
The vast influence of Giorgio Cencetti’s (1908-1970) work as a scholar and teacher in the fields of paleography, diplomatics, sphragistics, history, and jurisprudence is reflected in this collection of articles dedicated to his memory by his pupils and friends. In addition to a presentation of his life (A. Pratesi) and works (P.S. Martini), it contains 38 contributions by Italian, Czechoslovakian, Dutch, German, Spanish, Swedish, and Swiss writers. Most of these articles offer richly illustrated analyses of original sources from the paleographical, codicological, bibliological, diplomatic, or historical point of view, ranging in time from the first century to modern times. Beginning with contributions from paleographical research, for example, the Roman Capital (Nicola), Merovingian (J.O. Tjäder), and Beneventan Script (De Luca, Falconi, Cavallo), as well as on the development of the Genoese Notarial Cursive in the 16th and 17th centuries (Costamagna), the collection deals with a number of topics, broadening out into codicological and bibliological analyses of literary, historical and liturgical sources, and includes some interesting accounts of 15th and 16th century inventories and catalogues. The final section, which is devoted mainly to accurate diplomatic research, is preceded by Alessandro Pratesi’s interesting article 'Diplomatica in crisi?', which discusses the expert’s eternal question: how to put the fruits of his research into a broader perspective?

Anja Inkeri Lehtinen


The 36 articles of this volume, mainly by French and Italian scholars deal with the geographical and topographical problems presented in the works of the ancient geographers as well as in other writers such as Sallust, Tacitus, Vitruv, and Guido. A host of allied subjects — topographical names, navigation, Hannibal’s routes in Italy, Trajan’s column etc. — has also been discussed. The editor has been very prudent in limiting the theme of the contributions to geographical subjects. In this way we are presented with a very useful work, in which anybody interested in this particular branch of ancient history will find many new and refreshing ideas. However, not all of them are really fully considered at this stage. This seems, indeed, to be the general trouble with the 'Mélanges'. The articles must often be written in a very short time, and yet every contributor would like the chance to express, if not downright revolutionary ideas then at least some new ones. The only remedy for these premature offerings would no doubt consist in strict pruning by the editor, but that alas is certainly easier said than done.

Eeva Ruoff-Väänänen


Diese imposante Festschrift ist ein wahrhaftes cornu copiae mit 89 Beiträgen aus den verschiedenen Bereichen der griechischen Welt. Angeschlossen ist eine vollständige Bibliographie von Claire Préaux, welche die weite Spannkraft ihrer eigenen Forschungen zeigt. Die Aufsätze sind in folgenden Abteil-