The Origins of the National Health Service
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Chronicling the history of the Daughters of Charity through the seventeenth century, this study examines how the community’s existence outside of convents helped to change the nature of women’s religious communities and the early modern Catholic Church. Unusually for the time, this group of Catholic religious women remained unclericalized. They lived in private houses in the cities and towns of France, offering medical care, religious instruction and looks to the sick and the poor; by the end of the century, they were France’s premier organization of nurses. This book places the Daughters of Charity within the context of early modern poor relief in France - the author shows how they played a critical role in shaping the system, and also how they were shaped by it. The study also examines the complex relationship of Daughters of Charity to the Catholic Church of the time, analyzing it not only for what light it can shed on the history of the community, but also for what it can tell us about the Catholic Reformation more generally.

The Political and Social Dynamics of Poverty, Poor Relief and Health Care in Early-Modern Portugal Routledge

This is the first book to examine the history of the medical services provided by workhouses, both in Britain and its former colonies, during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Uncompensated Health Care in Cleveland and Cuyahoga County, Ohio Routledge

The consequences of extreme poverty were a grim reality for all too many people in Victorian England. The various poor laws implemented to try to deal with it contained a number of controversial measures, one of the most radical and unpopular was happening throughout the rest of Europe, Portugal had not developed new formal arrangements for charitable and welfare provision that responded to the changing socioeconomic framework, the nature of poverty and the concerns of political powers. The defining element of the Portuguese experience was a pension for older people. He is well worth reading for his insight into how the law may be used as a tool to improve health and how health care providers and lawyers can work together to invoke more effective and preventive remedies for patients and clients. As America prepares for major reform of its health care system, Poverty, Health and Law brings to the forefront the need to address the root causes of illness and poor health, particularly among vulnerable populations, by exploring remedies and innovations both within and outside of the health care system. Old Age and the English Poor Law, 1500-1700

Not every illness has a biological remedy. Poverty, Health and Law presents health in the broader social context of people’s lives, providing insights into the advancement of health through legal advocacy and interdisciplinary solutions to complex social problems. Focusing on basic legal rights and their relation to health – income and employment, housing, education, legal status, and personal safety – the authors provide information and insight into how the law may be used as a tool to improve health and how health care providers and lawyers can work together to invoke more effective and preventive remedies for patients and clients. As America prepares for major reform of its health care system, Poverty, Health and Law brings to the forefront the need to address the root causes of illness and poor health, particularly among vulnerable populations, by exploring remedies and innovations both within and outside of the health care system.

Tom Paine’s ‘Agrarian justice’ (1797) continues to inspire progressive politicians today as a source of two contemporary policies, Land Value Taxation and Universal (Basic) Income (Citizen’s Income). His starting point was the belief, widespread until the end of the eighteenth century, that the Earth is the common property of humankind. Rather than advocating the common ownership of land, he proposed that landowners ‘owe to the community a ground-rent’, the market rent of their land. He advocated that this be paid into a fund to be used for the benefit of all, both as a lump sum payment on reaching adulthood and as a pension for older people. He is well worth reading for his passion and rhetoric. This publication also includes a reprint written in the same year by Thomas Spence, who had published a similar but more radical proposal in 1776. It also contains a 20th century re-statement of individual and common rights to the Earth and a summary of the relevance of Agrarian justice today.

Women and Poor Relief in Seventeenth-Century France Boydel & Brewer

By the end of the fifteenth century most European counties had witnessed a profound reformation of their poor relief and health care policies. The book examines Portugal as among them and actively participated in such reforms. Providing the first English language monograph on this topic, Laurinda Abreu examines the Portuguese experience and places it within the broader European context. She shows that, in line with much that was happening throughout the rest of Europe, Portugal had not only set up a systematic reform of the hospitals but had also developed new formal arrangements for charitable and welfare provision that responded to the changing socioeconomic framework, the nature of poverty and the concerns of political powers. The defining element of the Portuguese experience was the dominant role played by a new lay confraternity, the confraternity of the Misericórdia, created under the auspices of King D. Manuel I in 1498. By the time of the king’s death in 1521 there were more than 70 Misericórdias in Portugal and its empire, and by 1540, more than 300. All of them were run according to a unified set of rules and principles with identical social objectives. Based upon a wealth of primary source documentations, this book reveals how the sixteenth-century Portuguese crown succeeded in implementing a national poor relief and health care structure, with the support of the Papacy and local elites, and funded principally though pious donations. This process strengthened the authority of the royal government at a time which coincided with the emergence of the early modern state. In so doing, the book establishes poor relief and public health alongside military, diplomatic and administrative authorities, as the pillars of centralization of royal power.

