

## ›ACROSS THE BORDER‹

### International Railway Investments in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries

International Railway History Association / Association Internationale d'Histoire des Chemins de fer (Paris)

#### General information:

The Intern. Railway History Ass. (IRHA) is very pleased to invite researchers in Traffic, Business and Social History to our intern. conference which is supported by the Austrian Min. of Traffic, Innovation and Technology (Bundesmin. für Verkehr, Innovation u. Technologie [bm:vit]), the Austrian Federal Railways (Österr. Bundesbahn [ÖBB]) and Bombardier.

Scientific Committee: Guenter Din-hobl (IFF – Klagenfurt, Wien, Graz u. Innsbruck), Prof. Dr. Andrea Giuntini (Univ. de Módena), Erwin Mauron (Stift. Histor. Erbe der SBB), Dr. Michèle Merger (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique), Miguel Muñoz Rubio (Fundacion de los Ferrocarriles Espanoles), Baufine Ducrocq (Ass. Intern. d'Histoire des Chemins de fer), Dr. habil. Ralf Roth (Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Univ.), Paul van Heesvelde (Min. of the Flemish Community – Mobility Unit), Paul Véron (Union Intern. des Chemins de fer). For more information: <http://www.ffe.es/ai/index.htm>; Contact: [Aihc-Irha@ffe.es](mailto:Aihc-Irha@ffe.es)

Date: September 17-19, 2004.

Location: Panhans Hotel, Semmering, Austria.

For registration, please use the following address: [https://secure.austropa-interconvention.at/ei/getdemo.ei?id=99&s=\\_19loW95NN](https://secure.austropa-interconvention.at/ei/getdemo.ei?id=99&s=_19loW95NN) or visit our website: <http://www.ffe.es/ai/index.htm>. Deadline for registration is August 20, 2004.

If you have any organisational questions, contact: Austropa Interconvention, Österr. Verkehrsbüro AG, Friedrichstrasse 7, A-1010 Wien; Tel.: +43 / 1 / 588 00 521; Fax: +43 / 1 / 588 00 520; E-Mail: [IRHA2004@interconvention.at](mailto:IRHA2004@interconvention.at)

The International Railway History Association (IRHA) is very pleased to invite all who are interested in Traffic, Business and Social History to its first International conference. International financial transactions that have taken place across national borders continue to attract our attention and are of the greatest importance in Europe and throughout the world. The conference will focus on the major investors who, in the 19<sup>th</sup> and beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, first established railway shares as an act of national unity. A considerable number of these investors also wanted to create an extensive world-wide network and thus invested a lot of capital in foreign countries. We would like to discuss the role of financiers, businessmen and engineers of the railways in the time when certain well-known individuals of European capitalism appeared on the scene.

- When, where and why were railway investments from investors from other countries of great importance?
- How difficult was it for foreign investors to realise their interests in light of national laws and government policy as well as the economic and cultural barriers that existed at that time?
- What were the economic and political consequences of railway investments across the borders?
- As a tribute to our conference host in the town of Semmering, Austria, we will also look at the history of its 150 year old railway line ([www.noe.co.at/partner/trsued/whsemmeringbahn/home.htm](http://www.noe.co.at/partner/trsued/whsemmeringbahn/home.htm)).

#### Conference Schedule

##### Friday, September 17, 2004

- 15.00 Opening of the Conference:  
Welcome by **Gerhard H. Gürtlich** (Federal Ministry for Traffic, Innovation and Technology, Vienna)  
Welcome by **Helmut Hainitz** (Austrian Federal Railways, Vienna)  
Welcome by **Paul Veron** (UIC, Paris)  
Opening of the conference by **Michèle Merger** (President of IRHA, Paris)

##### 16.00 Session 1: Individual Cross-Border Investors

**Melanie Aspey** (The Rothschild Archive, London): Making Tracks: Promoting The Rothschild Archive as a Source for Railway History

