lead of Koch and Pasteur, conquered most of the infectious diseases known to man. But they also spent years, at a cost of thousands of lives, trying to blame microbes for the diseases of malnutrition. More recently in Japan, there was the SMON epidemic in which evidence that an anti-diarrhea drug was causing a polio-like disease, was silenced for over ten years by government-sponsored "virus hunters." Then, in America, there was the medical empire-building and dismal failure dubbed the "War on Cancer," in which many of the current AIDS players "made their bones," and during which the virus hunters developed some of their most dubious theories—such as the "slow virus" hypothesis.

Duesberg next provides ample evidence to support his contentions. Chapters crammed with facts answer the questions some of us had. What's behind Magic Johnson's "miraculous" comeback? What killed Arthur Ashe, Kimberly Bergalis, and Allison Gertz—was it AIDS or AZT? But more importantly, he scientifically challenges the assumptions of the HIV hypothesis and finds its predictive ability to be inferior to that of his drug hypothesis. Also interesting are the thousands of recorded cases of HIV-negative AIDS at the CDC (Centers for Disease Control) renamed ICL.

Anyone who has followed this controversy—and anyone who reads this book—will see what's going on. Namely, a power grab and the politicization of medicine. The goal? Command science.

On the one side: the vast multi-billion dollar tax-supported, "peer (read insider) reviewed," medical establishment, including the NIH and the CDC; drug companies, activists, and scientists with conflicts of interest, lobbyists in Congress, and royalties on patents for failed medications; insider control of grant monies for research, and of which drugs get approved; and even censorship and control over publication in professional journals.

On the other side? One man stands alone. Duesberg. For that, he deserves credit—and our gratitude.

Mr. DeRosa is a freelance writer from Poughkeepsie, New York.

The Failure of America's Foreign Wars
Edited by Richard M. Ebeling and Jacob G. Hornberger
Future of Freedom Foundation • 1996 • 380 pages • $24.95 cloth; $17.95 paperback

Reviewed by Hans-Hermann Hoppe

History is invariably written by its victors. Because the twentieth century is uniquely the American century, with the United States emerging victorious from both world wars and ultimately rising to the rank of the world's only military superpower, official twentieth-century world history today is above all history as seen from the perspective of the U.S. government and its intellectual bodyguards. Thus, it is in particular U.S. foreign policy, and especially the policies of Woodrow Wilson and Franklin D. Roosevelt and of U.S. allies such as Churchill and Stalin, which come under closer scrutiny and are subject to critical re-evaluation and revision in The Failure of America's Foreign Wars.

The articles in this book survey critical episodes in U.S. foreign policy over the last hundred years, beginning with the Spanish-American War, centering on World War I and World War II, and continuing to the Panama Invasion and the Gulf War. The editors wish to illustrate the thesis that the replacement of the "isolationist" U.S. foreign policy by a globalist-interventionist foreign policy has been an utter failure. As a result of the great moral crusade "to make the world safe for democracy," the twentieth century has been one of the most murderous centuries in all of history and the century par excellence of socialism: of communism, fascism, national socialism, and social democracy.

Several times in the book the question is raised: what would have happened if Wilson, in accordance with America's isolationist foreign policy tradition and his own election campaign promise, had kept the United States out of World War I? By virtue of its counterfactual nature, the answer to a question such as this can never be empirically confirmed or falsified. This does not make the question meaningless or the answer arbitrary, however. To the contrary. Based on an understanding of the actual historical events and personalities involved, the question concerning the most likely alternative course of history can be answered in detail and with considerable confidence.

If the United States had followed a strict non-interventionist foreign policy, the intra-European conflict likely would have ended in late 1916 or
early 1917 instead of late 1918. Moreover, it would have been concluded with a mutually acceptable (face-saving) compromise peace rather than the one-sided terms actually dictated. Consequently, Austria-Hungary, Germany, and Russia would have remained traditional monarchies instead of being turned into short-lived democratic republics. With a Russian Czar and a German and Austrian Kaiser in place, it would have been practically impossible for the Bolsheviks to seize power in Russia, and in reaction to a growing communist threat in Western Europe, for the fascists and the national Socialists to come to power in Italy and Germany. The victims of communism, national socialism, and World War II—some 100 million European lives—would have never reached the heights seen today. And rather than Eastern Europe (and consequently half of the globe) falling into communist hands and for more than 40 years being plundered, devastated, and forcibly insulated from Western markets, all of Europe (and the entire globe) would have remained integrated economically (as in the nineteenth century) in a world-wide system of division of labor and cooperation. Accordingly world living standards would have grown immensely higher than they actually did. In helping its reader recognize this “realistically possible” alternative course of history, The Failure of America’s Foreign Wars contains a sharp moral condemnation of twentieth-century U.S. foreign policy and a vigorous plea for a return to a non-interventionist isolationist foreign policy.

