

AREAL DEPENDENCE AND CONCENTRATION
INTEREST IN THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT
OF AUSTRIA UP TO 1914

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Historical literature considers the phenomenon of industrial concentration chiefly within the framework of the problems of growth. The point of departure in this attempt to relativize the interest in concentration by means of the problems of location is the observation that a particular form of areal dependence corresponds to each stage of industrial concentration. The procurement of raw and auxiliary materials for the production of goods as well as the marketing of commodities determine, in addition to the orientation of work, the areal relation-

ships of the enterprise. This study, which uses the example of industrial concentration in the Austrian half of the Danube monarchy, is aimed at clarifying to what extent the areal limitations of the individual production sites — which varied considerably from sector to sector and from locality to locality — stimulated the expansion of plants and enterprises or their consolidation, and to what extent they served as a factor inhibiting the development of large enterprises. The attempt is made to encompass a very wide circle of factors regulating areal dependence and governing interest in concentration. This makes it possible to touch, among others, upon such questions as tax regulations or the significance of fashion trends.