

DAILY LIFE IN MEDIEVAL LITERATURE (*)

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Introduction

In recent years efforts in the systematical research on daily life and material culture of the Middle Ages have increased.(1) It although must be confessed that the theoretical and methodical basis of many investigations has been very different, weak or indeed completely missing. Generally original objects, works of art (mainly pictures) and the wide scope of written sources represent the objects of analysis and interpretation.(2)

At the 'Institut für mittelalterliche Realienkunde Österreichs' of the Austrian Academy of Sciences investigations have been carried out, which are particularly based on late medieval pictorial sources and certain types of written sources.(3) Of the latter they include above all inventories, account-books, testaments and travel-descriptions. In the course of these research projects the documentation and analysis of pictures of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries has been done with the help of EDP.(4)

The methods used for the access to the relevant contents of pictures are quite similar to the conceptions developed for dealing with literary sources. Therefore, they may be described briefly. - A picture was supposed to instruct late medieval men, above all the large groups of

illiterates. Out of that didactic motive the portrayed situations - mainly of religious contents - were transferred by the artist into the contemporary medieval milieu. Persons in the picture wear medieval clothing, rooms are equipped with contemporary furniture and town views may accord with a Gothic reality.(5) By that, the medieval spectator's understanding of the painted situation was to be facilitated and the religious emotion to be increased. Therefore, pictures are not only a relevant and indispensable source for reconstructing certain aspects of material culture and daily life of the Middle Ages, but also for studying the mentality of medieval man.

To interpret pictures in a systematic way they first must be described. 'Descriptions' in the form of simple card-indexes (for instance according to the portrayed persons, scenes or material objects) might in some cases serve the purpose to make the access to a large number of pictures easier. But an effective and systematic research cannot be satisfied with more or less isolated information on individual significances. Only the various connections and relations between persons, material objects, situations or qualities and their consequent interpretation offer the possibility of getting acceptable results. Out of these considerations a classification-system was developed, which takes into account the hierarchy and connections of the contents of a picture.(6) From 1978 to 1980 a computer program named DESCRIPTOR was used at the 'Institut für Realienkunde', serving such kind of description and analysis of pictorial sources.(7) Since 1981 the program CLIO, developed at the

Max-Planck-Institut für Geschichte at Göttingen (Western Germany), is used at the institute, which particularly offers a lot more facilities in data retrieval.(8)

The descriptions of pictures are made in natural language. To each described scene, situation, person, material object or quality one term is assigned corresponding to a standardized and obligatory vocabulary. Not taking into account the possibilities in detail which the system offers, the following types of data retrieval are mainly used:

a. The retrieval of certain individual situations, persons (sex, rank, profession, etc.), qualities and/or their combinations. A typical question to be asked would be: Which persons wear red cloaks in panel-paintings of the fifteenth century ?

b. The comparison of described facts and/or their combinations. This is, for instance, done by counting routines, which allow comparisons of the frequency of certain terms and/or their combinations. A problem to be solved by this kind of retrieval might be: Given the obvious fact that certain colours were of symbolic character to medieval men, a comparison of the frequency of the colours of dress worn by different (groups of) persons in the picture should show the influence of symbolism on the 'reality' of the pictures' contents. As a result it was found out that, for instance, red was preferred for members of the upper classes, whilst for young people more colourful clothing was favoured; yellow could be proved as typical for outlaws, blue as the significant colour of St.Mary's dress and therefore less used for the dress of other women, etc. (9)

c. The program system CLIO, above mentioned, also allows the statistical analysis of certain contents of the pictures.

The briefly described methods for the analysis of pictures are, above all, supposed to reduce the number of sources to those, which are actually relevant for solving a certain problem, and to accelerate research. They of course are not meant to replace the picture in any way. On the contrary, they help to intensify thorough interpretation. In this they may diminish one function of historical pictures still to be found quite often in today's research: the mere illustration.