While the facts and the conclusions reached are largely correct and reasonable, the book is not without shortcomings. Even a professed “revisionist” such as Ebeling cannot free himself entirely from orthodox-leftist historical myths when he appears to liken and classify as on a par the “evils” of Stalin and Hitler and the socioeconomic character of Soviet Russia and Nazi Germany. From 1929 to 1939, in peace time, Stalin and the Bolsheviks killed about 20 million Soviet citizens, for no predictable reason. Hitler and the National Socialists ruined the businesses and careers of hundreds of thousands of German citizens, but the number of people killed by them before the outbreak of the war was only a few hundred, most of them fellow Nazis and all of them for a predictable reason. Even immediately after the onset of the war, when it became known that the Nazis had begun to engage in “mercy killings” of the incurably insane (euthanasia), the Catholic bishops, led by Bernhard von Galen, openly protested, and German public opinion compelled the Nazis to halt the program. Bishop (later: Cardinal) von Galen survived the Nazi regime. Under Stalin and the Bolsheviks, any such opposition was impossible and Bishop von Galen would have been quickly disposed of. Also irritating is Hornberger’s inclination toward psychobabble, according to which Hitler and national socialism are somehow the outgrowth of parent alcoholism and child abuse.

More serious is a structural defect. In collecting in their book almost exclusively articles previously published in the Freedom Daily, and mostly (29 of 47) written by themselves, Ebeling and Hornberger missed the opportunity of assembling a far superior product. The quality of the articles is rather uneven, and there is quite a bit of repetitiveness. Many articles qualify as hardly more than journalistic exercises; and with only two professional historians (Ralph Raico and Robert Higgs) among the authors, the book has a somewhat amateurish flavor. Despite these shortcomings, however, the book contains a vitally important message and makes for genuinely refreshing reading. The two marvelously insightful articles contributed by Ralph Raico alone—on “The Case for an America First Foreign Policy” and “The Turning Point in American Foreign Policy”—are well worth the price of admission.

Dr. Hoppe is professor of economics at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, senior fellow of the Ludwig von Mises Institute, and co-editor of the Review of Austrian Economics and the Journal of Libertarian Studies.
FEATURES

716 SimEconomics by Lawrence H. White
Computer simulations that let you run a whole society misrepresent how real societies work.

719 Salvation Through the Internet? by Donald J. Boudreaux
A communications network even more amazing than the Internet: the price system.

721 Home, Home on the Internet by Thomas Boustedt
Good fences make good markets.

726 Liberty and the Domain of Self-Interest by Steven Horwitz
Does society work better or worse when self-interest is given freer reign?

731 The Social Function of Mr. Henry Ford by Spencer Heath
The role of the business owner explained, in a 1937 letter to journalist Dorothy Thompson.

734 Red-Lining the Federal Government Budget by Richard H. Timberlake
A different strategy for fiscal control.

739 Law Enforcement by Deceit?: Entrapment and Due Process by Jennifer Johnson
Dubious investigative tactics threaten individual rights.

742 Why Not Slavery? by Bertel M. Sparks
Why shouldn’t people be permitted to own people?

747 Ending Tax Socialism by James A. Dorn
Progressive taxation is unfair and unsafe.

749 For Appearance’s Sake by James D. Saltzman
Private property versus “beautification” busybodies.

754 Our Most Precious Resource by Earl Zarbin
Children are individuals—not the “resource” of either the parents or the state.

755 Externalities and the Environment by Andrea Santoriello and Walter Block
Trash, trees, and trade.

757 Raoul Wallenberg, Great Angel of Rescue by Jim Powell
The man who defied Hitler and Stalin, and saved almost 100,000 lives.

COLUMNS

Center NOTES from FEE—Sweatshops for the New World Order by Hans F Sennholz

724 IDEAS and CONSEQUENCES—The Electric Car Seduction by Lawrence W. Reed

736 POTOMAC PRINCIPLES—Killing Enterprise by Doug Bandow

767 ECONOMICS on TRIAL—Single Policy Change—Double Economic Growth? by Mark Skousen

DEPARTMENTS

714 Perspective—William Leggett, Dave Ross, J. Gordon Lamb III

769 Book Reviews
• The Return of Thrift: How the Collapse of the Middle Class Welfare State Will Reawaken Values in America by Phillip Longman, reviewed by Chris Weinkopf; Creating the Commonwealth: The Economic Culture of Puritan New England by Stephen Innes, reviewed by Russell Shannon; The Road Ahead by Bill Gates, reviewed by Raymond J. Keating; Private Means, Public Ends: Voluntarism vs. Coercion by J. William Mixon, Jr., reviewed by Fred Foldvary; Learn to Earn by Peter Lynch and John Rothchild, reviewed by Philip R. Murray; Global Bondage by Cliff Kincaid, reviewed by Laurence M. Vance; Command Science and the War on AIDS: Inventing the AIDS Virus by Peter H. Duesberg, reviewed by Neil DeRosa; The Failure of America’s Foreign Wars edited by Richard M. Ebeling and Jacob G. Hornberger, reviewed by Hans-Hermann Hoppe.
The Freeman is the monthly publication of The Foundation for Economic Education, Irvington-on-Hudson, NY 10533. The Freeman, established in 1946 by Leonard E. Read, is a non-political, educational champion of private property, the free market, and limited government. FEE is classified as a 26 USC 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.

