ABSTRACTS OF SOME ARTICLES

- Kuznetsova N. I., Rozov M. A. History of Science at the Cross-Roads. Pointing to the revolutionary development of civil history in the 20th century (thanks to, first and foremost, the efforts of the French «La Nouvelle Histoire» School), this article examines the current situation in the field of historico-scientific studies. The traditions of historical research tend to draw the historians of science to sociological and social-psychological issues, which ensures the unity of their professional language and helps consolidate their professional community, but leads to the loss of cognitive analysis. Thus, the recent «onslaught of sociology» has its evident consequence in bringing about history of science without science. The traditions of cognitive analysis, on the other hand, tend to pull apart the community of historians of science, taking them to the separate scientific fields of their interest, and also lead to the modernization of the past. The article calls for the necessary synthesis of the «cognitive» and «historical» approaches.
- Zheltova E. L. The Electrification of Russia (1921—1928): Mythological Aspects. This article examines the role of electrification in the Soviet ideology and culture, political and anti-religious propaganda in the 1920s. Discussing the mythological element of the electrification campaign, it shows that its mythologization had its sources in the traditional mythoreligious conceptions of light, as well as in the image of the «bright communist future».
- Shafarevich I. R. Mathematical Thinking and Nature. This paper (which was read at the September, 1993 meeting of the Japanese Mathematical Society) argues that contemporary ecological crisis is an outcome of the Technological Civilization, whose ideological basis is Scientism. The principal dogma of this ideology is the belief in mathematization. Mathematics tends to transform deep problems to standardized logical schemes. On the other hand, mathematics is profoundly connected with aesthetic sensibility which can serve as an anti-dote for this tendency.