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Rose, Mark H. *Cities of Light and Heat: Domesticating Gas and Electricity in Urban America*. University Park: Penn State Press, 1995. Pp. xviii, 229. 18 illustrations, 6 tables, bibliography, index. US\$34.50

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monopoly to accommodate outsiders allowed Exeter to benefit from a textile boom in Somerset and East Devon, and growth in demand for pastoral products from the Devon highlands; in the late fourteenth century, Somerset importers accounted for 75% of alum, a mineral essential for dyeing cloth. Within Exeter a wider spectrum of the population also may have become importers, enlarging the social base profiting from the prosperity.

Economic stability thus depended upon the hinterland in later medieval Exeter. The mechanisms of rural trade are described in a remarkable chapter focusing upon "internal" trade. Having demonstrated that "internal" and "outside" trade were closely linked, Kowaleski discriminates between them by focusing upon the trade in pastoral products and fish, dominated by rural producers and consumers. Her case study of fish marketing is original and remarkable. Religious obligations made this foodstuff essential to medieval society. In South-east England fish was imported mostly from the sea and distributed from Exeter through commercial networks dominated by village traders. This trade was sufficiently organized to make this perishable food available and affordable throughout the countryside of Devon and Somerset.

Few criticisms will be leveled at the author of such a well researched and finely argued book. One quibble might be raised about the discussion of occupations in chapter four wherein the author attacks problems of taxonomy. The chief problem involves unraveling the multiple occupations of individuals in sources which generally mention only principal occupations of heads of household. It is important to note that the domestic economy and its largely female component often escapes due consideration for this reason. But since the author concludes that the secondary pursuits of most householders concerned victualing, as did half of the primary occupations, the significance of nice distinctions between primary and secondary occupations dims, which is unfortunate given the prodigious effort she put into making them. She might have better devoted her talents to analyzing the implication that specialization was a less important characteristic of urban economic growth than the diversity of occupational categories might suggest. Those talents have otherwise produced a monograph which has revised the economic interpretation of urban history in medieval Europe.

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Rose, Mark H. *Cities of Light and Heat: Domesticating Gas and Electricity in Urban America*. University Park: Penn State Press, 1995. Pp. xviii, 229. 18 illustrations, 6 tables, bibliography, index. US\$34.50.

Books about urban energy systems are largely books about electricity, so I eagerly anticipate reading any book that even admits other forms of energy exist. The title to Mark Rose's book suggests an immense tome, but despite getting beyond electricity the book is really about the growth of gas and electricity systems in Denver and Kansas City up to 1940. Given this more modest goal he achieves some success.

Rose structures his narrative around the gas and electric corporations that served these two cities and their efforts to increase market penetration of gas and electric appliances in order to further sales of gas and electricity. Unfortunately the basic (and readily available) sales data necessary to evaluate the success of these endeavors are missing. He includes some data for these companies showing ever-increasing electricity "output" at five year intervals from 1920 through 1939, but which also include geographically separate subsidiaries. What he does not show are reductions between 1930 and 1934 and again in 1937 and 1938, nor does he evaluate sales to commercial, residential, and industrial markets in terms of sales per sector, number of customers, and sales per customer, which show very dramatically the effects of the programs he writes about. Each census after 1940 includes detailed information on appliances and fuels used in households in these cities and would have provided substantial evidence about the success of these programs. In Denver one company supplied both gas and electricity, while in Kansas City there were two competing systems. Some appliances (refrigerators, water heaters, cooking) were available in gas or electric models, and mention of how this played a role in the marketing efforts would have been useful.

Although Rose cites an enormous number of secondary resources, he inexplicably omits Ellen Kingman Fisher's 1989 history of the Public Service Company of Colorado, which plows much of the same ground for Denver. The minute books of Denver's early gas and electric companies are rich sources of materials on the highly competitive local energy market, and no mention is made of the bitter franchise battle there in the mid-1920s that forced the company to lower its rates. Rose also fails to notice other urban energy distribution systems, especially the district heating systems that have served significant portions of downtown Denver since 1880 (the oldest such system in the world) and Kansas City since 1889. The text is also marred by numerous typographical errors.

