rationality, as well as the individual of Imre Lakatos. Scholars in all subjects should welcome Kadvany's explanation of Lakatos's belief in three overlapping sequences of historical time. Even readers not versed in mathematical proofs and Lakatos's contribution to science, will not be disappointed with this well-written monograph.

JOHN C. SWANSON
UTICA COLLEGE OF SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

Friedmann, Gutmann, Lieben, Mandl, Strakosch: Fünf Familienporträts aus Wien vor 1938. By Marie-Theres Arnbom. Vienna: Böhlau. 2002. Pp. 248. EUR 29.90. ISBN 3–205–99373–x.

The author is a Viennese historian who has written the history of five prominent Austro-Jewish families. They came to Vienna from the wider Habsburg realm: Bohemia, Moravia, and Hungary, where most had begun to make their fortunes. Once in Vienna, they tended to settle in the Leopoldstadt Bezirk, the destination of many eastern Jews, until they moved to the choicest areas of town. Arnbom draws a picture of families highly integrated with non-Jewish Viennese society, as some were even ennobled. Integration, sometimes assimilation to the point of giving up the Jewish faith, was key to the self-perception of these Jews as Austrians; one particularly interesting aspect of this is that they preferred peasant costumes such as lederhosen and dirndl dresses when on their sumptuous country estates in the Viennese hinterland. The impression of wealth possessed by these clans is stunning for the reader, but equally stunning is their sudden downfall after March 1938, when only a very few of these rich people could make short-term arrangements with the Nazi rulers, so as to escape abroad, for the price of their vast fortunes. I would have liked to read more about that aspect of the families' history, and also more about how they fared under the growing anti-Semitism of the First Republic, which culminated under chancellors Dollfuss and Schuschnigg. The latter's is a particularly complex case, because he was admired by and friends with several Jews of extreme right-wing proclivities, such as the conductor Bruno Walter.

Arnbom's kaleidoscopic history is brief but fascinating. The Mandls, physicians and merchants, ultimately make a name for themselves as munitions manufacturers. Ignaz Mandl becomes the mentor of the — later anti-Semitic — Karl Lueger, and Fritz Mandl, a Heimwehr supporter, before his emigration to Argentina in 1938 marries and divorces Hedy Kiesler, a beautiful Viennese Jewish girl, who then attains Hollywood fame as Hedy Lamarr. The Gutmanns deal in coal and iron; beyond that they are most active in charity, benefiting Jews and non-Jews alike, especially through the support of medical institutions. In

1929 Elsa Gutmann marries Franz I, the reigning prince of Liechtenstein. The industrialists of the Strakosch family manufacture and deal in sugar and textiles, but several of their cousins are artistically inclined, as is Alexander, a reciter, and Moritz, an impresario, not least in New York. Then there are the Friedmanns, who make a name for themselves as inventors of locomotive injector valves, but also as actors and politicians. Louis Friedmann, a playboy for the longest time, becomes a close friend of Arthur Schnitzler (who is connected to every one of these families, sometimes by marriage), figuring prominently in his play *Das weite Land*. As in Germany, the urge to be fully assimilated drives Jews like Louis Friedmann — he with a Gentile mother — to anti-Semitism, so that Schnitzler writes of him in the 1890s that he wished to remain childless in order not to pass on "the hated Jewish blood" (p. 169). The Friedmanns commission portraits of family members by John Quincy Adams Ward and Gustav Klimt. The Liebens too are active in high culture and the natural sciences, but they make their money with banks. Robert Lieben will attain everlasting fame as the inventor of the electronic tube that spurs telephony; Adolf Lieben is a university chemist, passing on this vocation to his son, Fritz. Fritz's younger brother Heinrich dies in March 1945 in a Nazi death camp.

In a slim book with as narrow a scope as Arnbom's several questions understandably could not be answered, and some are raised only by implication. Beyond examples of charity for poorer Jews (so as to quieten a guilty conscience), I would have liked to know more about the relationship between these rich families, desperate for social recognition in the highest Austrian circles, and the most impecunious orthodox Jews in characteristic eastern garb, many of whom Hitler allegedly spotted when roaming Leopoldstadt before World War I. Although Arnbom shows that most members of her Jewish families tended toward political liberalism, a more thorough analysis of their political allegiance — and how this shifted with the changing politics of the day — would have been enlightening. And so would have been a comparison of these clans with similar Jewish families in Germany — the Mendelssohns, Ballins, or Bleichröders. But on the whole this book contributes to a better understanding of modern European social history in general and the history of nineteenth and twentieth-century Central European Jews in particular.

MICHAEL H. KATER
THE CANADIAN CENTRE FORGERMAN AND EUROPEAN STUDIES,
YORK UNIVERSITY