

and titular head of the League. This sensational murder involved the Spanish psychiatric community, as medical experts for both defence and prosecution, and as commentators for a shocked public. One of the latter was Gonzalo R. Lafora, whose archives on the Hildegart case and that of Gregorio Cárdenas, a Mexican serial killer, provide the raw material for this excellent study of forensic psychiatry and the social construction of madness.

The authors offer a Foucaultian analysis of the relationship between psychiatry and ideology, when the focus is the line that divides madness and criminality. Like Foucault, they are concerned to illuminate the ways in which psychiatric doctrine is implicated in the mechanisms of power.

The Hildegart case is the perfect medium for such an analysis, because the defence experts Sacristán and Prados, political liberals operating within a psychoanalytic domain, argued Aurora's madness, while the prosecution team, the conservative nationalists Vallejo and Piga, sought to establish her rationality. The root issues, of the perpetrator's responsibility and her threat to society, were those around which forensic psychiatry evolved in nineteenth-century France, as the authors explain.

As Aurora's trial proceeded, it became clear that the experts on both sides had difficulty in distinguishing the defendant's anarchist ideology from the ostensible disease, paranoia. Sacristán, following Kraepelin, further specified that Aurora suffered from megalomania, "subgroup social reformism" ("eugenic delirium", said Prados), a revealing diagnosis inasmuch as Sacristán, a member of the League for Sexual Reform, could well have been reckoned a follower of Aurora! Her danger to society was proved by her "aggressive" personality, and her antisocial behaviour in prison (she protested the conditions) was further proof of her illness. The authors observe that men holding similar views were not deemed aggressive; and that Aurora's advocacy of limiting male procreation to a three-year period by "temporary vasectomies" was patent evidence of madness/criminality to all male commentators, of whatever political persuasion. Right-wing newspapers seconded the prosecution's intimations that political extremism was the source of Aurora's depravity.

On an analytical level, perhaps the most important contribution of Alvarez and Huertas is their discussion of the interaction between psychoanalysis and Lombrosian biological determinism in the approach of Spanish psychiatrists to criminality and madness. Crime, by this dual criterion, was associated with both regressivity (in the social-Darwinian sense) and neurosis. Moreover, there was a perfect fit between the two approaches: psychoanalysts held that neurosis and criminality had a common source in infantile sexuality and the "beast" within, struggling against prohibited desires, notions easily related to Lombroso's conception of a criminal as a savage throwback to an earlier state of human society. Indeed, the authors could have clinched their argument with greater emphasis on Freud's Darwinian anthropology, replete as it was with recapitulationist logic. That psychoanalysis stimulated forensic psychiatry by providing a battery of theories and practical tests is amply demonstrated. Sacristán's Rorschach results on Aurora and Lafora's on Cárdenas (both reproduced) make clear the psychoanalytic interpretations of both psychiatrists, neither of whom were orthodox Freudians.

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DAVID ROSNER and GERALD MARKOWITZ (editors), *Dying for work: workers' safety and health in twentieth century America*, Bloomington and Indianapolis, Indiana University Press, 1987, 8vo, pp. xx, 234, \$35.00.

This collection of essays addresses one of the most neglected areas of medical history—the interaction between work and health—and as such it should be welcomed by anyone interested in the social history of medicine, health, and indeed labour. Quite rightly, the editors interpret issues of health and safety at work in America within a broader framework of class conflict and struggle over the labour process and the production environment. The first section of the book focuses on alternative approaches to industrial health problems, with chapters investigating

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miners' self-help initiatives in forming hospitals; the pressure group activities of the Workers' Health Bureau in the 1920s; and the implications for social control which were inherent in employers' welfarist schemes and the evolution from Employers' Liability legislation to a Workman's Compensation system during the Progressive era. Part Two examines the patchy growth of state and federal involvement in occupational health, a process clearly influenced by the physical efficiency movement, growing public awareness, and the power struggle between corporate capitalism and the emerging organized labour movement. The next three chapters analyse in some detail the ubiquitous effects of lead as both an occupational and environmental hazard; whilst the final section incorporates case studies of byssinosis, asbestosis and radium poisoning.

On the whole, the contributions are well researched, cogently argued, readable (medical jargon is minimal), informative and interesting, providing many incisive insights into the interrelationships of employment and health, and the atrocities perpetrated at the point of production. The main strengths of this collection lie clearly in the critical discussion of the politics of occupational health, and the way in which the culpability of corporate capitalism in pursuit of profit maximization is unequivocally exposed. Numerous examples are given of managerial negligence regarding safety standards, "blaming the victim", inhuman delaying tactics and ruthless inaction *after* health hazards and toxic substances were identified, often involving the deliberate suppression, and manipulation, of research findings and medical knowledge. Corporate financing of research, consultancies and links with the U.S. Public Health Service ensured that the majority of medical professionals, scientific researchers and academics colluded, explicitly or implicitly, in managerial cover-ups of health hazards on the job. Alternative and objective perspectives were muted, whilst the weakness of the trade unions left American workers with marginal protection against the hegemony of monopoly capitalism. Thus, standards of health on the job generally lagged behind such relatively "advanced" European countries as Britain, where more comprehensive legislation developed sooner; and massive variations in occupational health standards existed across the USA because most legislative initiatives took place at the state rather than the federal level.

However, there are other aspects of the interaction between work and health, not explored in depth in this text, which deserve analysis. One surprising omission is any assessment of the health implications of scientific management techniques (Taylorism, Bedaux, Fordism) which are documented in Britain, not least through the findings of the Industrial Health Research Board. The less sensational, humdrum problems of fatigue and overstrain caused by work intensification, via managerial pressure on the wage/effort exchange (e.g. the growth of piecework and bonus wage schemes), are also neglected. More could also have been said about the glaring gap between theoretical research and actual workshop practice, and the marked divergence in health standards between new, prosperous industries and older, declining sectors in terms of light, ventilation, and other aspects of factory design. The attitudes and responses of workers to health hazards (potential here for a good oral history project) are not really penetrated, nor is the role of trade unions adequately assessed. For example, AFL-CIO occupational health policies are not examined, nor is the apparent conflict between the local branches and headquarters explored in any depth. Another missing link worthy of detailed research is the evolution of the State Factory and Mines Inspectorate: its orientation, effectiveness, and role in policing legislation and educating industry.

The aims of this volume are to delineate a neglected area of research and to illuminate the inherently exploitative nature of modern monopoly capitalism. Despite the above caveats, it does remarkably well. The book informs the ongoing "work milieu" debate, and constitutes a radical critique of the industrialization process in the USA. Indeed, this volume should do for the American social history of health what Paul Weindling's recent collection of essays on the history of occupational health has done for the subject in Britain: provide a framework and a stimulus for further research. For this service, and for their enterprise and energy, the editors should be heartily congratulated.

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