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Artykuł został zdigitualizowany i opracowany do udostępnienia w internecie przez Muzeum Historii Polski w ramach prac podejmowanych na rzecz zapewnienia otwartego, powszechnego i trwałego dostępu do polskiego dorobku naukowego i kulturalnego. Artykuł jest umieszczony w kolekcji cyfrowej bazhum.muzhp.pl, gromadzącej zawartość polskich czasopism humanistycznych i społecznych.

Tekst jest udostępniony do wykorzystania w ramach dozwolonego użytku.
The Latin papyri prove that in the VI–VII centuries in Italy inside the ruling class there takes place a redistribution of landed property, mainly as ecclesiastic possessions but also a number of big and medium-sized estates were owned by the barbarian, chiefly Ostrogothic, aristocracy. The estates were cultivated by the slaves and coloni. The growth of the economic relationship of the slave and the peculium, an increasing number of slaves settling on land, a more extensive employment of slaves as auxiliary labourers in the households of the coloni indicate that there occurred a definite downfall of latifundial slavery. As to the coloni, their situation changes approaching more and more servitude. The most striking fundamental tendency as the then social and economic evolution is to bring to the same level the position of slaves and coloni in effect of the developing feudal relations in Italy. The report is reedited in the „Trudy dvadtsat’pyatogo Mejdunarodnago kongressa Vostokovedov” = „Proceedings of the Twentyfifth Congress of the Orientalists”, Moscow 9–16 July 1960, vol. 1, General Part. The sessions of the sections I–V. Moscow, 1962, pp. 511–517.
nated to the State then existed also two kinds of other corporations: a) corporations of free workers and b) corporations dependent from great landowners. The corporations of the first kind conserved some appearance of autonomy and democratic constitution (the eligibility of a head of a corporation, regular meetings etc.). The corporations of the second kind acted under the management of the *geouchos* through the *kephaleotai* who were appointed to a period suitable for the *geouchos*. The members of the corporations of the first kind were bound together mainly on fiscal lines and these of the second kind, on fiscal and production lines.


In this essay the importance of handicrafts is examined for the economy of secular and ecclesiastical large estates; the professions of artisans on the staff of large estates are discussed, then the forms of application and payment of handicraft work on the estate (upon an examination of the data concerning irrigation, production of ceramics, building trade etc.) and the situation of artisans employed on large estates. There are enclosed three tables supplying: 1. the acknowledgements of a receipt of implements; 2. the implements given out by large estate; 3. the implements let by large estate.


The servile labour did not play and even could not play a great role in this period of the far gone decline of the slaveholding society. The main group of craftsmen consisted of free men. The workers of State factories, hereditarily and compulsorily attached to their occupations, could not be considered free in the full meaning of the term. The majority of Egyptian craftsmen inherited the professions of their parents not in the way of compulsion but owing to the economic conditions and tradition. The compulsory hereditary binding to a profession cannot be proved as existing in the IV century (cf. P. Ryl. IV, 654) nor, as assumed Th. Reil, in later times.

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