

The book's greatest contribution (after the Braun chapter) is its rich inclusion of images, charts, and captions that bring the story to life. Charts of the School's generations and networks, pictures of the Austrians at leisure, and ephemera like the postcard of Zum Grünen Anker, Helene Lieser's Rigorosenakt, or the cartoon version of *The Road to Serfdom* add verve to a study that could have been colorless and dry. The book retains much of the energy of the original exhibition, a difficult task to accomplish.

For all the book's strengths, there are some glaring problems. The lack of footnotes is maddening and greatly reduces the utility of the work as a scholarly resource. While the bibliography is robust, the absence of citations makes it impossible to track down more information on many biographical, historical, and economic details. Moreover, the book lacks cohesion, not only between chapters but occasionally within them. For starters, both the introduction and the conclusion could have benefited from more elaboration. Greater confusion arises within chapters. The Braun chapter, for example, does not have a biographical section like the others, and it leaps around from an exposition of Braun's work, to the place of women in the Austrian academy, to a haphazard cataloging of women loosely affiliated with the Austrian School. The tables at the end of the chapter have no relationship to the Austrian School or to Braun. Most other chapters contained odd digressions. Charts and captions often have only the most tenuous connection to the chapters in which they are found, and the detours into present-day economic conditions are confusing at best. Finally, although the book was not intended as a comprehensive history of the Austrian School, the decision to downplay Hans Mayer's role is a missed opportunity to explore divisions within the School, especially over political attitudes and activities. The relationship of its members to Nazism, Austro-Fascism, Christian Socialism, and other trends merits more consideration.

None of these weaknesses undermine the contribution that Alexander Linsbichler has made with *Viel mehr als nur Ökonomie*. This book will serve as an admirable German-language primer on the Austrian School of Economics for years to come. Its clarity and even-handedness make it a great resource for understanding the School, especially in Austria, where its memory has faded more than in the Anglophone world. The book's exhibition-like quality makes it an easy one to dip one's toe in wherever one likes and learn something interesting about the life, times, and ideas of these fascinating men and women.

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## **“Die Scylla und Charybdis der sozialen Frage”. Urbane Sicherheitsentwürfe in Hamburg und London (1880–1900)**

**By Christine G. Krüger. Bonn: Dietz, 2022. Pp. 255. Paperback €22.00. ISBN: 978-3801206222.**

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In 1889, workers at the London docks went on strike. While stevedores took the lead, they were soon joined by others with more permanent posts and higher incomes. The walkout of some 100,000 men was financed by significant donations that flowed in from as far away as Australia. London's inhabitants were generally supportive of the strike, and the

police and the government largely refused to intervene in what they considered a private economic dispute. After four weeks, the employers caved in and agreed to a settlement, mediated by the City's Lord Mayor and the Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, which came very close to the workers' original demands.

Eight years later, a similar labor conflict broke out in the port of Hamburg, where it played out very differently. The town's authorities generally sided with employers, who were able to replace the roughly 17,000 workers who walked off the job by hiring replacements abroad. These were protected against retaliation by the police, who cracked down hard on labor demonstrations. Attempts at mediation, undertaken initially and half-heartedly by very few members of Hamburg's elite, quickly fizzled out. After two-and-a-half months, the strike collapsed. None of the original demands were fulfilled, and labor leaders were comprehensively blacklisted. The only element of change was a greater degree of state intervention in working conditions.

At first glance, this juxtaposition reads like a classical account contrasting liberal Britain with repressive Germany. This is not, however, the approach the book at hand takes. Christine Krüger's theoretical approach is informed by modern security studies, where the securitization (translated as *Versicherheitlichung*) of some risks is seen as an explanation of governments' ability to justify repressive politics they would not be able to pursue absent the (frequently overstated) threat. Viewed from this perspective, employers in Hamburg were able to securitize the strike, while their London counterparts conspicuously failed to do so. The book seeks to contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of why this was the case.