Interpretation of literary sources

The amount of time necessary to prepare investigations of pictorial sources (i.e. the description of them) is quite large. On the other hand no other possibility of mastering the occurring problems could be found until now. When written sources become the basis of investigations, their treatment often appears to be even more difficult. Certainly a lot of distinctions must be taken into consideration resulting from the various types of them; just compare listlike sources (for instance inventories or account-books) with literary sources. But for all of them it has to be stressed that research projects being based on a large number of sources need an enormous and often unrealistic preparation-time. Tests, for which unpublished account-books, inventories and testaments were used, showed that for regionally

and chronologically limited investigations results could be obtained in an acceptable time. Systematic research on daily life and material culture being based on a larger number of literary sources though has not yet been achieved in a satisfactory way.

The interpretation of medieval literary sources regarding their contents of daily life and material culture has been tried rather often, not always in a very successful way.(10) Frequently descriptions and interpretations have been mainly based on 'extraordinary' details or curiosities. Beyond that, especially the tendencies of the sources (didactic motives, the use of 'topoi' and symbols) often were not taken into consideration. Therefore, quite a lot of investigations offered descriptions of medieval daily life referring to apparently 'realistic' contents of literary texts. But the appearances frequently proved to be deceptive. Many of those publications today only can be estimated as being sometimes extensive collections of passages out of literary sources with uncritical reconstructions of daily life, which were not put to proof by comparisons with the contents of other types of sources. These remarks though do not mean that literary sources only contain very limited material regarding the reality of medieval life. On the contrary:

1. The tendencies, didactic motives, the symbolic character and the use of 'topoi' certainly influenced (daily) life and must themselves be seen as part of it.

2. The recognition of the criteria, mentioned above, and the comparison with the contents of other sources may

lead to a better knowledge of the system and the patterns in which daily life took place.(11)

That means that we may find out, which descriptions of daily life's events in literary sources were based on

a. 'real' situations. This, for instance, will be proved true, if the relevant contents in the literary texts accord with information obtained from account-books, inventories or testaments.

b. normative situations. In this case late medieval sumptuary-laws (particularly concentrating on clothing and feasts) have to be mentioned as a means of comparison. Especially the descriptions of dress of, in a broader sense, 'negative' characters in the literary sources may well accord with paragraphs of contemporary sumptuary-laws.

c. 'desired' situations (for instance descriptions of the 'good old times'; emphasis on qualities like 'good' or 'beautiful' by using contrasts). On one hand these passages may accord with certain paragraphs of sumptuary-laws, on the other hand with the contents of (religious) pictures.

d. 'ideal' situations. They could have become reality, if 'real' situations had been identical to 'desired' situations and had not contradicted normative situations. In this case the presumption may be expressed that above all (religious) pictures offer possibilities for comparisons.

e. 'fictional' situations.(12)

The mentioned scheme can only be made use of through the analysis of a large number of literary texts. A preparation like the one done for pictorial sources though seems to be unrealistic and impossible. Out of these considerations

the project was developed to apply secondary analysis of machine-readable texts of medieval German literature for the interpretation of their contents with regard to daily life and material culture. The project, being now about to be put in practice, will be supported by the databank-management-system CLIO, mentioned above.

Using word-indexes (see table 1) as a starting point, the occurrence and frequency of certain terms and their variances represent the first group of information to be obtained. Already in this stage of investigation the comparison with results from other types of sources proves to be useful:

a. to find particulars on the application of certain terms in various types of written sources.

b. to get out the emphasis on the description of special fields, of certain (groups of) material objects, situations or qualities.

c. to intensify the basis for more detailed comparisons between the contents of the literary sources ('original' vocabulary) and the descriptions of corresponding pictures ('artificial' vocabulary).

