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Author(s): I. G. Gibbon

Review by: I. G. Gibbon

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nationalisation of land. Humanitarian Socialism the author calls this, and he mentions ten consequences which would result by its adoption. Here are a few : (1) National wealth would increase ; (2) capital would not accumulate in private hands ; (3) the produce of the soil would tend to be more fruitful ; (4) trusts, syndicates, and kindred growths would disappear. There is nothing new in all this, as students of Socialism will see. But it is presented in a readable form, and the remaining essays in the book (Land Reform in the light of Free Trade, the Nationalisation of Mines, and the Housing Question) merely treat of single aspects of the whole.

Somewhat more useful, certainly more modern, is Dr. Wieth-Knudsen's book, but that, too, will appeal to a limited class. Nevertheless, those who do refer to it will find an account of the Russian system of land tenure to-day which is reliable and scientific. That was only to be expected from the work of a high official of the International Agricultural Institute in Rome. Statisticians, moreover, will welcome the great mass of useful matter in the numerous tables with which the book abounds. Dr. Wieth-Knudsen starts out in his introductory chapter with the land and the people, proceeding then to the year 1861, when the Russian peasants ceased to be serfs. But the system of land-holding continued pretty much as before. Farmers had strips assigned them in different fields, and the village community was paramount as to methods of cultivation and crops. All this was changed by the Agricultural Commission appointed in November, 1906. Its work resulted in the concentration of land in one man's hand, according to the prevailing fashion of Western Europe. The change is clearly indicated in two sketch maps of the same village. In the first you may still see the scattered strips ; in the second you already find, not strips, but fields belonging to their several owners. The volume contains besides an excellent map of Russia in illustration of the text, and the copious bibliography is worthy of all praise.

M. EPSTEIN

Die Reichsarbeitslosenversicherung: Zugleich ein Beitrag zur Arbeitslosenfrage überhaupt. By Dr. KARL KUMPMANN. (Pp. 150. Price 3 marks.)

THE first part of the book is a rapid and somewhat cursory survey of unemployment—the nature and amount of unemployment ; the problem of the work-shy, of the defective in ability, and the genuinely unemployed ; labour exchanges ; relief work,

etc. The author is well acquainted with some of the English sources of information. Some of the German figures of unemployment are analysed. The average unemployment is estimated at from 2 per cent. to 3 per cent. of the total number of workpeople. Mention is made of the change in the attitude of the trade unions to labour exchanges. At first the unions claimed to have their own exchanges; now they would be content with exchanges managed by employers and employees in common. The change is due to the advance made by employers in securing their own exchanges. As in this country, relief work is very much more costly than work done under commercial conditions. With regard to labour colonies, it is stated that there were in Prussia twenty-three colonies, with accommodation for 3,700 persons, at the end of 1911, and that over 12,000 persons were received into such colonies in Germany during the year.

The second part of the book is a more detailed examination of unemployment insurance, especially of the schemes in force or suggested in Germany. The author considers that an imperial scheme of compulsory insurance must finally be undertaken, but that the time is not yet ripe for its establishment; more adequate information as to the incidence of unemployment must be obtained and a more extended and developed system of labour exchanges must be secured. He suggests that in the meantime provision for unemployment should be encouraged (1) by the payment, subject to certain conditions, of public subsidies on insurance effected through trade unions, (2) by a compulsory scheme of savings for unemployment, with contributions from the employer as well as the employee, and public subsidy. The second suggestion may seem a little fantastic to English readers, but such a project has been discussed in Germany from time to time. I should not think, however, that there is much likelihood that a scheme of this kind will be adopted by the Imperial Government.

I. G. GIBBON

La Navigazione dal punto di vista economico. By CAMILLO SUPINO. Third edition. (Milan: Ulrico Hoepli. 1913. Pp. xi. + 450.)

THIS treatise is based on Professor Supino's researches in the publications of four languages, together with his own experience as a member of the *Consiglio superiore della Marina Mercantile*. As an economic study the book is interesting not only to the specialist in questions of navigation. The shipping trade of the world is one of the few spheres in which can still be seen the