Social and Economic History of Leisure 1918-1939: Routledge Library Editions

This book, first published in 1988, examines the social and economic changes that affected the experience of leisure in Britain between the end of World War I and the outbreak of World War II. It explores how changes in working hours, income, and transportation, as well as the rise of new technologies and the decline of traditional ones, reshaped the ways people spent their free time.



Workers at Play: A Social and Economic History of Leisure, 1918-1939 (Routledge Library Editions: The Labour Movement Book 17) by Stephen G. Jones

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 4.5 c	วเ	ut of 5
Language	;	English
File size	;	1638 KB
Text-to-Speech	;	Enabled
Enhanced typesetting	:	Enabled
Word Wise	:	Enabled
Print length	:	285 pages
Screen Reader	:	Supported



The book begins by examining the changing nature of work and leisure in the interwar period. The end of World War I brought about a significant reduction in working hours, which gave people more time for leisure activities. At the same time, rising incomes allowed people to spend more money on leisure. These changes were accompanied by the rise of new technologies, such as the radio and the cinema, which provided people with new ways to entertain themselves.

The book then explores the different ways that people spent their leisure time in the interwar period. Popular pastimes included going to the cinema, listening to the radio, reading, and playing sports. People also spent time socializing with friends and family, and attending sporting events. The book shows how these activities were shaped by social class, gender, and age. For example, working-class people were more likely to spend their leisure time at home, while middle-class people were more likely to participate in organized leisure activities. Men were more likely to participate in sports, while women were more likely to spend their time reading or socializing.

The book concludes by examining the impact of the Great Depression on leisure. The Depression led to a decline in income and leisure spending, and many people were forced to give up their favorite leisure activities. However, the Depression also led to the rise of new forms of leisure, such as gambling and dancing. These activities provided people with a way to escape from the hardships of the Depression.

This book is an important contribution to the study of the social and economic history of leisure. It provides a comprehensive overview of the changes that occurred in leisure in Britain during the interwar period, and it shows how these changes were shaped by social, economic, and technological factors.

Table of Contents

- 1.
- 2. The Changing Nature of Work and Leisure

- 3. The Rise of New Technologies
- 4. The Decline of Traditional Leisure Activities
- 5. Popular Leisure Activities in the Interwar Period
- 6. The Impact of the Great Depression
- 7.

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