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do not seem naturally to fall under its title. The bibliography is of great value, being probably the most complete bibliography of railway economic literature in existence. The portion of it dealing with railways in general, omitting of course purely technical and engineering works, covers eleven closely-printed pages, and contains about five hundred separate entries, giving not merely the titles of books dealing solely with railways, but noting also references to railway questions in general economic literature. So too the introduction, which deals with railway policy in theory and practice, gives a sketch of the views which have been current in the leading countries of the world during the last half century in reference to the relations between railways and the State, and forms a synopsis of the utmost value to students of the subject. Dr. Kandt's own position may be seen from its concluding words: 'The question of the railway policy of any country can only be solved when regarded in connection with its entire history and development, and especially its constitution and mode of government.' The continuation of the history, if done with the same care and thoroughness as are displayed in the volume before us, will throw not a little light on the problems of State and Municipal socialism which confront us for solution in England to-day.

W. M. ACWORTH

Mining Royalties, their Practical Operation and Effect. By CHARLES ASHWORTH JAMES. (London: Longmans, Green & Co.)

THIS book is, as the author tells us, based upon the evidence given before the Royal Commission on Mining Royalties, and its object is 'to present in a clear and consecutive form the precise issues raised and contested before the Commission, and to draw such conclusions upon them as the published evidence appears to necessitate.' Mr. Ashworth James is to be congratulated on the thorough manner in which he has performed his task. The reader will find in the book an admirable and intelligent summary of the evidence given before the Commission arranged under convenient heads. In the main the writer agrees with the principal conclusions of the Commission, but suggests that the Commissioners 'attribute more effect on prices to the minimum royalty than it can in practice produce,' inasmuch as in depressed times a considerable number of mines are worked at little or no royalty.

Except as regards the United States of America, Mr. James touches but lightly on the mining systems of foreign countries. He gives prominence however to the evidence of Dr. Raymond, who gave the Commission such a lucid and able description of the mining policy of America based on the private proprietorship of minerals.

The conclusion of the book is that the case against the British

mining system is a special phase of the case against private property in land in general rather than a separate and independent case peculiar to mines and minerals.

J. E. C. MUNRO

The Unemployed. By GEOFFREY DRAGE, Secretary to the Labour Commission. (London : Macmillan & Co. 1894.)

MR. DRAGE'S volume begins and ends in a contention with the Labour Department of the Board of Trade that to most readers will, we think, seem rather of a personal than of a public nature. Yet he is, as it seems to us, himself much indebted to the report of the Labour Department of the Board of Trade for the materials which he uses in his volume. Professor Mavor's Report on Labour Colonies Abroad is placed at his disposal, and utilised. The account of the Poor Law in its relation to employment is a condensation of extracts from the report of the Commission of 1834 quoted in the blue book of the Board of Trade. Out of the tracts and reports of many worthies, whose views on employment under the Poor Law might have been explained, the blue book details only Locke's suggestions on the ground of their 'antiquarian' interest. Mr. Drage follows suit in his volume—he too quotes solely from Locke. Where the Labour Department stops, he stops. He attempts no more than they did to show the relation between the schemes of employment proposed in the last century and the social and legislative condition of England of that time, or how far schemes of a similar character are applicable to our modern conditions.

We chronicle some of his solutions of his problem in regard to one class of the temporarily unemployed. As to these, he relies on a series of smaller remedies, each attacking one or more causes. Fluctuations in industry due to the intermittent nature of season trades and to 'our complicated national and international industrial organisation' are, it is urged, 'hardly preventable;' but if 'the consumers grasped their moral responsibility,' as such, 'for the industrial irregularity which their requirements produce,' they might equalise their orders; and employers influenced by a better public opinion might co-operate so as to equalise the amount of employment at different periods of the year. Next, the laws relating to speculation in trade should be revised. There should be severer penalties against adulteration and fraudulent bankruptcy. Further, in so far as depression is due to 'inability to forecast the fluctuations of trade,' Board of Trade statistics drawn from a larger field of observation and published up to date would be of service. There should also be a speedier settlement of trade disputes. And, finally, there should be, not special relief works started by municipalities, but 'schemes of relief works carried out with due care as part of a national scheme by private agencies.' These are to be established on a small scale. There is to be 'careful