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British Rail

1974-97

From Integration to Privatisation

Terry Gourvish

British Rail 1974 1997 From Integration To Privatisation

Terry Gourvish



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British Rail 1974-1997 Terence Richard Gourvish, Terry Gourvish, 2004-01-29 Based on privileged access to the British Railway Board's rich archives this book provides an authoritative account of the progress made by the British Railway System prior to its privatization. It offers a unique account of the last fifteen years of nationalized railways in Britain and it sheds light on the current problems of privatized railway systems. This volume is divided into four complete and concise sections for complete study: Railways Under Labour 1974-1979, The Thatcher Revolution, British Rail in the 1980s, On The Threshold of Privatization, Running the Railways 1990-1994, and Responding to Privatization 1981-1997. Author Terry Gourvish is considered Britain's leading railway historian. **British Rail 1974-1997**, 2002 *The Privatisation of British Rail* Sean McCartney, John Stittle, 2023-05-23 The privatisation of the British railway industry was a unique political and economic event. An integrated industry was broken up into numerous component parts and sold off to private sector interests. The result was a highly fragmented industry that was structurally unsound and operationally dysfunctional. This authoritative volume presents an enlightening portrait of an industry that is less efficient, more costly, and still more dependent on state subsidy today than its nationalised predecessor. The nine chapters in this work present a comprehensive and rigorous evaluation of how and why the industry has become so dysfunctional, and are costily supported by detailed financial analysis and industry examples. Seven chapters comprise a series of peer-reviewed academic papers by Professor McCartney and Dr Stittle and published in leading international journals over the period 2004-2017, which analyse selected key segments of the privatised industry, where appropriate updates are provided at the end of these chapters outlining developments since initial publication relevant to the analysis therein. Two chapters are published here for the first time. Chapter 7 reviews the performance of the freight sector while Chapter 1 bookends the volume by providing first an account of how rail privatisation was conceived and implemented in the 1980s/90s and then reviews the impact of the pandemic and the proposals of the Williams-Shapps White Paper of 2021, which if enacted will effectively end the Major government's experiment. Going far beyond the usual superficial analysis of the topic, this volume will be of significant interest to researchers and advanced students of accounting, economics, business history, transport studies, as well as industry and specialised business interests in transport and privatisation. **British Rail 1974-1997** Terry Gourvish, 2002. Printbegrnsninger Der kan printes 1 kapitel eller op til 5% af teksten. **Tracing Your Railway Ancestors** Di Drummond, 2010-06-15 Di Drummond's concise and informative guide to Britain's railways will be absorbing reading for anyone who wants to learn about the history of the industry and for family history researchers who want to find out about the careers of their railway ancestors. In a clear and accessible way she guides readers through the social, technical, and economic aspects of the story. She describes in vivid detail the rapid growth, maturity, and long decline of the railways from the earliest days in the late eighteenth century to privatization in the 1990s. In the process she covers the themes and issues that family historians, local historians, and railway

enthusiasts will need to understand in order to pursue their research A sequence of short fact filled chapters gives an all round view of the development of the railways In addition to tracing the birth and growth of the original railway companies she portrays the types of work that railwaymen did and pays particular attention to the railway world in which they spent their working lives The tasks they undertook the special skills they had to learn the conditions they worked in the organization and hierarchy of the railway companies and the make up of railway unions all these elements in the history of the railways are covered She also introduces the reader to the variety of records that are available for genealogical research staff records and registers publications census returns biographies and autobiographies and the rest of the extensive literature devoted to the railway industry

British Rail Christian Wolmar, 2022-06-09 The authoritative and fascinating history of the rise and fall of the state owned British Rail Wolmar's book is impeccably organised and makes a fast enjoyable read THE TIMES Literary Supplement _____ British Rail wasn't how we're asked to remember it From ancient rolling stock to patchy service stale sandwiches to the wrong kind of snow British Rail our last great state owned organisation to be privatised has received a terrible press But after its controversial 1948 creation British Rail was actually an innovative powerhouse that over five decades transformed the UK creating one of the fastest regular rail services in the world Award winning journalist Christian Wolmar takes us from promise to punchline exploring British Rail's birth into post war austerity the many battles and struggles to evolve what many considered to be a dinosaur and how at the height of its success the service was misunderstood and unfairly maligned ruthlessly broken up and privatised _____ Praise for Christian Wolmar Wolmar is the high priest of railway studies Literary Review The greatest expert on British trains Guardian Our most eminent transport journalist Spectator If the world's railways have a laureate it is surely Christian Wolmar Boston Globe Christian Wolmar is in love with the railways He writes constantly and passionately about them He is their wisest most detailed historian and a constant prophet of their rebirth if you love the hum of the wheels and of history then Christian Wolmar is your man Observer