Copyright © 1996 by The Foundation for Economic Education. Permission is granted to reprint any article in this issue, except "Raoul Wallenberg," provided credit is given and two copies of the reprinted material are sent to FEE.

The costs of Foundation projects and services are met through donations, which are invited in any amount. Donors of $30.00 or more receive a subscription to The Freeman. Student subscriptions are $10.00 for the nine-month academic year; $3.00 per semester. Additional copies of this issue of The Freeman are $3.00 each. For foreign delivery, a donation of $45.00 a year is suggested to cover mailing costs.

Bound volumes of The Freeman are available from The Foundation for calendar years 1972 to date. The Freeman is available in microform from University Microfilms, 300 N. Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

Cover: Raoul Wallenberg

Managing Editor: Beth A. Hoffman
Guest Editor: Lawrence H. White

Editor Emeritus
Paul L. Poiret
Lawhurst, Pennsylvania

Book Review Editor
Robert Bateman
Mount Mary College, Torrington, New York

Editorial Assistant
Mary Ann Murphy

Columnists
Doug Bandow
Cato Institute, Washington, D.C.
Lawrence W. Reed
Mackinac Center for Public Policy
Midland, Michigan
Mark Skousen
Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida

Contributing Editors
Charles W. Baird
California State University, Hayward
Peter J. Boettke
New York University
Clarence B. Carson
American Textbook Committee
Weley, Alabama
Thomas J. DiLorenzo
Loynola College, Baltimore, Maryland
Joseph S. Faludi
New York, New York
Betina Bien Greaves
Resident Scholar, FEE
Robert Higgs
The Independent Institute, Oakland, California
John Hospers
University of Southern California
Tibor R. Machan
Auburn University
Ronald Nash
Reformed Theological Seminary
Edmund A. Opitz
Chatham, Massachusetts
James L. Payne
Sandpoint, Idaho
Jim Powell
Westport, Connecticut
William H. Peterson
Adjunct Scholar, Heritage Foundation, Washington, D.C.
Jane S. Shaw
PERC, Bozeman, Montana
Richard H. Timberlake
University of Georgia
Lawrence H. White
University of Georgia

Managing Editor: Beth A. Hoffman
E-mail: freeman@westnet.com
Phone (914) 591-7230 FAX (914) 591-8910

Cover: Raoul Wallenberg

President: Hans F. Sennholz

PERSPECTIVE

We Should Welcome Immigrant Workers

The people who are daily landing here are not paupers, if the capacity and disposition to labour may exempt a man from that appellation. They are, for the most part, the sons and daughters of useful toil. They are men and women of hardy frames, accustomed to earn their living by the sweat of their brows. They are a class of which, in truth, we stand much in need. . . .

These men are not paupers, and if they become so, it is the fault of our own laws. Let us not lay our sins, then, at their doors. We have perfect control over the matter. We are not obliged to open our poor-houses to those who are able to work; and, indeed, we believe it would be far better for the community, if we did not open them to any class of indigence or misfortune. The care of those really disqualified by nature or accident from taking care of themselves should be left to voluntary charity, not to that wretched system of compulsory charity which poor-laws enjoin. We are too reluctant, in this country, to trust the voluntary principle. We are for doing everything by law; and the consequence is that hardly anything is done well.

But with regard to these poor creatures who are flocking to our country as the boasted asylum of the oppressed of all the world, we ought to welcome them hither, not meet them with scowls, and raise a deafening clamour to excite unfriendly prejudices against them, and drive them back from our inhospitable shores. For our part, we open our arms to them, and embrace them as brothers; for are they not a part of the great family of man? It is a violation of the plainest principles of morals, it is a sin against the most universal precepts of religion, to harden our hearts against these men, and seek to expel them from a land, which they have as much right to tread as we who assume such a lofty port.

The earth is the heritage of man, and these are a portion of the heritors. We are not laid up in sin when they are vicious, let them be punished; but, if they are not, let them be left to the precepts of religion, to harden our hearts against them, and drive them back from our inhospitable shores. For our part, we open our arms to them, and embrace them as brothers; for are they not a part of the great family of man? It is a violation of the plainest principles of morals, it is a sin against the most universal precepts of religion, to harden our hearts against these men, and seek to expel them from a land, which they have as much right to tread as we who assume such a lofty port.

The earth is the heritage of man, and these are a portion of the heritors. We are not bound to support them; they must support themselves. If they are idle, let them starve; if they are vicious, let them be punished; but, ...