The second phase is to investigate connections between individual terms or groups of them within the literary source, above all those between persons, objects, situations and 'qualities' assigned to them. Though at first sight this might not seem to be a very promising way of getting a wider range of results, it appears to be one of the most necessary and relevant. Investigations of pictorial and non-literary

DOERPER : SINGENT WOL ZE DRISE VERFOLGE SUEFTE WISE, *** VIL SI VERHINT SICH DEIN OEF MEIN:	SL-22
DOERPER : SINGENT NANTIGAL, LOSA, WIF DTE VORFEL ALLE *** WIF SI DEN MEIEN MIT IN SANGE:	SL-23
DOERPER : MAN NIEMERWELDE NU BERUFEN SO STRACH EIN *** DER WIEZ GEF. ANELOT, DAR ZUG PEDAPF	WL-14A
DOERPER : IN ALLEM TR GERAFEN, DTE SELBEN ZWENE *** GISELROIT UND ENOFLAM, DES WIL HELFEN ERKENFRIT	WL-15
DOERPER : DAR SI NIMT IMMER KUNDE, WAP DIE *** KOFEN SIN, DIE DA WAPEN WIE BEVOR	WL-16
DOERPER : DAR HERZENLEIT, DAR UND FORTERIN VON EINEM *** DO BESCHACH DTE URTEIL DIERET IN NICH	WL-14A
DOERPER : DEM VIELTAGE SOST IN SAMENUNG, WAP DER *** IST IN EINEM WITEN UMESLEIFE, KOMENT MIT	WL-31
DOERPER : EIN SPIEGEL VFDLPUNE, DLS WIT ICH DEN *** CPA, DEN SELBEN WALTERUNE, DISE ALTEN SCHULDE	WL-27
DOERPER : HINTE NOCH DEN SPIEGEL HAT, DEN ER *** VROFFEN VON DER SITEM BRACH, VON DER	WL-32
DOERPER : ICH REGUNDE WINE VRIUNDE VROGEN, WAP DER *** WAPF: DO WAS EZ IN UNFLKANT, DA	WL-26
DOERPER : ICH DES GENIEZEN, SO DAR NICH DIF *** KINES LONER IMT VERSTIEZEN, DES IST UOZE	WL-12
DOERPER : ID LEIT ERGANGEN: IMMER WERL WAS DER *** SINES HERZEN STOLZ, DOME KUNDE AN DEN	WL-25
DOERPER : TUCH WOL MIT EREN AN IM LEINEN, *** NEHT DTS SELBEN WAP ER HEIZET WIDELBOGE,	WL-31
DOERPER : KLAGEN, KEINE SINGEN UND SAREN UFBER EINEN *** HFR, DERST GENANT DER JUNG BER, VON	WL-15A
DOERPER : KREIZ BRINGEN, DAR SI ST, DAR DTE *** KINDER LIZZEN, WA, ICH PEWAR, DAR ER	WL-6
DOERPER : LACHE UND GEBARE RLIDE: WIF HAT EIN *** WIDERSIT UMP ANDERS NIMT MAN UMPE DEN	WL-27
DOERPER : MIR WAEN WIT LEIT, OR HAT DIF *** WUDROF ALLE ERLAGEN, JA! EINER DER IST	WL-14A
DOERPER : KIOF UNY AN DAR UNGETID IN DER *** DICKE WIT ICH NINDL ZWENE VOR, DTE	WL-33
DOERPER : PEEFFERS AN, MUSCAT, NGELS, PFAWENSPIGEL: DEST DER *** GLANZ, ER WIL UBERDRANGEN EIN WIT MIT	WL-27A
DOERPER : KANT, GERNE MUOT IN HOFEN, WIE DIE *** SINT GLEIDET: UEPPLICHI IST IN GEWANT, ENGE	WL-24
DOERPER : RUEFE ZESAMEN KANT BESUCHEN ALLF EINEN *** HER: DERST VON WITENBRUELF UND BRUEVET GROZEN	WL-1
DOERPER : SPIEZE, SWEIT, HELMBARTEN, DA WIT WAPT DER *** EIN VIL MICHEL TEIL ERLAREN, 6J. ALRESTE	WL-14A
DOERPER : TANZES WILLET VIL DER JUNGEN WIT, ZWENE *** DAR SI EIN VERWIZEN I SI TRUGEN REIDE	WL-16
DOERPER : EIN TRUEN UND KLAGEN, SIT DEN UNGEVUEGE *** DAR FRELMAR DER VIL LIEBEN VRODERUN IN SPIEGEL	WL-34
DOERPER : WUERDE LEIT, ALLE ORI DUNKENT SICH DIE *** WISE GAB: HERRE GOT, NU SCHAFTE MICH	WL-18
DOERPER : ZE TANZE VON GEFUNGEN, WOL VERSTUENT DER *** SICH SI EINEN KLEINEN STINGEN, SEHT, DER	WL-17
DOERPER : ZWISCHEN IN EIN UNGEVUEGER WAP DER DIF *** ALLE EIN ANDER SLUEGEN DAR LIEZE ICH	WL-14
DOERPERDIET : LALT MI NIMT GELINGEN EIN VIL WU, IN *** DTE DITTE SUMERZIT, DTE HLUOMEN UNDE KLE,	WL-19
DOERPERLICH : SOL MAN AN EIN GEDEN KRACLA SCHOCHEN, *** STET ALLEZ SIN GERUESTE, DAR ER TREIT.	WL-4
DOL : MANECM KUMERFRIT, DEN ICH VON ID EWALTE *** SI MAN ZOUSFRILIS TRUGEN: SI IST WIF	WL-16
DOL : MINEN MUOT KESCHAPET, DAR ICH VIL INSANFTE *** WULF HAT ER MIF VERLORN FINDER VROUCH	WL-22
DOL : SOL DER BACHEN DEICH MIT DITTE WILLET *** 1172 JAR SINDERPAD WURGENS UMPE IN MINNE,	WL-72

