been pursued further than they were. For Hardyment, however, the biggest missed opportunity was the failure to remove domestic service completely from the home and thus obviate the housewife role: "Such a life resembled nothing so much as that of a garage attendant, providing services in the shape of food, clean clothes and a neatly made bed to her passing family instead of oil and petrol to passing cars."

Looking to the future, Hardyment sees the seeds of change: "Wives no longer want to be lonely garage attendants, however glamorous the setting of the pumps." Ideology concerning appropriate female aspirations is in a state of flux now that half of British mothers are in some paid employment. These are signs of a move back to external provision of domestic services — most notably in the greater availability of prepared meals outside the home. At the same time, men are becoming more involved in many areas of domestic labour — childcare, gardening and home maintenance/DIY (though not noticeably in the more mundane and routine cleaning tasks). Significantly, too, "the boom days are over" for the producers of domestic machinery since most of the important markets are saturated or near saturated. In this situation, perhaps, the consumer has some influence over the future development of household technology — but which consumer?

These issues are of continuing interest since the household is an obvious focus for new product development in the information and communication technologies. Whether these technologies are applied to the nominally female areas or to the expanding pursuit of 'leisure', gender relatons — in all their complexity — will be a major determinant in the shaping process. This said, Hardyment's book has an appeal that extends way beyond those with a 'theoretical' interest in household technology. Her passion for the various gadgets and devices she describes is matched by a writing style to produce an account of the people and times which is full of both wit and empathy. In short *From Mangle to Microwave* is a good read!

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International Business in the Nineteenth Century: The Rise and Fall of a Cosmopolitan Bourgeoisie *by Charles A. Jones*
(Wheatsheaf Books, Brighton, 1987) pp. xi + 260, ISBN 7450-0399-0

Despite its broad ranging title, this book does not attempt, nor indeed could any single volume satisfactorily address, such an ambitious study without substantial qualification. The author does not claim an intensively analytical investigation into the economic bases of how international business was conducted during the nineteenth century, and neither does he pretend that economic determinism is the only explanatory approach as he makes plain in his very thoughtful introduction. Certainly these opening 26 pages adequately lay down the ground rules and, for this reviewer at least, satisfactorily justify the volume's seeming shortcomings. The author succeeds in presenting a fascinating account of the rise and fall of a cosmopolitan bourgeoise, which

he sees as facilitating, and in turn dominating, the growth of the international economy during the nineteenth century.

The central argument, that a cosmopolitan bourgeoise quickly grew in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries to replace mercantilism, which had facilitated the growth of the old colonial system, is not in itself novel. But the deterministic significance which the author attaches to it, particularly in the light of the impact upon the trading firm of both technological and administrative innovations, certainly lends a welcome insight into a much neglected aspect of the history of international commerce. The underlying thesis is amplified in terms of its 'cosmopolitan' character, which sees national and ethnic origins of status and influence as subordinate to the growing international economy, though of course one minimises the influence of London's commercial dominance at one's peril!

Charles Jones presents a far ranging study of the variety of firms which made up this cosmopolitan commercial hegemony, but his admittedly intentional emphasis is biased towards the social and cultural rather than towards the economic causes and effects of this process, and as a consequence the study might be seen as falling somewhat short of presenting the reader with a completely satisfactory account. Questions such as how significant, or how large, or how representative, are not asked and neither is there a conscious attempt made at explicit comparisons between individual firms, the forces which determined their behaviour and their commercial success. The economic historian might be forgiven for viewing the volume with a rather critical eye. Despite these shortcomings, the study is an interesting and well written addition to the growing historiography of the expansion of the commercial world of the nineteenth century.

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The Commonwealth of Science: ANZAAS and the Scientific Enterprise in Australasia 1888-1988 *edited by Roy MacLeod*
(Oxford University Press, Sydney, 1988) pp. xvi + 417, cloth $35.00, ISBN 0-19-554683-0

This book is a collection of essays which were specially written to celebrate the centenary of the foundation of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science (ANZAAS), born amidst the venerable surroundings of the Great Hall of the University of Sydney in 1888. It was an exciting day, full of expectations of great things to be done and to be written about by historians of science in future years. H.C. Russell, the third Government Astronomer at Sydney Observatory and the first President of the Association, told the gathering of over 800 disciples and gurus of colonial science that this Association "stands as a protest against the shortsighted and utilitarian policy of those who would cultivate only what they characteristically call bread and butter sciences" (p. 41). The history of science in Australia and that of the Association has been a struggle between the pragmatists and the dreamers. The debate is far from over and will continue as long as there are scientists, politicians and taxpayers.