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Rosen. Cameralism and the Concept of Medical Police, In Bull. of the History of Medicine, 1953 [photocopie]

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Références bibliographiques

- [\[anonyme ou collectif\] Bulletin of the history of medicine](#)
- [Rosen, Cameralism and the Concept of medical police, In Bull. history of medicine 1953](#)

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Références éditoriales

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of alcoholic beverages, the hygiene of procreation, the protection of the health and welfare of children, school hygiene, problems of hospital supervision, and finally the problem of medical care with particular attention to quackery and malpractice.

His approach to some of these problems may be indicated briefly. In questions of housing hygiene, Guarinonius advocated various views already intimated by Hippocrates. Thus, he emphasized that settlements located on high land were more salubrious than those in the plains because people lived longer there. He recommends that in the low-lying plains, the houses should be built high, and that the streets and squares should be wide to provide for good ventilation. The problem of ventilation occupies Guarinonius also in discussing school and hospital hygiene. The air in the living rooms was bad because the rooms were small and overheated in winter. Furthermore, the atmosphere in the houses was poisoned by the unsuitable installation and poor functioning of toilets. In a like manner, school rooms are unhealthy because, due to laziness or in order to save firewood, windows are never opened and no care is taken to provide ventilation. Also, the janitors are too lazy to clean the rooms thoroughly.

These statements characterize only a small part of the contents of this book which, with censure and admonition, explanations and demands, deals with the entire field of public health as it was understood at the time. Guarinonius insists on the need for governmental action to improve health conditions and cites with approval the Augsburg police ordinance of 1530, entitled *Reformation guter Policey zu Augsperg Anno 1530*. His position is succinctly put in his demand for a "Christian police."

Another early contribution to the development of thought on governmental responsibility for the health of the community is the *Politia medica* of Ludwig von Hörnigk (1600-1667), municipal physician at Frankfurt a. Main.⁴³ Published in 1638, this work is noteworthy on several grounds. First, the exceedingly lengthy title presents almost a table of contents. The title reads as follows:

Medical Polity, or a Description of the Physicians, both the ordinary ones as well as the appointed Court, Municipal, Military, Hospital and Plague Physicians, Apothecaries, Druggists, Surgeons, Oculists, Hernia and Stone Operators, Confectionery Bakers, Shopkeepers and Bathmen,

⁴³ Ludwig von Hörnigk: *Politia Medica oder Beschreibung dessen was die Medici . . . zuthun und was auch wie sie in Obacht zu nehmen . . .* Franckfurt am Mayn, Bey Clemens Schleich, 1638; Fischer, *op. cit.*, vol 1, pp. 325-327.



