



Torkel Aschehoug and Norwegian Historical Economic Thought Reconsidering a Forgotten Norwegian Pioneer Economist

Mathilde C. Fasting

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Explores the economic thought of prominent Norwegian legal theorist and politician Torkel Halvorsen Aschehoug (1822–1909) during the last decades of the nineteenth century, focusing on his historical-empirical approach to economics.

'Mathilde C. Fasting's book is a fascinating and highly readable account of the most influential economist in Norwegian intellectual life in the late nineteenth century. Fasting carefully traces and analyses the intellectual impulses behind Aschehoug's thinking, making this book a valuable contribution.' —Professor Einar Lie, University of Oslo

'With his historical approach to economics, Torkel Aschehoug was a Norwegian pioneer. Today's interest in connecting economics to a broader understanding of society makes Fasting's revitalizing study timely indeed.' —Professor Rune Slagstad, Oslo University College

'The historical school has received scandalously insufficient attention, even by historians of economic thought. Fasting has done a superb job in bringing the ideas of Torkel Aschehoug to an English-language audience.' —Professor Geoff Hodgson, University of Hertfordshire

The historical schools of economics have been neglected within the arena of economic theory since the Second World War in favour of the now-dominant classical and neoclassical schools of economic thought. As alternative frameworks re-emerge, this book offers a reevaluation of the legal theorist, economist and politician Torkel Aschehoug (1822–1909) and his historical-empirical approach to economics, a highly influential current in Norway during the last decades of the nineteenth century.

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Mathilde C. Fasting has just finished her doctorate in political science at the University of Erfurt, Germany.

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