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ABSTRACT: This paper analyzes the main features of the urban reforms by Benjamin Vicuña Mackenna in Santiago de Chile between 1872 and 1875. We pay special attention to the origin of the objectives of modernization, closely related to the political agenda of Latin American elites to create an urban culture (civilization). We also analyze the strategies of social defence that these reforms implied. The influence of French positivism and the Haussmann project in Paris was very important in the Vicuña Mackenna project and its model of a segregated city: the «European city» itself, —bourgeois, civilized and hygienic—, which should be protected, and the «African township», —lower-class feral and unhygienic—, whose population must be regenerated and colonized.

The Hygiene Education Project of Belisário Penna. 1900-1930

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1.—Introduction. 2.—Belisário Penna. 3.—A country of sick people. 4.—Final considerations.

ABSTRACT: This paper aims to present and analyze the hygiene education project of Belisario Penna (1868-1939). This physician took part in the public health movement that sought, through reforms in public health policy and education, to change the conditions that made Brazil a country of the poor, sick and illiterate. We describe the main ideas expressed by Penna in the period between 1900 and 1930. For this purpose, we use his archive as a privileged source of this physician, one of the leading intellectuals of the time.

Tierra del Fuego: the scientific-political construction of exclusion and counter-image of the ideal city dweller

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ABSTRACT: Due to its late incorporation into the national State, the social, economic and political setting of the Argentine province Tierra del Fuego differed from that of the rest of the national territory. In the construction of dependent otherness, objectifications and representations were imposed by state-related and non-state-related institutions, among other agencies. In this context, the Salesian mission of La Candelaria and Ushuaia's Jail for recidivists stand out as spaces in which biopolitics was concretised. The native population and criminals in Tierra del Fuego were those to be subjugated. The thesis of the extinction of the Indian and the simultaneous exaltation of the criminal as the subject of progress identified the scientific and political mechanisms by which the exclusion of certain social groups (Tierra del Fuego's indigenous population) and the inclusion of others (criminals) were regulated.

Buenos Aires, between Eros and Thanatos. Prostitution as dysgenic threat (1930-1955)

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1.—Introduction: female prostitution as dysgenic threat. 2.—Venereal illness and social defence. 3.—Eugenics and the biopolitical foundation of abolitionism. 4.—Final reflections.

ABSTRACT: This paper explores the medical-legal discourse around female prostitution that was articulated in Buenos Aires during the first decades of the

20th century. It focuses on the use of different ideological resources and on the policies and laws that were introduced to gain control over the sex trade and describes parallels between prostitution, disease and crime. In fact, the capital of Argentina was internationally known as a centre of prostitution and white slave trafficking, and Jewish participation in these activities allowed the consolidation of xenophobic theories. Medicine and law, among other disciplines, made important inputs into a simplified approach to this problem.

Rome: capital of an empire under the banner of political biology (1936-1942)

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1.—Rome between social defence and defence of the race. 2.—From the «bad life» to «political biology». 3.—Ancient Rome and the new fascist Italy. 4.—Epiphany of Imperial Rome: defence of the race and the E42 exhibition. 5.—Beginning of the end: «Italians are not Romans».

ABSTRACT: This paper analyzes the symbolic conformation of Rome and Romanism as important factors in the affirmation of the power of fascism, especially after the proclamation of the Empire in 1936. Within this framework, it explores the role of science in legitimizing the direct correlation of this symbolic universe with a praxis that exalted racial superiority inherited from Ancient Rome. It investigates the links between the eugenic discourse and the exercise of power behind the «biology policy», including fascist organicism and racism. In fact, Rome was the essence of an empire that was reborn after fifteen centuries and, between its historical legacy and the new scenarios created by fascism for disciplining the population, Romanism had to condense all of the merits of the race, encouraging military conquests and promoting responsibility for maintaining racial purity and avoiding «unwanted miscegenation» with conquered peoples. The idea of Romanism also encouraged a continuation of the persecution of Jews started in Germany. Hence, science ratified a widespread idea of the Romanization as a crusade to impose a force, exaggerated on racial grounds, which integrated confidence in environmental factors with a crude biological determinism.

ARTICLES

Incurable disease in Spain during the 19th century. The *Hospital para Hombres Incurables Nuestra Señora del Carmen*

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1.—Introduction. 2.—Reform of charities. 3.—*Nuestra Señora del Carmen* Hospital for Incurable Men. 3.1.—Regulations for the management of Hospitals for Incurables. 3.2.—Requests for admission. 3.3.—Diseases and remedies. 3.4.—Prescriptions and poultices. 4.—Conclusions.

