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## **Abstracts, Classifications and Authors**

### **I. Abhandlungen und Studien**

#### **Hartmut Berghoff and Mathias Mutz: Missing Links? Business History and Environmental Change**

##### *Abstract*

Business and the natural environment, economy and ecology, are commonly perceived as being irreconcilable opposites. This article evaluates the variables of this opposition and asks for differentiated concepts from business and environmental history. In doing so it analyzes the existing literature in both subdisciplines and looks at why they have been relatively isolated from each other. The authors advocate approaches that integrate business and environmental history and take ecological implications of business as serious as the commercial implications of dealing with nature.

Keywords: business history; environmental history, ecology, Chandler

JEL-Codes: N 11, N 12, N 13, N 14, N 5, N 50, N 80, Q 00

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#### **Christine Meisner Rosen: Business Leadership in the Movement to Regulate Industrial Air Pollution in Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century America**

##### *Abstract*

This article concerns an important but currently still poorly understood aspect of the history of environmental reform: the leadership role played by reform minded businessmen in movements to

regulate industrial air pollution in American cities between 1860 and 1920. For the most part, the task of writing the history of air pollution regulation in this period has fallen to historians who been predisposed to play up the leadership of public health and women reformers, while playing down the role of business reformers and casting anti-regulation businessmen and their organizations as the villains against which the public health and women reformers struggled. This article will use an examination of movements to regulate industrial smoke and the stench of the meatpacking industry in Chicago, New York City, St. Louis, and several other cities to tell a different, much more complex story, one that recognizes the business community's conflicted role in these movements. It will show that, while it is true that business interests actively opposed regulation, often bringing it to a standstill, they also played crucially important, positive leadership roles in movements whose success often hinged on the ability of environmental reformers to forge broad coalitions. It argues that only by investigating the ambiguities of business's complex role, including its leadership role, will historians be able to explain the political strategies that led to progress in these early movements to regulate industrial air pollution.

Keywords: Pollution regulation in the U.S, Business leadership in environmental reform

JEL-Codes: N 11, N 12, N 41, N 42, N 51, N 52, N 91, N 92, Q 53, Q 58, B 59

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**Mathias Mutz: Managing Resources. Water and Wood in the German Pulp and Paper Industry, 1870s-1930s**

*Abstract*

Utilising natural resources demands for an effective management of knowledge, transport facilities, and resource supply. The essay looks at the pulp and paper industry's use of water and wood to analyse this inter-connectedness of business and environmental history. In reference to Chandler's view of business development as a process of growth and organisational differentiation, this is described as an internalisation of environmental aspects into the firm.

Keywords: environmental history; pulp and paper industry; managerial enterprise

JEL-Codes: N 53, N 83

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**Tyler Priest and Jason P. Theriot: Who Destroyed the Marsh? Oil Field Canals, Coastal Ecology, and the Debate over Louisiana’s Shrinking Wetlands**

*Abstract*

This paper examines the environmental history of petroleum pipeline canals and their impact on wetland loss in Coastal Louisiana, and how politics and wetland science have shaped restoration efforts over time. Since the 1930s, Coastal Louisiana’s wetlands have provided America with abundant oil and gas resources. The expansion of this vital energy production and transportation corridor, however, has come with a huge environmental price tag, one that will persist for generations, long after the hydrocarbons are depleted. Louisiana has the world’s seventh largest wetlands and produces the lion share of America’s domestic oil production. Yet Louisiana’s wetlands are disappearing and have been for sometime, along with the habitat, wildlife, culture, and traditional socio-economic activities that is unique to the region. Most of this loss has occurred between the 1950s and late 1970s, the era of intense petroleum production. The reasons for this high loss rate are complex and unique, involving a mixture of both natural and human-induced changes over time. Scientists argue that one of the major causes of this wetland loss has been the long-term direct and indirect impacts of oil-led development, namely the construction of pipeline, access, and navigation canals through the marshes, barrier islands, and bays. The energy and environmental tradeoffs have been particularly challenging given the enormous oil resources produced in the region over the decades and because of the Mississippi Delta’s complex geologic structure. Understanding how the two have interacted over time raises important questions about ecological restoration and the long-term impacts of energy production on fragile landscapes.

Keywords: Oil, natural gas, canals, pipelines, wetlands, marsh, Coastal Louisiana, ecology, Katrina, subsidence, levees, environment, habitat, ecosystem, Gulf of Mexico, Mississippi Deltaic Plain, erosion, saltwater intrusion, Tennessee Gas, Louisiana State University, Coast 2050, fresh water diversion, hydrology, Shell Oil, America’s Wetlands

JEL-Codes: Q 32, Q 40, Q 51, Q 54, Q 56, Q 57, R 11

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**Manfred Grieger: Going Round in Circles? The Disposal of PVC and Plastic at the Volkswagen Plant in Wolfsburg between Industrial Incineration and Landfilling since 1955**

*Abstract*

This paper deals with the efforts of the Volkswagenwerk, to handle waste disposal problems between economical and ecological requirements. It shows how environmental demands influence the legitimate economical motivations of a company. The environmental policy of the early seventies, which favoured landfilling of waste, foiled technological innovations of industrial incineration.

