

## Book review

### **The History of Meat Trading**

Derrick C. Rixson. Nottingham University Press, 2000, £40.00. ISBN 1-897676-31-X S.B. 407 pp.

This comprehensive, well researched and written work traces the history of meat trading from early times through the twentieth century and, in the process, the author has combined his extensive practical experience with that of his commercial and technological knowledge, so making for the work to be written in readily understandable terms.

The work traces the relationship of the meat trade with the social, commercial and economic development of communities and provides an understanding as to how and why meat trading evolved.

Covering some 22 chapters conveniently arranged into four parts, each part and each chapter dealing with a particular area of the developments, so making for ease of identification of ones own interests.

The work is well illustrated with tables, diagrams, prints and photographs and other appropriate material which assists in stimulating ones own imagination and makes for a greater understanding of the developments.

Whilst the work is primarily a history of meat trading, it makes for an interesting read—or history—of community and social developments as a whole and many a non-meat person will find the work absorbing.

Included is a comprehensive glossary of terms, many of which will be previously unknown to younger readers and, for those older, will re-kindle memories.

A bibliography provides guidance for further reading or research of a particular subject and a most helpful index will provide ease of locating the readers interest.

Altogether a most useful work which will provide all engaged, or with an interest, in the meat industry with a greater understanding of the developments in the industry and its trading.

Students and new entrants will find the work a mine of information.

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