Table 1: word-index of 'Neidhart, Lieder': example 'doerper'

written sources have shown that the main differences in the material culture and the way of life often do not lie in the used and needed things themselves, but in their substance, colour, function, shape or their general 'quality' (good, bad, poor, rich, beautiful or ugly).(13) In that way and by comparisons of the various types of sources, equivalences of 'qualities' may be proved (with regard to clothing, for instance: red = rich = extraordinary = official). On the other hand certain connections between persons, material objects or situations and their 'qualities' may be recognizable, which can lead to

a. exacter and more detailed information about the use and meaning of terms,

b. the identification of 'topoi', didactic motives, symbolic contents or 'realities' of daily life,

c. initial suspicions that 'unusual' connections might indicate contrasts and/or 'untypical realities' of daily life and/or 'fictional realities' of daily life.

For all these considerations it has to be stressed again that without continuous comparisons with the contents and testimony of other sources results may be quite vague and doubtful. Investigations of pictures, for instance, resulted in the hypothesis that portrayed subordinate scenes, situations, persons or even material objects more likely seem to contain 'realistic' components of daily life than leading ones. For these leading parts the motive for certain tendencies, didactics, symbolic characterization and the use of 'topoi' has appeared to be more important.(14) The mentioned retrieval of certain connections of terms or

groups of terms offered by CLIO may support the solution of that problem with respect to literary sources.

The third step has to be the investigation of more complex situations, which are described extensively and in detail. In this case - depending on the author and his style - means have to be provided to define the relevant context dynamically, for instance as multiples of sentences or parts of sentences. In that way the interpretation of individual situations and the possibilities to compare them with each other will be opened up.

At the moment more than one million lines of early German (mostly Middle High German) machine-readable literary texts are at the disposal of the 'Institut für mittelalterliche Realienkunde' and the 'Max-Planck-Institut für Geschichte', where this project is done in co-operation.(15) With the help of the mentioned methods, which will be described from the technical point of view in one of the next volumes of 'Medium Aevum Quotidianum - Newsletter', the analysis of literary sources for the history of daily life in the Middle Ages may be facilitated to a very decisive degree. Again, as we emphasized for pictures, these methods particularly will be very useful means to accelerate systematical research and to concentrate it to relevant parts. Beyond that, the occurrence of new questions in the course of the analysis may lead to a much more extensive view.

