HANS STEIN

When Hans Stein died in England in 1941, the Institute lost a prominent collaborator.

To the young Hans Stein, who was born in Cologne, the importance of social-historical research was pointed out by his teacher B. Kuske. His thesis of the year 1921 — Der Kölner Arbeiterverein (1848-49) — was a valuable contribution to the early history of socialism in the Rhine region. Hans Stein worked for some years at the Rhenish-Westphalian Economic Archives in Cologne, and until 1933 he was head of the economic-political department of the West-German radio. During this time he was also collaborator of the Marx-Engels Institute, to which he contributed many discoveries, especially regarding the history of the young Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels. Further, he collected material from many archives in different countries. He emigrated in 1933 and settled in Amsterdam, where he found understanding and friendly help for his work in the Economic-Historical Library. For the Institute he was the right man to be head of the German department. Stein contributed two papers to the Review: Paperismus und Association (1936), meant as a study for a long-planned description of the West-German labour movement in the nineteenth century, and Der Amsterdamer Arbeiterbildungsverein von 1847 (1937). For the great publication planned by the Institute, Stein went to Belgium, where he successfully searched the libraries and archives in Brussels, Liège and Verviers. The death of Hans Stein was a great loss to social-historical research.

W. B.