Krüger's well-researched account, which is based on archival sources, newspapers articles, contemporary writings, and the existing literature, begins by describing the meaning of security for various groups of actors. The strikes were about security, and while a party of dialogue sought to counteract a process of securitization, a party of conflict sought to bring it to a head. One difference between Hamburg and London concerned the size and influence of the party of conflict and the party of dialogue among prominent decision-makers. In part, this was a consequence of chronology: Hamburg's employers, acting hand in glove with the police and the city state's administration, focused on the presence of Tom Mann, a British trade unionist, and his intercepted communications to argue that even minor concessions would be seen as a trade union victory that would lead to further strikes and even greater demands.

Another aspect Krüger emphasizes is the importance of residential segregation. Separated working-class and middle-class quarters could combine with security concerns – about property on the one hand, loss of autonomy through middle-class intervention on the other – to shape individual and collective identities. For example, Hamburg's labor activists, drawing on the experience of the 1892 cholera epidemic, which had been blamed on immigrants from East Europe, sought to argue that the employment of large numbers of outsiders threatened to jeopardize the city's health once again. However, this attempt at securitizing business policies largely failed to gain traction. Yet the possibility of containing the strike and attendant demonstrations within the confines of working-class areas was greater in London (not least because the urban space was much larger), and due to widespread criticism of prior police overreach more dialogue-minded actors were in key positions at the time of the 1889 strike.

Another set of actors important to Krüger's account were scientists who sought to gauge the degree of security threats: Booth's survey of London and less comprehensive and more controversial counterparts in Hamburg are cases in point. Both contributed to the identification of social security as a new type of risk and a new state obligation. In this sense, the defeat of the Hamburg strike paved the way for greater state intervention, though local elites also sanctioned scientists whose findings appeared to favor the labor movement's demands.

Finally, security appeared as a highly gendered concept. Male actors could be expected to assume a higher degree of risk, whereas threats to female actors (through the loss of

earnings in consequence of accidents, for example) were a justification for strikes that would resonate with a broader public.

Christine Krüger's research project was conceived in the context of a collaborative research center based in Marburg and Gießen, which seeks to put the framework of modern security studies to historical empirical tests. In view of this, her account offers some particularly valuable insights. Its nuanced approach to the topic of urban labor conflict demonstrates that securitization is often only partial, and that various groups are unlikely to share perceptions of security and security threats even at times of intense conflict. The argument that securitization processes can only be fully understood if they are complemented by an investigation of how images of (in)security shape the boundaries of social groups is an insight that surely goes well beyond labor conflict and these two urban case studies.

What also emerges from Krüger's account is that "Sicherheit" covers a number of terms in English that may or may not be entirely identical: in addition to security, words that appear are safety (from industrial accidents) or certainty (of income), to mention only two. The question of how security as an analytical term relates to historical semantics is another interesting, if mostly implicit point this book raises.

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## **An Imperial Homeland: Forging German Identity in Southwest Africa**

**By Adam A. Blackler. University Park: The Pennsylvania State University Press, 2022. Pp. 265. Cloth \$114.95. ISBN: 978-0271092980.**

Steven Press

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No longer a marginal matter, the subject of German overseas colonialism boasts its own rich, voluminous scholarship, along with an important place in the field of modern German history. Recent works on the colonial era (formally 1884-1919) have examined, *inter alia*, advertising, commodities, policing, warfare, law, and genocide. Adam Blackler's book reflects this still-growing body of study, but the book also makes memorable contributions of its own. Arguing that entanglements in Southwest Africa had "an especially consequential effect" (5) on the self-understanding of Germans in the metropole, *An Imperial Homeland* explores a range of issues: colonial fantasies, missionary activity, African resistance to German rule, German citizenship law, and masculinity. In the process, Blackler displays an impressively broad command of an intimidating array of secondary literature. He also makes several exciting claims sure to elicit debate.

One strength of *An Imperial Homeland* is its primary-source research, which makes fine use of archives in a range of locations. Another virtue is Blackler's commitment to exploring themes of blackness in the German Empire and to featuring African responses to German colonial violence. In the vein of scholarship by Michelle Moyd, Tiffany Florvil, and Kira Thurman, Blackler aims to center African voices in a way that avoids portrayal of Africans as passive victims of European processes. To this end, he focuses his fourth chapter on the figures of Samuel Maherero and Hendrik Witbooi, whose leadership he covers with admirable verve. One must note that, skillfully told as their story is here, it is not new or changed