursued by those who ordered the construction. A comparison with the pilgrimage church of the Virgin Mary in Stará Boleslav, built to a plan resembling that of the Trinity Church, shows that building rules of a differing confession were put into place immediately. A general observa-
tion about Catholic as well as Protestant church construction before the Thirty Years' War is that Churches of the competing confessions in general shape as well as in the solutions used for concrete architectural tasks drew ever closer together. Nonetheless, these similar shapes have to be understood as expressing radically dis-similar confessional and political views. In a second part, the author describes how the altar-piece “The Annunciation” by Hans von Aachen was transferred from a Catholic to the Lutheran Trinity Church. Immediate reaction to the transfer did not come from the Prague Catholics, but from the Calvinists, who removed all paintings and statues from St. Vitus Cathedral a few days after the altar-piece had been consecrated in Lutheran rites.

JEWS IN BOHEMIAN LITERATURE, 16TH TO 18TH CENTURY

Lenka Veselá

On the basis of printed literature from the period, the author examines whether and to what extent Bohemian society from the 16th to the mid-18th century was interested in Jews. The focus is mainly on the period before the Battle of the White Mountain, a period during which the ancient image of the Jews, under the influence of humanism and reformation, underwent a perceivable change. Though developments in the Bohemian Lands did resemble those mainly in Germany, there are some aspects specifically Bohemian, above all a relative lateness in dealing with the “Jewish Question”. Another characteristic is the great involvement of the Catholic Church and above all the Jesuit Order in anti-Jewish campaigns. The reformation, on the other hand, had a positive influence on the treatment of the Jewish topic. After the Battle of the White Mountain, what positive developments there had been were reversed, and printed literature from the Bohemian Lands shows a marked increase in anti-Jewish propaganda. Only in the 18th century, in the context of the emancipation of Jews in Bohemia, did a more liberal approach reappear.

WOMEN AND “SECOND SERFDOM” IN BOHEMIA

Sheilagh Ogilvie/Jeremy Edwards

This article examines, as an indicator of women’s position in the economy, the possibilities for women in early modern Bohemia to be the leading person in an independent household. In Bohemia, in the period under scrutiny, the percentage of women leading households was extremely low compared to the rest of Europe. Moreover, between 1591 and 1722 this percentage decreased significantly, with socio-economic factors progressively losing their influence. Research has identified several factors which, all over pre-industrial Europe, determined women’s economic