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### Title

*The Structure of American Medical Practice, 1875-1941.* By George Rosen. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1983. Pp. vii+152. Illustrations, bibliography, index. \$9.95.

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to a period of medieval Spanish history for which there is still so much to do. It is also one of the latest examples of the many excellent monographs and studies produced by a school of American historians of medieval Spain which has emerged in the last twenty years.

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*The Structure of American Medical Practice, 1875-1941.* By GEORGE ROSEN. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1983. Pp. vii + 152. Illustrations, bibliography, index. \$9.95.

George Rosen's death in 1977 brought to a close a distinguished career as a teacher and medical historian. Rosen commands remembrance for his enviable inventory of publications and his contributions to the social history of medicine. The present book, a continuation of the Richard Harrison Shryock Lectures delivered by the author in 1976 at the University of Pennsylvania, was intended to span the century from 1875 to 1975. However, only that portion of the manuscript covering the period 1875 to 1941 was completed by Dr. Rosen; Charles E. Rosenberg polished this manuscript for publication and provided a brief forward as well.

Rosen begins with the "utter confusion and anarchy" of the medical market-place in 1875, as "regular" physicians battled both colleagues and "irregulars" for patients while trying to convince an often skeptical public of the efficacy of their services. Early attempts to enforce "fair" competition through "fee bills" and codes of ethics had failed miserably. Likewise, the licensing laws enacted later in the nineteenth century failed to regulate the marketplace, serving instead to boost the numbers of "diploma mills" churning out poorly trained physicians. Rosen depicts educational reform in this century, spurred by the American Medical Association and buttressed by the largesse of private foundations, as the long sought solution to "overcrowding" in the profession. Educational reform also provided the means to exclude "undesirables," notably women, blacks, and Jews, from the profession.

The scientific and technological advances, which gave a critical boost to the physicians' prestige and supported their claims to expanding authority in this period of reorganization and regulation, proved to be treacherous allies, encouraging the fragmentation of the profession and endangering the ideal of the free-for-service relationship between patient and physician. The tendency toward specialization strained the solidarity

of physicians, as did the divergence of teacher and researcher from general practitioner. The hospital, with its burgeoning technological supports, increasingly served as the locus of medical practice; and greater effectiveness of medical care, coupled with higher costs, inflated the ranks of the medically indigent and raised an ongoing clamor for government intervention. Such problems, born in the early decades of the twentieth century, still vex the medical profession, the public, and the policy-makers.

Much of what Rosen has said is now fairly well-trodden ground, although it was not when the book was written. Rosen focuses on the efforts of the American Medical Association as the self-proclaimed voice of American medicine to preserve a constantly threatened system of "artisan" production under siege from within and without. His interpretation invites criticism from those who are still uncomfortable with suggestions that present American health care practices and institutions are not simply the natural outcome of the disinterested march of science. Nonetheless, Rosen's book is valuable, particularly as a teaching device, due to its engaging style and concise format.

Lee Anderson  
The University of Iowa

*Population and Marketing Settlements in Ch'ing China.* By GILBERT ROZMAN. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1982. Pp. vii + 154. Notes, tables, maps, index, bibliography. \$34.50.

To the increasing body of research on Ch'ing China, the historian can now add Gilbert Rozman's *Population and Marketing Settlements*. Professor Rozman has previously written a number of studies dealing with social and demographic patterns, including works on Tokugawa Japan and eighteenth century Russia. In this slender volume, he places his study within the larger context of whether or not Ch'ing China was a dynamic or static society. His objective is to analyze temporal and spatial data gathered from large amounts of primary sources pertaining to North China.

Rozman continues where Ho Ping-ti and G. William Skinner left off. Ho had alerted researchers to the vast amounts of accurate statistical data available for Ch'ing China in *Studies on the Population of China, 1368-1953* (1959). Skinner then contributed to the field with his series of articles, "Marketing and Social Structure in Rural China" (1964-65), which investigated marketing patterns and spatial arrangements. Both