Keywords: Waste disposal, PVC, Volkswagen

JEL-Codes: N 54, N 84

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## II. Diskussion

### **Oliver Volckart: Regeln, Willkür und der gute Ruf: Geldpolitik und Finanzmarkteffizienz in Deutschland, 14. bis 16. Jahrhundert / Rules, Discretion or Reputation? Monetary Policies and the Efficiency of Financial Markets in Germany, 14th to 16th Centuries**

#### *Abstract*

This paper examines the questions of whether and how feudal rulers were able to credibly commit to monetary stability, and of which consequences their decisions had for the efficiency of financial markets. The study reveals that princes were usually only able to commit to issuing a stable coinage in gold, but not in silver. As for silver currencies, the hypothesis is that transferring the right of coinage to an autonomous city was the functional equivalent of establishing an independent central bank. An analysis of market performance indicates that financial markets between cities that were autonomous with regard to monetary policies were significantly better integrated and more efficient than markets between cities whose currencies were supplied by a feudal ruler.

Keywords: Monetary policies, financial markets, late Middle Ages

JEL-Codes: G 15, N 13, N 23, N 43

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### **Alexander Preisinger: Nomologische Modelle und Theorien als wirtschaftshistorische Emplotments / The Role of the Emplotment in Economic History: Nomologic Models and Theories**

#### *Abstract*

This essay intends to combine Hayden White's concept of 'emplotments' with the function of deductive-nomological statements for the study of economic history. Economic theories and models serve as the framework according to which the selection and ordering of dates, facts and events become both possible and meaningful. The present document will further support this generally accepted proposition by explaining the effect of Hayek's cognitive theory on those deductive-nomological model-statements, which he designated as 'patterns' and which functionally resemble emplotments. A number of examples analysing the critical years of the Weimar Republic will serve to illustrate the means of which historians avail themselves – both implicitly and explicitly – of these pre-figuring forms in order to classify and narrate the historical situation.

Keywords: Economic History, Epistemology, Narratology

JEL-Codes: B 000

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**Toshiaki Yamai: Industrielle Beziehungen und Arbeitsbewertung unter dem „Wirtschaftswunder“ in Deutschland und Japan. Ein Vergleich zweier Gesellschaften / Industrial Relations and Job Evaluation under the “Wirtschaftswunder” in Germany and Japan. A Comparative Study of Two Societies**

*Abstract*

In the 1960s the corrective agreement system in West Germany experienced an important change. In place of the traditional system of wage regulation that is based on the “classic” categories of workers, namely skilled, semiskilled and unskilled workers, the system of job evaluation was now introduced into the corrective agreements. In Japan, by contrast, the system of job evaluation was abandoned in the same 1960s after a longtime trial by employers to introduce it. The present article examines this contrasting process in Germany and Japan and sheds light on the different structure of industrial relations in these countries. The historical root of this difference can be found in the 1910s-20s as a formation period of modern industrial relations in each country.

Keywords: Germany, Industrial Relations, Japan, Job Evaluation

JEL-Codes: J 33, J 41, N 34, N 35, P 52

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**Stephanie Tilly: Getauschte Arbeit. Das Konzept des Arbeitsmarktes in dogmenhistorischer Perspektive / The Exchange of Labor. Labor Markets in the History of Economic Thought**

*Abstract*

The emergence of an industrial labor market is an important dimension of structural change in the 19th and 20th century western world. The paper describes how the labor market has been modeled in economic theory from classical liberalism through neo-classicism up to the New Institutional Economics and evaluates the fruitfulness of these theoretical schools for historical analysis. The examination of the changes in how economic theory has treated the exchange of labor in markets suggests that the separation of the once-integral subject of “national economy” into theory and history was accompanied by a fading concern for the institutional framework of labor market processes. It argues that this lack of institutional foundation has widened the gap between economic and historical approaches and led to an artificial vision of labor markets which is not appropriate for historical-empirical questions. In the author’s view, meaningful empirical findings in this field call for a theoretical framework for labor market analysis that is institutionally sensitive. The paper concludes that this goal can best be achieved by refashioning the theory-kit according to the postulates laid down in the New Institutional Economics.

