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Author(s): E. Lipson

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Three criticisms of the general structure of the book in relation to its purpose have more weight. The first, and slightest, is that the significance of the widespread and unregulated "household industry" of the Middle Ages is perhaps underrated. When we talk of industry "spreading" to the country, I am inclined to think that often we are pointing to the fact that in a certain district "household" became "market" weavers. Probably Mr. Lipson agrees, as some words on p. 223 suggest. But I should like to have seen the guilds pictured as working against this dim domestic background.

Secondly, the book almost completely neglects all history since 1850, except for a few figures from the industrial census and a reference of readers to a book by Dr. Clapham. I cannot but think that, for the purposes of the series, this is a very grave omission. The introduction of cotton warps, of alpaca and of mohair, the whole shoddy industry and the whole of nineteenth-century trade unionism get into a twelve-line footnote! The industries in 1850 were almost as different from those of 1920 as they were from those of 1800. In 1850 the Woollen Clothiers' Company Mills were in full swing; the mule was far from universal in woollen spinning; very many important woollen businesses used hand-loom only; Leeds was a centre of broadcloth manufacture; and the industrial atmosphere was not really "modern." Upon economic, more perhaps than upon any other class of historians, is laid the duty of bridging the blind spot between fully written history, which always stops a generation or two short of actuality, and the world of to-day. The bridge is not made here.

Thirdly, which is probably the explanation of "secondly," nowhere in the book can one catch the beat of the looms or sniff the rank smell of the wool-washing troughs. Perhaps it is a literary accident; but the text certainly suggests a knowledge of the world of to-day based more on reading about it than on looking at it.

J. H. CLAPHAM

The Yorkshire Woollen and Worsted Industries from the Earliest Times up to the Industrial Revolution. By H. HEATON. (Vol. X of the *Oxford Historical Literary Studies*, edited by C. H. Firth and W. Raleigh.) (Oxford: Clarendon Press. 1920. Pp. 459.)

AMONG the industries of England, the woollen manufacture—*inter reipublicæ columina*, as Camden described it—enjoys pre-

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eminence : partly on account of its long history, which extends over eight centuries, partly on account of its wide geographical distribution. In the volume under review, which has grown out of a thesis written for the Honours School of Modern History in the University of Leeds, Mr. Heaton makes no attempt to cover the whole field of this history. Of the three great manufacturing areas associated with the woollen industry—East Anglia, the West Country, and Yorkshire—he deals only with one, namely, Yorkshire; and even the history of the Yorkshire industry is carried down only to “the eve of the Industrial Revolution.” But within the limits thus indicated Mr. Heaton has produced a scholarly piece of work. He has evidently spared no pains to make himself acquainted with the original sources, and the especial value of his book lies in the fact that he has utilised not only the documents preserved in the British Museum and the Record Office, but also “papers found in various parts of the West Riding, chiefly in the hands of local authorities and the cellars of solicitors’ offices.” Traversing ground which had already been covered in a general way by Dr. Maud Sellers in her excellent chapter on the “Textile Industries” in *The Victoria County History of Yorkshire*, Mr. Heaton has supplied many interesting details and thrown light on obscure points. One may commend in particular the use which the author has made of the Aulnage Rolls, the discussion of the trade depression in the reign of James I, and the account of the great Yorkshire trials which are so illuminating for the study of the Yorkshire textile industry.

On points of detail Mr. Heaton’s book—like every other book which handles a great number of facts—invites occasional comment. The statement that the Ordinance of 1326 forbade any person to wear foreign cloth “except royalty, nobility and those paying an annual rental of £30 or over” (p. 13) seems a *lapsus calami*. What Edward II’s Ordinance of the Staple enacted was that foreign cloth should not be worn except by the royal family, the nobility, dignitaries of the Church, and persons “who can spend forty pounds sterling a year of their rents,” *i. e.* landowners whose income from the rents of their land was forty pounds a year. It is not invariably true that “the master alone was eligible for the offices of the gild and he alone voted in the elections” (p. 37). At Beverley—to take the example of a Yorkshire town—the “journeyman brethren” of the Weavers’ gild had a vote in the election of officers, and elsewhere it was not unknown for journeymen even to hold office as wardens.

In a good discussion of the wages paid to textile workers Mr. Heaton appears to imply (p. 110) that the Act of 1563 was not definitely applied to the textile industries until 1603, but the principle of assessment of wages by justices of the peace embodied in the Elizabethan Statute was definitely extended to the woollen industry in 1597-8, and the novelty of the Jacobean measure lay in its minimum-wage clauses. The author remarks that it is somewhat surprising to find the justices fixing time-rates for weaving instead of piece-rates (p. 112). But, as the justices of Gloucestershire discovered in 1756 when they were called upon to regulate the wages of textile workers, it was not an easy matter to frame equitable piece-rates for weaving. Many technical factors had to be considered: the number and size of the threads, the weight of the warp, the fineness of the weft, the breadth of the cloth, and the technical skill of the weaver. We cannot agree with Mr. Heaton that "the worsted industry which grew up around Bradford . . . was an expansion made largely by outrivalling the East Anglian worsted manufacturer" (p. 259), or that the prosperity of Norwich "continued until about the sixties of the eighteenth century, when the competition of the North . . . began to bring about its decline" (p. 264). The success of the Yorkshire worsted men was not achieved at the expense of the Norwich trade, since the latter was growing at the same time: indeed, Arthur Young states that the trade of Norwich was trebled between 1700 and 1770; moreover, the Norwich manufacturers made the finer qualities of worsted and the Yorkshire manufacturers the middle and lower qualities. There is, in fact, no real evidence of a decline in the Norwich trade until the second and third decades of the nineteenth century.