Despite these shortcomings, Rose has written an interesting account of the complex interactions that shaped gas and electric systems in these two cities. The book clearly shows the diffusion of gas and electric technology to be a slow and tedious business, and here the author is clearly master of the subject

matter. The book also includes a chapter broadly covering the entire country for the period 1945 to 1985, and here a lot of data are shown that would also have been useful in the earlier chapters, but this chapter is out of place and detracts from the focus of the book.

Mark Rose has provided a useful, though limited, contribution to the history of urban energy infrastructures, a field that has not been served well by urban or technological historians.

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Johnson, Eric A. *Urbanization and Crime. Germany 1871–1914*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995. Pp. X, 246.

Rosenmontag in Cologne! Anybody familiar with the long tradition of carnival in catholic Cologne will agree with the author that it is a fitting time and place to conclude a study on crime in Germany (Preface). After all, it is only on Rosenmontag that public revelry is permitted to break with the orderly routine of daily life in the city. And as carnival frolicking peaks on Rosenmontag, so does criminal activity—petty theft, drunken brawls, assault etc. However, this is not the topic under investigation. From the author's perspective crime has little to do with local traditions or opportunities for crime, and even less with any causal connection to city living. In fact, the author wishes to refute the public image of the past and present that cities are more crime prone than rural areas. He also wishes to correct existing scholarship which sees a "civilizing" process at work in modernizing society, that is, a causal linkage between industrialization and urbanization on the one hand, and on the other hand, an increase in property crimes while, concurrently, personal violence decreases.

Anybody acquainted with the author's articles on the subject will know his rejection of the modernization theory, and will also remember that his interpretation rests exclusively on statistical data and analysis. Again, the example of Cologne is informative, precisely because the city deviates statistically from the norm. Unlike other big German cities, Cologne advanced from a low crime city for most of the nineteenth century to become the crime capitol of the nation by 1900 when Germany was experiencing rapid economic expansion. As the author points out economics play no role whatsoever in the city's transformation; but statistical changes do. In 1888, Cologne extended its borders substantially, incorporating surrounding commercial/industrial areas, including the harbour. This geographic expansion changed the city's character, population make up, and most important for this study, crime statistics. It also raises the question whether it is always possible to differentiate clearly statistically between rural and urban areas in Imperial Germany. Densely populated industrial areas remained quite often legally

rural, for political reasons. One example which comes to mind is industrial Borbeck in the Ruhr Valley which, with a population of 77,000, was the largest "village" in Imperial Germany before the the First World War. Using regional statistics, as the author does, deals with the problem to some extent. But it would have been informative to know more about how the author dealt methodologically and conceptually with the rather blurred statistical distinction between urban and rural in Imperial Germany.

Although only a statistical entity in the author's investigation, the example of Cologne serves well to highlight other major findings of this study. Cologne was a bastion of Catholicism, and as the author shows, Catholics had distinctly higher crime rates than Protestants in Imperial Germany. Of course, Poles and Lithuanians in Germany, who figured prominently in the crime statistics, were also mostly Catholic. What significance does this finding have when assessing rising crime rates and also rising homicides in Imperial Germany? Supported by an analysis of the political press as well as statistical evidence, the author argues convincingly that it was the legacy of Bismarck's repressive anti-Catholic and anti-Socialist policies. And during the prosperous years of Wilhelm II's rule systemic discrimination and political repression increased, as did popular anti-foreign sentiment. Who was hardest hit? Here, the author detects a direct relationship between poverty, ethnic discrimination and crime. High death rates in neighbourhoods with large Polish speaking populations correlated with rising crime, statistically, and in the perception of contemporaries. And young catholic men in their prime working age were statistically most likely to become the victims of rising incidents of homicide. But were they indeed victims of crimes? The author uses coroner's statistics as evidence which show a decided increase in homicides while trials and convictions in the courts for homicide go down. To believe in the increasing benevolence or even negligence of the German judicial system, as the author seems to suggest, in order to explain this statistical discrepancy is difficult. In contrast, the author makes a very convincing argument that rising crime rates in Wilhelmine Germany reflected first and foremost an increasingly repressive political system groping to assert control over a deeply fragmented society.

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Clark, Katerina, *Petersburg: Crucible of Cultural Revolution*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1995. Pp. xii, 377. Index.

As the title indicates, this book explains the origins of the relatively little-known Soviet Cultural Revolution that started in 1928 along with the Economic Revolution of the First Five-Year Plan and Collectivization; Stalin reined in the Cultural Revolution abruptly in 1930 while pursuing his economic aims. Professor