Keywords: Labor market, Labor market history, History of Economic Thought, Historical School, Institutional Economics, Transaction cost

JEL-Codes: N 01, B 00, N 30

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### **III. Forschungs- und Literaturberichte**

**Vergangenheit und Zukunft sozialer Sicherungssysteme am Beispiel der Bundesknappschaft und ihrer Nachfolger. Ein Forschungsprojekt der Leibniz-Gemeinschaft / Past and Future of the Knappschaft-Bahn-See. A Research-Project of the Leibnitz Community**

*Abstract*

Five research institutions – the German Mining Museum (DBM), the German Maritime Museum (DSM), the Ruhr-University Bochum (RUB), the Helmut-Schmidt-University of the Deutsche

Bundeswehr Hamburg (HSU) and the Rheinisch-Westfälisches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung (RWI) cooperate together with the social insurance company Knappschaft – Bahn – See (KBS), researching into the history and actual position of this company and its predecessors. The KBS resulted from a fusion of the social insurance institutions of important branches – mining, shipping and railway. The research-project is based by the co-called pact for innovation and research of the Leibnitz Community (WGL), and comprises five connected project parts presented in the following text; the plan for communicating the results is summarised.

Keywords: insurance, miners' guild, miners' association, mining, miner, shipping, seamen, railway, railway worker, railway employee

JEL-Codes: N 33, N 34

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**Ralf Banken and Ray Stokes: No steel, no TV, and no burgers: How industrial action in a single company threatened to bring British economy to a standstill**

*Abstract*

Because of its centrality to all other industries, combined with its high levels of capital-intensity in its production and distribution networks which hinder market entry for competitors, the industrial gases industry – which produces gases such as oxygen, nitrogen, and acetylene – is of central importance to the industrial economy. The same characteristics make it simultaneously highly vulnerable to disruption. This article considers the causes, course, and consequences of industrial action at British Oxygen Company (BOC) in 1977, followed by threats of industrial action in the following two years. The company's actions are considered in the context of the political and economic climate of the period.

Keywords: industrial gases industry; industrial action; British Oxygen Company

JEL-Codes: N 34, N 64, N 84

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**Toni Pierenkemper und Klaus F. Zimmermann: Zum Aufstieg und Niedergang des Normalarbeitsverhältnisses in Deutschland 1800-2010 – ein Forschungsprojekt / The Rise and Fall of the Standard Employment Contract in Germany. 1800-2010**

*Abstract*

This paper attempts to trace the construction of the standard employment contract in Germany from the beginning of the 19th century onwards. In 20th century Germany, it was reinforced alongside with the consolidation of the welfare state and developed into the modern concept of the standard employment contract. Due to globalization forces and dynamics of capitalist market economies, the standard employment contract has turned into an obstacle in the way of modern economy's progress. The future might be determined by increasing work flexibility, rising working hours, falling income and increasing unemployment rates, rendering the standard employment contract anachronistic and obsolete.

keywords: labour, labour market, labour contract, standard employment relationship, labour market flexibility, atypical employment

JEL-Codes: J 11, J 22, J 23, J 24, J 31, J 41

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## **Rainer Fremdling: German Machine Building: A New Benchmark before World War I**

### *Abstract*

The figure most commonly used as benchmark for the output of machinery before WW I is based on an estimate by the Association of German Machinery Producers (VDMA). It estimated that all German firms in total had sold machines worth 2800 million Marks in 1913. Using a recently detected detailed report, filed in the Federal Archives in Berlin-Lichterfelde, on the internal statistics of VDMA results in alternative figures for the benchmark year 1913. Besides the original figure of VDMA, two different new benchmark figures are presented here, namely 2700 m. M (VDMA modified) and 2600 m. M (according to Rech). The two new benchmark figures for 1913, in combination with a new production index, yield two time series for German machinery output between 1909 and 1918.

Keywords: Maschinenbau, VDMA, German Engineering

JEL-Classification: N 63

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#### **IV. Kölner Vorträge**

##### **Werner Abelshauer: Strukturelle Arbeitslosigkeit: Eine Diagnose aus historischer Perspektive / Structural unemployment: A diagnosis in historical perspective**

###### *Abstract*

Mass unemployment in Germany has built up since the seventies. There is, therefore, an urgent need to explore its historical background for an adequate diagnosis. This article starts from the hypothesis, that it is the inconsistency between the qualification profiles of the German production mode and the state of the labour market, which offers the main reason for "structural" unemployment in Germany since its beginning in the little world economic crises of the seventies. It has been the break down of "fordism" in German industry – so the starting point of the analysis – that opened up the gap between a large low qualification sector of a "fordist" labour market and a dramatically shrinking offer of this kind of jobs. After the global decline of fordist production German government stopped the recruitment of 'guest workers' in 1972. Notwithstanding this step, the share of unqualified labour continued to rise. It was not before the 1990s that the level of qualification was rising again. However, this process which is still going on is by far not fast enough to meet the classical pattern of post industrial quality production, which dominated German economic development before and after the fordist interlude.

Keywords: Labor market, Human capital, Germany, USA

JEL-Codes: J 21, J 24, J 64, N 14, N 34, P 16

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