The final aim of the project will be to produce a more critical interpretation of the 'reality' of daily life contained in the various types of literary sources of the Middle Ages.(16) It may lead to a better understanding of

the meaning and function which 'realistic' and/or 'fictional' descriptions had for different authors and audiences, in different regions and periods. The problem may be solved, whether and which certain fields of daily life and material culture were being described 'realistically' rather than 'fictionally'. By that, criteria of their importance, distinction or equality may be recognized. Finally and in comparison with other types of sources, the general 'value' of medieval literature for the research on daily life may be seen more precisely.

The importance of dress in the Middle Ages. An example

The influence of dress and fashion on medieval life and society often has been recognized. Clothes were means of classification and distinction. Beyond that, of all fields of material culture dress can be found most regularly in the various sources. Therefore, we decided to test some of the methods, mentioned above, with regard to certain aspects of the history of dress. A few examples and preliminary results may be given.

Generally the connection 'situation - person (sex, rank, profession) - clothing - quality of clothing' must be the basis for any investigation referring to the use and value of dress. It is obvious that in different sources these connections appear quite differently. In any way, they show certain classifications or categorizations of the described situations, persons, clothes and qualities of clothes. Investigations having been based on larger amounts of

Table 2:

source	person(rank)	clothes	quality of clothes
testament	high rank (member of the town- council; person filling an official position; merchant)	cloak	red, (black); fur lining; foreign cloth
		belt	silver; gilt
	low rank (servant)	tunic	not red; no qua- lity mentioned
	wealthy woman	gown	foreign cloth; fur lining
		veil	abundant use of linen or silk
sumptuary- law	everybody	every dress	never yellow
	everybody	shoes	not pointed
		every dress	no new fashions
	low rank (servant; peasant)	every dress	no silk; no fur or cheap fur; low price; no jewellery
	outlaws (Jews; pro- stitutes)	part of dress	yellow
picture	high rank (official position), positive	cloak	red; fur lining; extraordinary cloth (brocade, velvet, silk)
	high rank, negative (oriental judge, etc.)	cloak	fur lining; extraordinary cloth; orienta- lizing; 'ficti- tional'
	high rank, young, posi- tive (noble- man)	doublet; hose (tights)	red; tight; fashionable
	low rank, negative (torturer)	doublet; hose (tights)	multi-coloured; yellow; tight; close-fitting; torn-up; extre- mely fashionable
	low rank, positive (peasant; the poor)	tunic reaching to the knee	grey; not co- loured; cheap cloth

testaments, pictures and sumptuary-laws resulted in some significant connections (see table 2).(17) These significant connections do not only show differences and equalities in the methods of characterization and/or the use of terms.(18) They also may be seen as a basis for the creation of 'relational thesauri', with the help of which similar connections in other sources can be matched.

For tests investigating the mentioned connections in literary sources we used the texts of 'Herrand von Wildon, Verserzählungen', of 'Neidhart von Reuenthal, Lieder' and of 'Konrad von Würzburg, Der trojanische Krieg'.(19) We were interested in the following general questions:

1. Is dress used as a means of classification and characterization of persons ?

2. Which criteria (significant connections) are emphasized ?

3. Are there accordances or equivalences between the connections in the literary sources used for the test and other sources ?

We of course were aware of the fact that actual comparisons of the relevant contents of the literary sources and/or between those of other sources, mentioned above, could not be made at this stage of investigation.(20) What we wanted to prove in the course of such preparatory tests was the suitability of our considerations before dealing with the whole lot of sources, which are at our disposal. The tests showed that in all the three texts clothing appears in connection with its quality to classify and characterize persons and situations. With reference to 'Herrand

von Wildon' this was of course obvious for the contents of 'Der blöze keiser' ('The naked emperor'). Other relevant connections are rare and cannot be used for any generalizations. An example to be mentioned originates from 'Der verkêrte wirt' (The deceived husband'). To still the anger of his wife the husband promises to present to her a precious cloak (II, vv. 349-353):

'er sprach: liebe frouwe min
von samit oder baldekin
gib ich iu einen mantel quot
daz ir lat iuwern zornes muot'.