From Rail to Road and Back Again? Colin Divall, 2016-03-03 The coming of the railways signalled the transformation of European society allowing the quick and cheap mass transportation of people and goods on a previously unimaginable scale By the early decades of the twentieth century however the domination of rail transport was threatened by increased motorised road transport which would quickly surpass and eclipse the trains only itself to be challenged in the twenty first century by a renewal of interest in railways Yet as the studies in this volume make clear to view the relationship between road and rail as a simple competition between two rival forms of transportation is a mistake Rail transport did not vanish in the twentieth century any more than road transport vanished in the nineteenth with the appearance of the railways Instead a mutual interdependence has always existed balancing the strengths and weaknesses of each system It is that interdependence that forms the major theme of this collection Divided into two main sections the first part of the book offers a series of chapters examining how railway companies reacted to increasing competition from road

transport and exploring the degree to which railways depended on road transportation at different times and places Part two focuses on road mobility interpreting it as the innovative success story of the twentieth century Taken together these essays provide a fascinating reappraisal of the complex and shifting nature of European transportation over the last one hundred years

The Development of Corporate Governance in Japan and Britain Etsuo Abe, 2017-11-28 The topic of corporate governance attracts the interest of commentators policy makers and academics due to its focus on major differences between national business systems and their performance Yet many works engage in generalizations and fail to appreciate the realities and circumstances of its long term evolution Comparative study is used in this book to analyse national legal cultural and industry specific contexts and the broad range of key factors contributing to the emergence of business institutions Historical insight into the origins of corporate governance systems and the impact of institutional legacy is used to unravel development pathways in Japan and Britain The book is the result of genuine international cooperation between established Japanese and British business historians and management academics

The Official History of Privatisation, Vol. II David Parker, 2013-06-19 This is Volume II of Professor Parker's authoritative Official History of Privatisation covering the period from the re election of Margaret Thatcher in 1987 to the election of Tony Blair in 1997 Volume II considers in detail several of the major privatisations including those of airports steel water electricity coal and the railways as well as a number of smaller ones Each privatisation involved major challenges in terms of industrial restructuring organising successful sales and in a number of cases establishing effective regulatory regimes The policy evolved and new methods of selling and regulating were put in place that enabled further disposals to occur Monolithic nationalised industries with their emphasis on the benefits of economies of scale vertical integration and rationalisation were replaced by industrial structures rooted in the importance of commercial management risk taking and competition In government departments and parts of the National Health Service direct employees were replaced by private contractors and private investment became a characteristic of public infrastructure in the form of PFI PPP schemes This study draws heavily on the official records of the British government to which the author was given full access and on interviews with the leading figures involved in each of the privatisations including ex ministers civil servants business and City figures as well as academics that have studied the subject This book will be of great interest to students of privatisation British political history and of business and economics in general

Great British Plans Ian Wray, 2015-09-25 Can the British plan Sometimes it seems unlikely Across the world we see grand designs and visionary projects new airport terminals nuclear power stations high speed railways and glittering buildings It all seems an unattainable goal on Britain's small and crowded island and yet perhaps this is too pessimistic For the British have always planned and much of what they have today is the result of past plans successfully implemented Ranging widely from London's squares and the new city of Milton Keynes to High Speed One the motorways and the secret first electronic computers Ian Wray's remarkable book puts successful infrastructure plans under the microscope Who made

these plans and what made them stick How does this reflect the defining characteristics of British government And what does that say about the individuals who drew them up and saw them through In so doing the book casts refreshing new light on how big decisions have actually been made revealing the hidden sources of drive and initiative in British society as seen through the lens of plans past And it asks some searching questions about the mechanisms we might need for successful plans future in Britain and elsewhere Includes foreword by the Right Honourable the Lord Heseltine CH

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