

BOOK NOTES

Among the interesting institutions recently inaugurated in Belgium under the name *Instituts Solvay* the Institute of Sociology, presided over by M. Emile Maxweiler takes a prominent place. The literary output of this institute comprises three classes of productions—(1) *Notes and Memoirs*, being occasional sociological studies of an original character, as well as scientific criticisms; (2) *Social Studies* dealing with the social sciences in general; and (3) the so-called *Actualités Sociales* or small volumes designed to popularize the subject. Of this last series nine numbers, varying in size from 90 to 300 pages have appeared in 1904 and 1905. The series is inaugurated by a study entitled *Principes d'orientation sociale* by M. Solvay, the founder of the Institute, and among the other interesting studies are those on the "Productivity of the Human Machine;" "Fatigue from a Military Point of View;" "Insurance and Poor relief from a Medical Point of View;" "Corporate Abuses" and "Tenement-House Labor." The studies are not confined to Belgium, as in the case of the "Belgian Coal Industry" but treat of other countries, as the "Protection Movement in England," and "the Struggle against Degeneration in Great Britain."

M. Jean Jaurès's *Studies in Socialism* (London, the Independent Labor Party, 1906) is a conspicuously able defense of that wing of the Socialist party which seeks through gradual reforms, rather than through revolution, to compass the reorganization of industrial society. One of the greatest merits of this book is its freedom from the intolerant spirit which even the greatest socialistic writers display toward fellow Socialists who disagree with them upon matters of practical policy. Under the leadership of men like Jaurès the Socialist party would quickly cease to be an object of dread even for those who most abhor its principles. M. Jaurès insists vigorously upon the necessity of winning over to socialism the vast majority of the citizens of the state before any endeavor should be made to introduce the socialistic scheme in its entirety. Even a respectable minority devoted to existing institutions would, in his opinion, prove an insuperable obstacle in the way of a socialistic state. This view he fortifies with arguments drawn from history and from common sense which it would be extremely difficult for the revolutionary socialist to refute.

In the fifth edition of Professor Werner Sombart's *Sozialismus und*

soziale Bewegung (Fischer, Jena) the facts have been brought down to the beginning of 1906 and the whole work has been remodeled. So scrupulously fair has the author been that he is often mistaken for a Socialist, whereas a careful scrutiny of the book would disclose the fact that the contrary is the case. In its new form the work has all the charm of the old one, which has been translated into all the important modern languages, and which has in Germany reached a sale of over 30,000 copies.

In a little volume entitled *Christian Socialism in England* (London, Swan Sonnenschein & Co., 1903; viii, 208 pp.) Dr. Arthur V. Woodworth gives a scholarly though not very entertaining account of the history of the Christian Socialist movement. The main emphasis of the book is placed upon the religious and ethical aspects of the movement; the discussion of the social aspect is somewhat hazy, as was perhaps inevitable, since the Christian Socialists themselves appear to have had no very clear ideas as to the social order which they hoped would in time replace the competitive society in which they lived.

One of the most picturesque figures in the early anarchist movement in the United States was Josiah Warren. An interesting light is thrown on his struggles by William Bailie in the little biography entitled *Josiah Warren, the First American Anarchist. A Sociological Study*. (Boston: Small, Maynard & Co.) The book does not purport to be a scientific analysis of his doctrines, for which the author is evidently unqualified. It is worthy of note to find the statement that "Warren's theories of value and the reward of labor were not put forth as an explanation of existing economic phenomena, but rather as the principles which, in a perfectly free state of society, would govern economic relations." The author of *Cost, the Limit of Price*, must hence be regarded as an amiable utopist.

One of the latest volumes in the Selections and Documents in Economics edited by Professor Ripley is *Selected Readings in Public Finance*, by Charles J. Bullock. (Ginn & Co.) The editor of this compilation provides a chapter on the literature of public finance and also furnishes the connecting links between extracts from widely varying sources. The chief criticism to be passed upon what is in other respects a most useful work is the comparatively slight attention paid to specifically American problems. The treatment of the general property tax and of the corporation tax—which form the central points in the American revenue systems—is wholly inadequate, and almost no attention is paid to recent developments. In a future edition it would be wise to supplement the Massachusetts Report by those of some of