In the songs of Neidhart we find that the element of expensive and precious qualities is getting rather insignificant in comparison to the element of fashionable details and novelties. The term 'neu' ('new') corresponds to terms like 'eng' and 'schmal' ('tight'), which still in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries are connected with the criterion of 'improper fashion' fought by sumptuary-laws. The formulation 'nach dem hovesitte' (according to the habits of the court) again points at that situation. This way in his tendencious descriptions of life in the village, it is more important for Neidhart to use 'fashionable craze' than 'preciousness' for the characterization of the inhabitants of the village by their dress. One example may be given (WL 24):

'gerne mugt ir hoeren, wie die doerper sint gekleidet:
ueppiglich ist ir gewant.
Enge roecke tragent si und smale schaperune,
rote huete, rinkelihte schuoe, swarze hosen'.

The investigation of 'Konrad von Würzburg, Der trojanische Krieg' lead to a different result. In this case fashion did not count; the main emphasis was laid on the preciousness of clothing, frequently supported by the description of fantastic details (for instance the portrayal of Helena's dress, v. 20055 ff.). Precious stones, silk, jewellery or gold are significant 'qualities' to be mentioned.

The given examples, resulting from preparatory tests, cannot be interpreted more detailed in this connection. They also cannot be seen as final results. They only should show in which way considerations might be put in practice in a project, which may be able to offer new aspects for the research on daily life and material culture of the Middle Ages.

Notes:

(*) The following article is to be the first of a series to be published in "Medium Aevum Quotidianum-Newsletter" dealing with the approach of research on daily life of the Middle Ages to certain types of sources. This article is meant to give a general overview of occurring problems, when literary sources are the basis for investigations. In one of the next volumes a more detailed treatment of this matter and a description of technical possibilities (EDP) to facilitate the exploitation of medieval literature for the history of daily life and material culture of the Middle Ages will be published. Its author will be M. THALLER, Göttingen.

(1) Cf. J.-M. PESEZ, "Histoire de la culture matérielle," J. LE GOFF, ed., La nouvelle histoire (Paris, 1978) 128; "Die Erforschung von Alltag und Sachkultur des Mittelalters. Methode - Ziel - Verwirklichung" (Veröffentlichungen des Instituts für mittelalterliche Realienkunde Österreichs 6 = Sitzungsberichte der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, phil.-hist. Klasse 433) Wien, 1984. See also, e.g., the overviews given by R. DELORT, Le Moyen Age. Histoire illustrée de la vie quotidienne (Lausanne, 1972); A. BORST, Lebensformen im Mittelalter (Frankfurt/M., Berlin, 1973); O. BORST, Alltagsleben im Mittelalter (Insel Taschenbuch 513) Frankfurt/M., 1983.

(2) Cf. H. KÖHNEL, "Realienkunde des Mittelalters und

der frühen Neuzeit. Versuch einer Darstellung - Erfordernis der Gegenwart," Jahrbuch für Landeskunde von Niederösterreich NF XXXVII, 1965-1967 (1967) 239-242; IDEM, "Ziele der Erforschung der Sachkultur des Mittelalters," J.G.N. RENAUD, ed., Rotterdam Papers IV (1982) 119-130.

(3) Cf. E. VAVRA, "Kunstwerke als Quellenmaterial der Sachkulturforschung," Europäische Sachkultur des Mittelalters (Veröffentlichungen des Instituts für mittelalterliche Realienkunde Österreichs 4 = Sitzungsberichte der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, phil.-hist. Klasse 374) Wien, 1980, 194-232; G. JARITZ, "Die spätmittelalterliche Stadt in der Sachkulturforschung. Probleme - Möglichkeiten - Grenzen," G. WIEGELMANN, ed., Geschichte der Alltagskultur (Münster, 1980) 53-68; H. HUNDSBICHLER, "Approaches to the Daily Life in the Middle Ages. Methods and Aims of the 'Institut für mittelalterliche Realienkunde Österreichs'," Medium Aevum Quotidianum-Newsletter 1 (Krems, 1982) 19-25; "Die Erforschung von Alltag und Sachkultur des Mittelalters," op.cit., particularly the articles by G. JARITZ (33-44), H. HUNDSBICHLER (147-157) and E. VAVRA (174-192).

