

# Taubenschlag, Rafał

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"Price Controls and Wages", W. L. Westermann, "The Age of Diocletian. A Symposium", New York 1953 : [recenzja]

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The Journal of Juristic Papyrology 9-10, 509

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ment record. In this period it was the word διαγράφειν meaning the act of paying. At the beginning of the Roman domination the statement of having fulfilled such an act is put in the perfect tense as it was the case since the Ptolomaic era with all the analogous statements.

W. L. Westermann, *Price Controls and Wages (The Age of Diocletian, A Symposium*, p. 25—36) (The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York 1953).

This masterful essay deals with the problem which will also interest papyrologists. We find there interesting remarks on the taxation system, reorganized by Diocletian, on the famous letter written by a local official Dionysios (ed. by Mattingly, *Transactions of the International Numismatic Congress* [1936] 246 ff.) and on the famous edict upon prices of goods for sale.

L. Casson, *The Grain Trade of the Hellenistic World* (extr. from the *T.A.P.A.* LXXXV [1954] p. 168 ff.).

The findings of the author are as follows: From the time of Alexander to the middle of the second century B.C. the key figure in the grain trade of the eastern Mediterranean was Rhodes. It was she who distributed most of the supply from Egypt, and her share of that from the Black Sea area, to the coastal cities of Asia Minor and the Aegean islands and Greece. She employed Delos as a convenient distribution point for shipment to the neighboring islands and as a more convenient receiving point for grain from the west. Financing was done with her own capital and much of the grain traveled in her own bottoms. Athens and Greece, as in the fourth century, received in addition substantial supplies directly from the Pontus. From the middle of the second century B.C. to the annexation of Egypt, Rhodes does not lose her position in the grain trade although other forms of her commerce suffer. Whereas in the previous period there had been enough grain available to produce competition at times, the situation now changes. Sicilian supplies are now diverted to Rome. Numidian grain attempts to replace it but is soon swallowed up by Rome as well. The amount available from the Black Sea is somewhat reduced. The burden thus falls upon Egypt. In the first century B.C., because of the