Abstracts

Labor Policy in Argentina in the Immediate Postwar Period: An International Perspective, 1907-1925
Laura Caruso, Universidad de Buenos Aires
In the first postwar period, after the creation of the ILO—an international organism specialized in the elaboration of labor legislation—linkages between institutions in Argentina and the international community received a boost in which the National Department of Labor (NDL) played a preponderant role. This linkage and its antecedents form part of a transnational dimension of Argentina’s labor policy still little studied by historiography, but that is key to the history of the construction of that policy. The activities of one Department official—Alejandro Unsáin—were pivotal in this international linkage, thus the article pays particular attention to them.
Keywords: labor policy, ILO, NDL, Alejandro Unsáin.

The Place of Labor in the Pan-American Debate (1923-1936)
Juan Carlos Yáñez Andrade, Universidad Viña del Mar, Chile
This essay examines the project presented by the Mexican delegation to the 1933 Pan-American Conference that proposed creating an Inter-American Institute of Labor. It analyzes Pan-Americanism and the instances it offered for studies of social and labor problems in a continental perspective, especially that of the Pan-American Conference of 1923. In light of the advances that the International Labor Organization (ILO) had won in the region, the article suggests that it may represent a largely unknown chapter in the labor history of the 1930s and the need to rethink the conditions of well-being in Latin America.
Keywords: Pan-Americanism, Pan-American conferences, labor, ILO, Inter-American Institute.
The League of Nations and its Treatment of the *mui tsai* System
Magaly Rodríguez García, *Research Foundation Flanders (fwo), Vrije Universiteit Brussel*

In the second half of the 19th century, British activists became interested in the *mui tsai* system that operated in various places in Asia, a system based on the practice of selling or transferring Chinese girls to wealthy families that would employ them in domestic service. During the interwar period, the League of Nations followed the initiative of those activists in England, and conducted a study of the *mui tsai* system through its various organs and specialized committees. This article follows the trajectory of the anti-*mui tsai* campaign in the interior of the Geneva-based organization.

Keywords: international organizations, interwar period, child slavery, child labor, domestic service.

Vicente Lombardo Toledano and the Latin American Workers’ Congress (1935-1938)
Patricio Herrera González, *Universidad de Valparaíso, Chile*

This article examines the role of Vicente Lombardo Toledano in convoking labor leaders to a meeting of the Latin American Workers’ Congress. While union organizations expressed their willingness to send delegates, the invitation also drew the attention of international organizations, like the Comintern, and the International Bureau of Labor, which cooperated through militants and high-level functionaries. The Congress, held in Mexico en 1938, achieved its principal objective: uniting workers across the continent.

Keywords: Vicente Lombardo Toledano, Latin American Workers’ Congress, Confederation of Workers of Mexico, Mexican Communist Party, Comintern, International Labor Organization.

Centralized Storage and Multi-centric Commerce in México-Tenochtitlan
Rosend Rovira Morgado, *Universidad Complutense de Madrid*

México-Tenochtitlan depended on a series of economic and administrative institutions to supply a resident population—that surpassed 200,000 inhabitants—with continuous and abundant flows of goods
and services. This essay presents substantial archaeological and ethno-historical data in an effort to reconstruct the storage system at a supra-domestic, or state-level, scale and the multi-centric markets that were at the heart of this Mesoamerican city.

Keywords: México-Tenochtitlan, centralized storage, markets, neighborhoods and partialities, multi-nuclei urbanism.

The Construction of the Technocracy in León and Its Unfinished Project of Social Participation
Carlos Téllez Valencia, El Colegio de Michoacán

This paper explores the process of the construction of the technocracy in the government of the city of León (state of Guanajuato, central Mexico), and the instruments and links established with local citizens to encourage them to participate in distinct tasks of public administration. In addition, the intention is to enrich our understanding of public administration at the municipal level in Mexico, and of the contributions that local non-governmental actors can make to public administration.

Keywords: government of León, technocracy, social participation, citizen councils.

English translation by Paul C. Kersey Johnson