(4) See VAVRA, "Kunstwerke," art.cit., 221-232; G. JARITZ, "Daily Life in the Middle Ages, Iconography of Medieval Art and the Use of EDP," Historical Social Research 21 (1981) 43-55; E. VAVRA, "Möglichkeiten einer EDV-unterstützten Auswertung mittelalterlicher Bildquellen," Beiträge zur Oberlieferung und Beschreibung deutscher Texte des Mittelalters (Göppinger Arbeiten zur Germanistik 402) Göppingen, 1983, 195-211.

(5) Cf. H. KÜHNEL, "Abbild und Sinnbild in der Malerei des Spätmittelalters," Europäische Sachkultur, op.cit., 195-221; G. JARITZ, "Zur Funktion des religiösen Bildes in der spätmittelalterlichen Gesellschaft," Beiträge zur historischen Sozialkunde 10 (1980) 8-13.

(6) See note 4.

(7) For DESCRIPTOR see M. THALLER, "DESCRIPTOR. Probleme der Entwicklung eines Programmsystems zur computerunterstützten Auswertung mittelalterlicher Bildquellen," Europäische Sachkultur, op.cit., 166-194.

(8) For CLIO see M. THALLER, "Automation on Parnassus. CLIO - A Databank Oriented System for Historians," Historical Social Research 15 (1980) 40-65; IDEM, CLIO. Ein datenbankorientiertes Programmsystem für Historiker, pre-print, 2 vol. (Göttingen, 1982/83); IDEM, CLIO - Einführung und Systemüberblick, pre-print (Göttingen, 1983).

(9) See VAVRA, "Kunstwerke", art.cit., 229-232.

(10) Cf., e.g., A. SCHULTZ, Das höfische Leben zur Zeit der Minnesänger, 2 vol. (reprint, Osnabrück, 1965); IDEM, Deutsches Leben im XIV. und XV. Jahrhundert (Wien, 1982); M. HEYNE, Fünf Bücher deutscher Hausaltertümer, 3 vol. (Leipzig, 1899/1903). For Austria cf., e.g., S. BENATZKY, Österreichische Kultur- und Gesellschaftsbilder des 13. Jahrhunderts auf Grund zeitgebundener Dichtungen, Diss. (Wien, 1963).

(11) See, e.g., H. SCHÜPPERT, "Der Beitrag der Literaturwissenschaft für die mittelalterliche Realienkunde," Die Erforschung von Alltag und Sachkultur des Mittelalters, op.cit., 158-167.

(12) For this scheme, see G. JARITZ, "Zu Alltag und Sachkultur in österreichischen Städten des Spätmittelalters," J.G.N. RENAUD, ed., Rotterdam Papers IV, 112 f.; IDEM, "Mittelalterliche Realienkunde: Quellenbefund und Quelleninterpretation," Die Erforschung von Alltag und Sachkultur des Mittelalters, op.cit., 37.

(13) Cf. JARITZ, "Spätmittelalterliche Stadt," art.cit., 58-61; IDEM, "Zu Alltag und Sachkultur," art.cit., 111 f.

(14) For this hypothesis researches are in process at the 'Institut für mittelalterliche Realienkunde Österreichs'. Exacter results will be published in the next years. For religious plays of the Middle Ages, cf. W. GREISENEGGER, Die Realität im religiösen Theater des Mittelalters (Wiener Forschungen zur Theater- und Medienwissenschaft 1) Wien, 1978, 78 f. & 178 f.