In connection with the textile inventions the author remarks: "The fact that most of the inventions came in the cotton manufacture suggests that in a new industry . . . technical progress is likely to be more rapid" (p. 323). Yet Kay's fly shuttle, Paul's carding machine, Cartwright's combing machine, and possibly his power-loom, "came" first in the woollen and worsted industries. The textile inventions lie, of course, outside the range of Mr. Heaton's investigations, but he thinks that they "were adopted very slowly in the West Riding industry." This is a debatable point. In the preliminary processes of the woollen industry—scribbling, carding, and slubbing—the use of machinery was already general in the last decade of the eighteenth century; as regards spinning, the jenny was used soon after its invention, and a worsted factory with water-frames was erected at Adding-

ham as early as 1787; in the case of weaving the fly-shuttle was adopted by the West Riding clothiers in the inventor's own lifetime, and though the power-loom made tardy progress owing to technical reasons, there were between five and six thousand looms in the woollen and worsted industries in 1835.

Although Mr. Heaton deals at length with the domestic system of Yorkshire, the picture which he draws hardly does justice to the really salient features of industrial organisation in the North of England. He writes :

“The Report of the Parliamentary Committee of 1806 has created the impression that the differences between the industrial organisation in Yorkshire and the West of England were fundamental. This was not so.” The “difference between the character of the Yorkshire and West of England clothiers . . . was a matter of degree rather than of kind” (p. 92).

It is true that Yorkshire contained a class of large clothiers who corresponded to the clothiers of the West Country, but the typical clothier of the North was the small “domestic manufacturer,” and it was this latter class, the counterpart of the yeomanry in agriculture, which enlisted the unstinted admiration of contemporaries. Now the domestic manufacturer was a manual craftsman who worked up the wool through all the different stages in his own house, assisted by his wife, children, and journeymen. The West Country clothier, on the other hand, was not a manual worker, but an employer of labour who sometimes employed as many as 800 persons or even more. In short, the clothier of the North was a workman who owned the material on which he worked, while the clothier of the West was a capitalist who differs from the modern captain of industry in the respect that his employees did their work at home. A domestic manufacturer whose business prospered might develop into a large clothier of the West Country pattern, but the study of industrial conditions in the West of England reveals a structure of society essentially different from that existing in the North. Mr. Heaton lays stress upon the defects of the Yorkshire domestic system, but he does not point out the great merits which the class of domestic manufacturers had in the eyes of contemporaries—the absence of friction between masters and men, and the opportunities afforded for every workman to gain his economic independence.

Two minor points may be noticed. Blackwell Hall was pur-

chased by the "Mayor and Commonalty" of London, not in 1397 (p. 147), but as Mr. Kingsford has shown in his edition of Stow's *Survey*, in 1396. The date of the repeal of the "law concerning apprenticeship" in the woollen industry was not 1813 (p. 312), but 1809; it was in 1814 that the repeal was made general for all industries.

Mr. Heaton's book is the first in the series of *Oxford Historical and Literary Studies* which deals with Economic History. We welcome the innovation in the hope that the editors will endeavour to give us similar studies equal in interest and in scholarly merit.

E. LIPSON

The League of Nations Starts. (London: Macmillan. 1920.
Pp. vii + 282. Price 10s. 6d.)

It is the special merit of *The League of Nations Starts* that it traces the origins and makes known for the first time in handy and inclusive form those aspects and institutions of the League which have received little attention compared to the Assembly, the Council, the Secretariat and the Permanent Court of Justice, though these also, of course, are dealt with,—in contributions from M. Bourgeois and Mr. Fosdick. Out of thirteen contributions four deal with economics, finance, communications (M. Claveille) and health (Mr. R. P. Strong), one with the International Labour Organisation (Mr. H. B. Butler), one with the administration of the Saar and Danzig, and one with mandates and the protection of minorities (Mr. Ormsby Gore), while Dr. Shotwell's very suggestive essay on "First Pages from the History of the League of Nations" is orientated towards such functions of the League as those fulfilled by the Technical Organisations. It is, however, in some ways unfortunate that the book was published before the meeting of the Assembly, for very important decisions were then taken concerning the Technical Organisations of the League.

Of particular value and interest are the chapters on "The Inter-Allied Machinery in War-Time" and on "Economics and Finance," the former by Mr. Rublee, one of the Delegates to the Inter-Allied Maritime Transport Council, the latter by Mr. Salter, now Secretary-General of the Reparations Commission. These chapters, in conjunction with Sir Maurice Hankey's paper on "Diplomacy by Conference," read before the British Institute for International Affairs and printed in the *Round Table* (March,