

Notes on the contents

■ Kari Tarkiainen examines how the borders of the Grand Duchy of Finland came into being in his article (The doctrine of natural borders and the contribution of David Alopaeus in the creation of the borders of the Grand Duchy of Finland). The formation of the territory has never been considered as a single question in previous research. In the West, the reason for the creation of the new borders is usually presented as the inevitable territorial expansion following a victorious war, but in terms of the East the research has highlighted several different reasons, the most obvious of which can be considered to be the social disadvantages occurring in the region, and the rebellion by peasants on the so-called donated estates. Tarkiainen highlights the particular contribution made by David Alopaeus to the border creation process.

Who guards and maintains order in society, on whose behalf and against whom? This was the burning issue of the day in 1917 in Finland, when the old police service from the period under Russian rule was abolished as a result of the February Revolution and it was replaced with municipal militia force. Maiju Wuokko sheds light on the activities of Helsinki's militia force and the battle over the police between the right and left during the spring and summer of 1917 in

her article “Miliisi Helsingissä vuonna 1917 maaliskuun val-lankumouksesta pörssitalon mellakkaan” (The militia in Helsinki in 1917 from the March Revolution to the riot at Helsinki Stock Exchange).

In his article entitled (The Mormon awakening in Pojo parish in the 1880s and 1890s), Kim Östman examines the impact of Mormonism in the parish of Pojo in West Uusimaa, where an awakening took place in the 1880s as the consequence of the activities of the Swedish gardener Johan Blom, who had worked on the Brödtorp farm. The negative reactions resulted in the only legal proceedings concerning Mormonism to take place in Finland, which was at the time under Russian rule. The research results show that social networks were one of the most important factors in the spread of the movement’s influence, but it dissipated gradually once Blom had left.

The start of the 20th century marked a period of many radical changes in China. Imperial rule ended with the 1911 Revolution and Western

models of thought spread to China. The texts of Sun Yatsen, which are examined in Jarkko Haapanen’s article (Heaven and evolution in the political argumentation of Sun Yatsen), are examples of how old and new reasoning were mixed together in the political rhetoric of that time. The Theory of Evolution and its related Social Darwinist models took on new characteristics in Chinese debate.

In her article (The emigration of Romanian Jews at the start of the 20th century), Satu Matikainen considers Romanian emigration before World War I, when nearly one hundred thousand Jews left Romania as part of the major migration from Europe to America. In their bid to get to America, the Jews travelled across Europe, which created the image among contemporaries of an uncontrolled mass of emigrants who might settle down in the countries they were travelling through. The phenomenon resulted in consideration being given to the reasons for the emigration and the search for means to stem the migration.

When almost the entire north of Finland was evacuated in autumn 1944, among those who had to leave their home area were five hundred Skolt Sami from Petsamo. After the war, the Skolts settled in the municipality of Inari. Sixty years ago, the Skolt Sami from Sevettijärvi made it to their final destination in North Inari, while another branch of Skolts remained in the Nellim area in South Inari. In his article entitled (The settlement of Skolt Sami in Inari in 1945–49), Veli-Pekka Lehtola covers the debates and measures that the Skolts had to go through during the post-war years. How did the voice of the Skolts make itself heard in the activities of the Finnish authorities?

Pirjo Markkola considers the use of history in her inauguration lecture given at the University of Jyväskylä on 4 November 2009 The usability of Finnish history. She highlights the means for using history and their related problems.

(Translation AAC Noodi Oy)