

The Economic Development of France and Germany, 1815-1914.

By J. H. CLAPHAM. (Cambridge University Press. 1921. Pp. xi, 420.)

Professor Clapham's present work is an outgrowth of the chapters written for the Cambridge Modern History. It is designed to furnish a substantial survey of the economic transformations of the nineteenth century with especial reference to the needs of university students, and the interests of these, as of many other readers, will be fully satisfied.

Such studies as we have had bear no direct comparison with the present work. No other writer has attempted as much, and none have succeeded as well even in the restricted fields chosen. Only those who have endeavored to collect material on the industrial history of France and Germany for the first half of the nineteenth century will appreciate adequately the full measure of Professor Clapham's achievement. His text is well proportioned despite wide differences in the accessibility of materials; his judgments are sound and free from the doctrinaire elements that disfigure much writing on the period; he shows a remarkable range of genuine sympathy, treating with absolute equality of interest and appreciation the entire list of topics: agriculture, industry, transport, commercial policy, and labor.

High costs of book making have resulted in the elimination of maps of all kinds, and, though we can sympathize with author and publisher, the absence of maps leaves us with regrets at many points. The description of the various agricultural frontiers is very hard to follow without a shaded outline map.

The problem of bibliographical references, too, was settled in a fashion that is not without inconvenience to the reader who wishes to follow out the suggestions of the text. It is undoubtedly superfluous to use footnotes for each detail as is customary in a monograph, but carefully selected references covering the ground of particular chapters are of the greatest value. There are some footnotes, and some general references are given in the preface. The reader is urged to consult the bibliographies in the Cambridge Modern History and in Conrad's *Handwörterbuch* for further detail. Many authors do no more for a reader, but when the author has shown such critical power in the text it is to be regretted that he did not render the further service of a brief but critical bibliography. A comprehensive survey cannot be an end in itself, it fulfills its purposes most fully when it creates a desire to go beyond. The guidance of further research and study is in this sense the highest

function of a book of this character; the better the book, the more important this final service becomes. The author can do much for the average reader and for the growth of scholarship by communicating not only his finished judgments but also his critical reactions to the best literature on the subject at the time of writing. Scholarship is cumulative; growth is stimulated most readily, and progress to the ultimate goal is most direct when the reader is given an opportunity of following the author through the controversial problems of the subject. Several instances of the value of such helps have already come to the attention of the writer, but it is not easy to present the detail of these cases within the compass of the review.

We have been told by Sombart that Germany became a great industrial nation by sheer force of the will to power; Veblen has told us that Germany became great through an unusual racial instinct for imitation; much interpretation of recent European development is based upon the industrial dependence upon coal and iron. Professor Clapham puts forward no simple formula of interpretation, but the writer does not know of any judgment of these matters that can be ranked with Professor Clapham's in its careful discrimination of the relative importance of the political and physical factors involved. The territory of France was not suited to extreme industrialization, especially after the losses of the border provinces; but Professor Clapham feels that more might have been accomplished if the political history of France had been less troubled and the attention of her statesmen less distracted. The influence of the defeat of 1871 is sympathetically appreciated. The relations between economic and political factors in the development of Germany are sketched with clear and sober judgment, notably in respect to the influence of tariff policy upon industry and agriculture.

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The Labor Problem and the Social Catholic Movement in France:
A Study in the History of Social Politics. By PARKER T.
MOON. (New York: The Macmillan Company. 1921. Pp.
xiv, 473.)

The first four words might well have been omitted from the title of Professor Moon's volume. Except for a section in the first chapter, the labor problem in France is described only incidentally to the treatment of the development of the Social Catholic movement and theories.