Routledge Library Editions: The History of Social Welfare

To Heal Humankind
Manchester University Press

This monograph provides an innovative analysis of a unique period for social and public health policy in Portuguese history. With a firm basis in archival research, the book examines a lesser-known facet of one of the most fascinating and controversial figures in the late17th and early 18th century in Portugal: Diogo Inácio de Pinheiro, the Intendant-General of Police from 1780 to 1805. By combining the resources of the Intendancy with those of the Casa Pa, an institution for welfare provision and social control that he set up just a month after being appointed, Pinheiro attempted to introduce a variety of projects designed to create a prosperous, healthy, well-educated, informed, clean and hard-working country less inclined to vice and immorality, in which the people would be obedient and the upper classes more magnanimous. One of his greatest achievements was perhaps to understand the link between ill health and poverty and therefore to regard public health as a key area of governance.

Agrarian Justice
Taylor & Francis

Dispensaries were created in cities to look after poor sick people from about 1770 until the beginning of the NHS in 1948. They were created by relatively wealthy citizens who became subscribers to these institutions. They saw this as an act of philanthropy, and each subscriber was given a book of tickets that could be given to sick people to enable them to access the dispensary. Many doctors gave their services to the dispensaries.
freely, but an apothecary or, later on, a medical officer was employed in addition to run the dispensary and to visit the sick in their homes to make the dispensary fit to visit the dispensary is the first book to have written that gives an overview of the creation of the dispensary and the reason they totally disappeared in 1948, although there are several booklets describing individual dispensaries. The dispensary system was supported by the majority report of the Royal Commission on the Poor Law in 1909 but rejected on questionable grounds by the Minority Report upon which our welfare state has been based. Currently, the NHS is in crisis, and this book about a former health-care system suggests ways in which our health service could be remodelled for the better.

Poverty Law Aspects of National Health Insurance Routledge

This examines the effects of the Counter- Reformation on health care and poor relief in Southern Catholic Europe in the period between 1540 and 1700. Public Health and Social Reforms in Portugal (1780-1850) Routledge

In this volume, various aspects of Southern European health care and poor relief are examined. Issues of charity and medicine are discussed both in their national and wider European context. By studying the crucial transitional period between the parish relief of the late medieval world and the state sponsored provision of the twentieth century much can be learned about how attitudes to the poor and sick changed over time and place.

Poverty, Health and Law

Europe between 1500 and 1900, edited by Ole Peter Grell and Andrew Cunningham. This set of 25 volumes, originally published between 1805 and 1892, amalgamates original nineteenth-century material and historical research. Taken together, the essays in this volume chart the varying responses of states, social classes and political theorists towards the changing social and economic issue of the age, industrialisation. Its demands and effects undermined the capacity of the old poor relief arrangements to look after those people that the fits and staying power of the population, industrialisation on its own.

Poverty Law Aspects of National Health Insurance Routledge

The seventeenth century witnessed profound reforms in the way French cities administered poor relief and charitable health care. New hospitals were built to confine the able bodied and existing hospitals shielded the workhouse from poor contracted new medical staff and shifted their focus towards offering more medical services. Whilst these moves have often been regarded as a coherent state led policy, recent scholarship has begun to question this assumption, and pick-up on more localised concerns, and resistance to centrally imposed policies. This book engages with these concerns, to investigate the links between charitable health care, poor relief, religion, national politics and urban social order in seventeenth-century France. In so doing it revises our understanding of the roles played in these issues by the crown and social elites, arguing that central government's social policy was conservative and largely reactive to the concerns of local elites. It suggests that Louis XIV’s policy regarding the reform of poor relief and the creation of General Hospitals in each town and city, as enshrined in the edict of 1662, was largely driven by the religious concerns of the kingdom's devout and the financial fears of the Parisian elites that their city hospitals were overcrowded. Only after the Sun King’s reign did central government begin to take a proactive role in administering poor relief and health care, utilizing urban charitable institutions to further its own political goals. By reorganising the social aspirations of urban elites into the history of French poor relief, this book shows how the key role the played in shaping policy was largely determined by a mix of religious, economic and social motivations. It concludes that the state could be a reluctant participant in reform, until pressured into action by the perceived and often intractable problems they faced. Furthermore, this book brings to life this hidden group of workhouse staff and practice of workhouse doctors and nurses, author Alistair Ritch workforce brings to life this hidden group of workhouse staff and practice of workhouse doctors and nurses, author Alistair Ritch

Sickness in the Workhouse: Workhouse doctors and nurses, author Alistair Ritch

Sickness in the Workhouse challenges these assumptions through a close examination of two urban workhouses in the west midlands from the outbreak of World War I. By closely analyzing the day-to-day practice of workhouse doctors and nurses, author Alistair Ritch Ritch

Protecting Against Pauperism

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