

data, in itself very lucid, is made very approachable by the help of indexes to sources, of proper names and of subjects.

*Maarit Kaimio*

*The Imperialism of Mid-Republican Rome.* Edited by William V. Harris. The proceedings of a conference held at the American Academy in Rome, November 5-6, 1982. Papers and Monographs of the American Academy in Rome XXIX. Rome 1984. 194 p. USD 16.50.

This volume includes the proceedings of a colloquium held in Rome in 1982 and contains the papers by the six principal contributors with various comments by other attendants. The book opens with a paper by Harris: 'Current Directions in the Study of Roman Imperialism' which is in effect a reply to reviewers of his book, 'War and Imperialism in Republican Rome'. Next Musti discusses economic and political aspects in Polybius, mostly on the basis of his views already discussed in his 'Polibio e l'imperialismo romano'. Then Gruen who – as we know also from his 'The Hellenistic World' – returns to the old view that Roman policy in the middle Republic was not aggressively imperialistic and that in the war declarations Rome would have given more emphasis on economic than on political and military viewpoints. Gruen is one of the few exponents of this view today (cf. Gabba's discussion, e.g.). After Gruen comes Harris again, who in 'The Italians and the Empire' argues against Momigliano, who had suggested that Polybius underestimated Rome's relationship to her Italian allies. Gabba speaks of the mass of Roman plebs as enthusiastic supporters of expansionist politics in the middle Republic, and Linderski gives acute observations on the ideological contents of the views of Roman imperialism taken by Mommsen, Holleaux, T. Frank, De Sanctis and Fraccaro. In the last paper Clemente discusses the relationship between economy and politics from the viewpoint of the senatorial aristocracy.

*Heikki Solin*

*J.F. Gardner: Women in Roman Law and Society.* Croom Helm, London - Sydney 1986. 281 p. GBP 9.95 (paperback ed. 1987).

This is a satisfying and useful book on a theme that certainly needed treatment on this scale, and, since the price (of the paperback edition, at least) seems quite reasonable, it should prove to be quite a success. There is perhaps more *law* than *society*, but since there seems to be more to be found in the