

Business History Review

W I N T E R 1 9 9 7



Carl Friedrich von Siemens



Front Cover: Carl Friedrich von Siemens (1872–1941)

Among his other accomplishments in business, Siemens sought to improve industrial efficiency in Germany by introducing the methods of Americans Frederick W. Taylor and Henry Ford. In 1921 Siemens, along with Carl Köttgen, founded the Reichskuratorium für Wirtschaftlichkeit (RKW). The organization, which received state funding, strove to implement technical and organizational innovation in German industry. The work of the RKW, however, did not proceed without criticism or competition from those who had different ideas about the proper relation of business, labor, and the state.

For an article examining the RKW and its role in the history of German capitalism, see pp. 569–602.

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