ABSTRACT: This paper examines the State's assumption of medical care for patients with «permanent needs» in 19th century Spain. These patients were the incurably ill, the chronically ill and the elderly. This process is contextualized within the liberal reforms of the Spanish healthcare system in the reign of Isabel II (1833-1868). The goal of these reforms was the creation and consolidation of a national health system that would gradually replace the religious health charities. Healthcare reform became necessary due to the increase in migration that started in the 1830's and intensified in the 1850's. Traditional care networks formed by the family, local community and religious charities were no longer available to those who had left their village or town. In addition, many religious charities were bankrupted by the seizure of their properties in a programme of confiscation. Similar healthcare reform processes were taking place in the United Kingdom, France and Germany, among other European countries, and involved significant changes in the lives of patients, who became strictly controlled and medicalised. My aim was to identify changes in the patients' experience of illness through a case study of the living conditions of inmates at the *Nuestra Señora del Carmen* Hospital for Incurable Men, based in Madrid from 1852 to 1949. This was one of the institutions devoted to caring for patients with «permanent needs» and was under the direct control of the General State Administration.

Demographic and epidemiological quantification in Balearic hygienism, 1850-1930

Joana-Maria Pujadas-Mora 165

1.—Introduction. 2.—Quantification efforts and methods. 3.—Elements configuring the health status of the population. 3.1.—The growth and gender distribution of the population. 3.2.—The seasonality of mortality in the search for a relationship between climate and health. 3.3.—The demographic and epidemiologic profile of the population. 4.—Final evaluations.

ABSTRACT: At the end of the 19th century, social medicine promoted the use of quantification as a means to evaluate the health status of populations. In Majorca, hygienists such as the physicians Enric Fajarnés, Bernat Riera, Antoni Mayol and Emili Darder and the civil engineer Eusebi Estada sought a better understanding of health status by considering the population growth, the demographic and epidemiological profile and the influence of weather on mortality. These calculations showed that the Balearic population had a good health status in comparison to the population of mainland Spain, although less so in the international context. These results were explained by the benevolence of the insular climate, a factor that would also guarantee the success of the public health reforms proposed.

Classifications, agreements and negotiations: bases for the first international statistics on mental diseases (Paris 1889)

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1.—Introduction. 2.—Proposals for a unified classification. 3.—Bases for international statistics on the mentally ill. 4.—Quételet and international

statistics. 5.—Counting and quantifying. 6.—Crystallisation of a new method for classifying mental diseases.

ABSTRACT: This article discusses the construction of the first international classification of mental diseases, specifically created to allow a unified statistics on the mentally ill. This classification was discussed and approved at the International Congress of Mental Medicine held in Paris in August 1889, in response to a request made by the Society of Mental Medicine of Belgium four years earlier. A careful reading of this report helps us to understand the role of the classification and statistics of pathologies in the field of psychiatric medicine. This offers an historical perspective on an issue that remains problematic and allows analysis of the time when psychiatric classifications were first articulated and subjected to comparative statistical study.

An analysis of the first law on contraception in Argentina. The Responsible Procreation Programme in the province of La Pampa

María Herminia Di Liscia

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1.—Introduction. 2.—The recovery of democracy and women’s demands. 3.—The woman’s issue in La Pampa. Context of the emergence of the Responsible Procreation Law. 4.—Content and debate of the Responsible Procreation Law. 5.—From debate to proclamation. 6.—Responsible procreation and Peronism: a possible significance. 7.—Conclusions and projections to the present.

ABSTRACT: The passage of a Law requires previous negotiation processes that consider the background, arguments, support and the appropriate terminology for approaching the issue. The legal domain is a discursive field in which a dual struggle develops: to establish designations and to introduce that which the law establishes into everyday practice. Hence, conflictive processes are unleashed in which social agents are confronted by political parties, by institutions and by their own political and subjective identities. This article analyses the development of the «1363 Law», which was passed in November 1991 in the legislature of La Pampa province (Argentina). This Law created a provincial programme for responsible procreation, the first provincial legislation on contraception to be established. Although reproduction also involves males, special account is taken of speeches referring to females, given that the culture superimposes maternity on the female identity and references are therefore weighted towards the condition of women. We use the particularity of this case and its analytical potential in order to understand others, using as empirical material the parliamentary debate and interviews with the author of the Law and with key informants. We address the following questions: What was the national and provincial context in which the Law on responsible procreation was framed? What were the strategies adopted to achieve it? How was contraception articulated within the Peronist worldview of women? What meanings did the term «responsible procreation» bring into play? Finally, we present a brief assessment of the law’s application.

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