**Christophe Bouneau** (Univ. Michel de Montaigne, Bordeaux 3 and Maison des Sciences de l'Homme d'Aquitaine): The Pereire Family Strategy in the Field of International Finance in the 1850's and 1860's

**Ihor Zhaloba** (Univ. Library, Czernowitz): Leon Sapieha – a Prince and a Railroad Entrepreneur

**Michèle Merger** (Inst. d'Histoire Moderne et Contemporaine, CNRS, Paris): Raffaele de Ferrari, Duke of Galliera, an Investor of European Stature

**Ralf Roth** (Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Univ., Frankfurt): The Rise and Fall of the Railway King Henry Bethel Strousberg: Difficulties of International Railway Investments in Germany in the 1860's

For any question concerning the content of the conference do not hesitate to contact:

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For more information visit our website: International Railway History Association (IRHA) / Association Internationale d'Histoire des Chemins de fer (AIHC) / Asociación Internacional de Historia Ferroviaria (AIHF), Siège social: 16, rue Jean-Rey, F-75015 Paris;  
<http://www.ffe.es/ai/index.htm>

## 19.45 Evening Lecture

**Rocio Robles Tardio** (Univ. Complutense de Madrid, Spain): Economic Investment and Railway Publicity. The Influence of Railway Photograph Circulation on French and Spanish Modern Painting in the Second Half of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century

**Saturday, September 18, 2004**

## 9.00 Session 2: Cross Border Investments in Europe

**Francisco de los Cobos Arteaga & Tomás Martínez Vara** (Univ. de Castilla-La Mancha and Univ. Complutense de Madrid, Spain): Spanish Society of Secondary Railways: The Failure of a Major International Project to Create an Additional Railway Network in Spain

**Gustav Sjöblom** (Univ. of Cambridge): International Constraints, Railway Finance and the Menace of Motorization in Germany, 1925-1935, Including a Brief Comparison with Sweden and Great Britain

**Daniela Felisini** (Univ. di Roma »Torre Vergata«, Italy): Railway Investments in Italy in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century

**Magda Pinheiro** (Inst. superior de Ciências do Trabalho e da Empresa, Portugal): The French Investors in Portuguese Railways from 1855 to 1884: Three Cases

**Frans Buelens** (Univ. of Antwerp): British and French Investments in the Belgian Railroad Sector During the 19<sup>th</sup> Century

**Augustus J. Veenendaal** (Inst. of Netherlands History at The Hague): The Dutch as Railway Investors at Home and Abroad

## 15.00 Session 3: From Europe into the World: Overseas Investments

**Diane K. Drummond** (Univ. of Leeds): Reasons for Sustained British Investment in Overseas Railways, 1830-1914: The Imperial Dream, Engineers' Assurances or an »Investment Hungry« Public?

**Ian J. Kerr** (Univ. of Manitoba): John Chapman and the Promotion of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, 1842-1850

**Robert Lee** (Univ. of Western Sydney): French Finance and Railway Construction in Northern China, 1895-1905

**Ian Thompson** (Unidad de Transporte, Chile): The Transandine Railway: a Hundred-Year-Long Financial Disaster that still Attracts Investors

**Maria Teresa Ribeiro de Oliveira** (Univ. of Brasília, Brazil): The Establishment of Railways in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century Brazil and British Imperialism

**Bulent Bilmez** (Yeditepe Univ., Istanbul): Railway Projects as »Modernisation Projects«: Review of Ottoman Railways until 1918

## 19.45 Evening Lecture

**Andrea Giuntini** (Univ. degli Studi di Modena e Reggio Emilia, Italy): Invitation to Our Next Conference in Italy

**Gerhard H. Gürtlich** (Federal Ministry for Traffic, Innovation and Technology, Vienna): Semmering Railway. The History and Financial Aspects Then and Today

**Sunday, September 19, 2004**

9.00 **Excursion**

**Walter Potucek** (Austrian Federal Railway, Vienna): Guided Tour Along the UNESCO World Heritage Semmeringbahn

13.00 **End of the Conference**

