“Youth in Biedermeier,” “Emerging Bourgeois Liberalism,” and “The System in the Bismarck Period.” However, what is doubtlessly at the center of each part is Lotze’s thought, rather than its political and social context.

Instead of ending with a conclusion, the book ends with a “postscript,” in which the author remarks that it took one and a half centuries to uncover the feminist and postcolonial ideas avant la lettre in Lotze’s philosophy. However, the numerous references to twentieth-century philosophers such as Habermas (pp. 292 ff.), Heidegger (pp. 298–299, 360), and feminist philosophers appear quite questionable from a historical point of view: one wonders whether it is useful and relevant to understand Lotze by comparing his thought to the feminist critique of Habermas (pp. 297 f.), or to say that “it foreshadowed Heidegger’s ‘originative thought’” (p. 298). Nevertheless, this monograph, the fruit of a lifelong fascination with Lotze, is a valuable work and will be helpful to students, scholars, and anyone interested not only in the history of psychology but also in the history of philosophy and of the sciences.

Laura Meneghello

Laura Meneghello teaches in the History Department of Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen, where she held a Graduate Centre for the Study of Culture scholarship. She has submitted her Ph.D. thesis, titled “Jacob Moleschott: Science, Politics, and Popularization in Nineteenth-Century Europe.” After studying in Venice, Paris, and Utrecht, she published articles on the history of science in English and German.

Finn Aaserud; Helge Kragh (Editors). One Hundred Years of the Bohr Atom: Proceedings from a Conference. (Scientia Danica: Series M: Mathematica et Physica, 1.) 560 pp., illus., figs., index. Copenhagen: Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters, 2015. $60 (paper).

The authors of the essays featured in this outstanding collection are leading international experts on the history and philosophy of quantum theory who took part in a conference held in June 2013 at the Royal Academy of Sciences and Letters in Copenhagen to celebrate the centennial of “Bohr’s atom.” In three seminal papers published in 1913, the Danish physicist Niels Bohr expounded the principles of the first quantum theory of atomic structure, providing key physical, mathematical, and philosophical insights that were taken up by theorists in many other countries, eventually leading to the emergence of quantum mechanics. Bohr substantially contributed to each step of the further development of his initial ideas and is today remembered both for his ability in constructing physical-mathematical models of phenomena and for his acumen in exploring and reflecting upon the philosophical premises and consequences of theoretical research. In line with Bohr’s multifaceted talent, both the conference and the volume have been conceived with the aim not of celebrating, but rather of critically discussing the historical context, reception, and scientific and philosophical significance of Bohr’s work, including, but not limited to, the specific themes of his 1913 papers.

The authors featured in the volume have many years of experience in investigating the topics they deal with in their contributions, which therefore offer an ideal opportunity for engaging with in-depth, up-to-date discussions of historical, philosophical, and scientific issues related to Bohr’s work. The book is thematically structured in four parts, which address, respectively, the “The Quantum Atom: Origins and Popularization,” “Early Atomic Theory: Principles and Techniques,” “Philosophical and Contemporary Aspects” of Bohr’s work on quantum theory, and “National and Institutional Aspects” of the development and reception of Bohr’s atom. These four sections provide a useful framework for readers, but many themes are also featured across their boundaries, thus conferring further unity to the volume as a whole. Some contributions focus more closely on the figure of Niels Bohr, discussing the importance of his relationship with his wife Margrethe for both his personal and his scientific life (Heilbron, Aaserud), the way in which he interacted with other scientists or built upon their results (Pérez and Pié Valls, Na-
kane, Robertson), and his mediating role between British and German scientists in his Manchester years (Katzir); other papers delve into the interpretations over time of the principles and ideas expressed by Bohr, such as the “correspondence principle” (Rynasiewicz, Jähnert), quantum field measurement (Hartz and Freire), or complementarity (Van Dongen, Bacciagaluppi). A number of contributions discuss Bohr’s atomic model in greater detail, showing how it was later modified by Bohr himself (Kragh) and variously received and appropriated by theorists working in different parts of Europe (Eckert, Duncan and Janssen, Palló, Grandin) and portrayed in popular science books (Nielsen). Finally, some authors took Bohr’s work, and more generally early atomic theory, as a starting point for discussing broader philosophical and scientific questions, such as the notion of “model” (Schirrmacher, Navarro, Hon and Goldstein, Arabatzis and Ioannidou) or the interpretation of quantum mechanics (Zinkernagel, Dass, Gao, Nauenberg).

The contributions in the volume are as multiform as Bohr’s work, and their level of detail and technicality varies accordingly, but they are always appropriate to the subject at hand, be it an in-depth discussion of Bohr’s correspondence, a formal philosophical argumentation, or a scientific analysis of specific aspects of quantum theory. Historians and philosophers working on quantum theory will without doubt profit from this excellent volume. The potential readership of the book also includes historians and philosophers of science who would like to learn more about topics in quantum theory, and physicists who wish to approach the historical and philosophical aspects of their discipline. Historians of science not focusing specifically on quantum physics may nonetheless be interested in those contributions situating Niels Bohr and his work in a broader institutional, scientific, and cultural context, such as the analysis of Bohr’s personal contacts with family and colleagues, the description of how his atomic theory was popularized in books or with material models, or the portrait of Bohr and his work as seen from other European countries. Thanks to its clear structure, its concise and wide-ranging contributions, and its helpful features (introduction, individual abstracts, and bibliographies), the volume can also provide a solid foundation for an interdisciplinary course on the history and philosophy of early quantum physics.

Arianna Borrelli

Arianna Borrelli is currently working at the Technische Universität Berlin on a Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft–funded project on the history of particle physics. She has held research positions in physics and the history of science in various countries, and her work focuses on the relationship between (scientific) knowledge and mediation strategies.


The rehabilitative ideal of criminal justice has been in crisis since the 1970s. The high rate of recidivism is seen as the main proof of its failure. In his remarkable study on the history of the “correctional imagination in modern Germany,” Greg Eghigian, Associate Professor of Modern History at Pennsylvania State University, persuasively shows that correcting the corrigibles concurs with the detention of the incorrigibles.

While from an American or British perspective, the rise of correctional rehabilitation was bound up with the expansion of social and progressive democracy (p. 3), the case in Germany was different. The most astonishing thesis of Eghigian’s book is that a rehabilitative system can also exist in nonliberal regimes. According to Eghigian, the starting point for correctional rehabilitation in Germany is the “Gewohnheitsverbrechergesetz” of November 1933, which focused on “habitual criminals” and differentiated between rehabilitative and preventive measures. This law marks the beginning of a new era in German penology by initializing a “two-track system of criminal sanction” and differentiating between criminal punishment (“Strafrecht”) and executive measure (“Maßregel”; pp. 9, 201).