(15) We are particularly indebted to the following institutions and researchers, who provided us with material for secondary analysis: the Literary and Linguistic Computing Centre, Cambridge; Prof. Boggs, Pittsburgh, Prof. Jones, University of Maryland; Prof. Lenders, Bonn; Prof. Müller, Salzburg; Prof. Sappler, Tübingen; Prof. Spechtler, Salzburg.

(16) For the 'realism' of medieval literature, see generally, e.g., E. AUERBACH, Mimesis. Wirklichkeit in der abendländischen Literatur, 2nd ed. (Bern, 1959) passim; S. GROSSE, "Zur Frage des 'Realismus' in den deutschen Dichtungen des Mittelalters," Wirkendes Wort 22 (1972) 72-89; H. HERZMANN, "Zum 'Realismus' in der deutschen Literatur des Spätmittelalters," Daphnis 5 (1976) 1-36; E. KLEINSCHMIDT, "Zum Erkenntniswert literarischer Texte für die Historie," H. RUPP, ed., Philologie und Geschichtswissenschaft (Heidelberg, 1977) 1-11; H. SCHUPPERT, "Spätmittelalterliche Didaktik als Quelle für adeliges Alltagsleben?," Adelige Sachkultur des Spätmittelalters (Veröffentlichungen des Instituts für mittelalterliche Realienkunde Österreichs 5 = Sitzungsberichte der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, phil.-hist. Klasse 400) Wien, 1982, 215-257. See also B. THUM, "'Elementarformen'. Grundlagen und Leistungen geschichtlicher Verhaltensforschung in der Mediaevistik," G. KAISER, ed., Gesellschaftliche Sinnangebote mittelalterlicher Literatur (Forschungen zur Geschichte der älteren deutschen Literatur 1) München, 1980, 113-147.

(17) The statistical analysis of the contents of late medieval testaments is in process at the 'Institut für mittelalterliche Realienkunde'. Used sources are collections of Austrian urban testaments of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. Results will be published in 1985. For the pictures (fourteenth and fifteenth centuries) see VAVRA, "Kunstwerke," art. cit., 224-232. For late medieval sumptuary-laws see L.C. EISENBART, Kleiderordnungen der deutschen Städte zwischen 1350 und 1700 (Göttinger Bausteine zur Geschichtswissenschaft 32) Göttingen, Berlin, Frankfurt, 1962, passim.

(18) Notice above all the remarkable equalities in the significances of 'negative persons of low rank' and fashionably clad 'persons of high rank'!

(19) For the machine-readable texts of 'Herrand von

Weldon, 'Verserzählungen' and 'Neidhart, Lieder' we have to express our gratitude to Prof. Sappler, Tübingen; for 'Konrad von Würzburg, Der trojanische Krieg' to Prof. Lenders, Bonn.

(20) Not to mention the problems occurring, if comparisons are tried between information of the thirteenth and the fourteenth/fifteenth centuries !

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Liebe Mitglieder !

Die lange Zeit, die seit Erscheinen des ersten Heftes von 'Medium Aevum Quotidianum - Newsletter' vergangen ist, wird manchen von Ihnen vielleicht zur Ansicht gebracht haben, daß das Kind schon entschlafen wäre, bevor es noch das Licht der Welt erblickt hat. Vor allem organisatorische Gründe müssen wir als Hauptursache dafür angeben, daß es über eineinhalb Jahre dauerte, bis das zweite Heft unserer 'Newsletters' erscheinen konnte. Vollzogene Umstrukturierungen garantieren nun jedoch das zügige weitere Erscheinen der nächsten Hefte. Wir danken für Ihr Verständnis.

Die Herausgeber

Dear members,

The long time, which has passed since the publication of the first volume of 'Medium Aevum Quotidianum - Newsletter', may have lead some of you to the opinion that this child might have passed away before it was actually born. Main reason for the delay of more than one-and-a-half years particularly lay in some problems of organization. Certain changes in the structure of the organization of our society will now guarantee the uninterrupted publication of the forthcoming volumes. We thank you for your appreciation.

The editors