

Introduction

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Dear Readers, welcome to Volume 21, Issue 2 of *Enterprise and Society*. In Volume 17, Issue 4 (December 2016) I was delighted to be able to publish “The Entrepreneurial Multiplier Effect” by two of the most distinguished and influential members of our discipline, Lou Galambos and Franco Amatori. Their synthetic essay offered a sweeping and compelling account of the entrepreneurial dimensions of three successive industrial revolutions. It placed the entrepreneurial multiplier effect (rather than the entrepreneur herself) at the heart of successive waves of technological, economic, and social change. It is the authors’ hope that their essay would open up new avenues for dialogue between business and economic history and a wide range of other disciplines, both within and beyond history.

It had always been planned to make this essay the lead piece in a symposium, in which it would be followed by two comments and a response from Professors Galambos and Amatori. Increasingly complex logistics repeatedly thwarted those plans and, in the end, the central essay was published as a standalone article. I am therefore delighted to at last present a partial realization of those original plans, in the form of a comment from R. Daniel Wadhvani and a rejoinder from Galambos and Amatori. I am sure that together these three pieces will stimulate much interest and debate. Most of all, I want to thank all three authors for their contributions and for their patience.

Alongside these contributions this issue also carries six original research articles and a range of book reviews. The research articles range far and wide in theme, place and time. I hope you will enjoy reading them as much as I have enjoyed shepherding them through the editorial process.

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