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Review

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not, unfortunately, go beyond 1900, whereas Mr. Heaton takes his subject up to and beyond the war.

The book can also be recommended to students who require a useful historical account of the labour and socialist movements in various countries up to 1921. The book was planned for the Australian Workers' Educational Association, and that perhaps accounts for the fact that working-class movements and socialist opinion are unduly stressed in a book entitled "Economic History." After all a history should chronicle actual accomplishment, and the accomplishments of the labour movement as compared, say, with the capitalist creation of railways, steamships, cables and electricity, have been small. Yet one would look in the index in vain for either "railway" or "steamship," a curious omission in the history of a country practically focused upon England from the very beginning for its markets and its capital. To such a country sea communications are its life-blood, whatever the views of its labour party. Mr. Heaton says in his Preface that he does not deal with public finance. But it cannot be left out of account in a country like Australia, which owes so much of her rapid economic development to England's loans, and in which the indebtedness per head reached the enormous sum of £131 3s. 10d. in 1917-18 (*Commonwealth Year Book*, 1919, p. 798).

L. KNOWLES

The Industrial State. By M. D. STOCKS, B.Sc. (London : Collins Clear Type Press. 1921. Pp. 319. Price 4s.)

MRS. STOCKS has surmounted the difficulties of the textbook writer with remarkable success. She has produced an introduction to English economic history which is clear, admirably proportioned, vivid and accurate. We begin with a glance at the Middle Ages. Though the Church forbade usury, and the Government thundered against engrossers, fore-stallers and regrators, we must not suppose that mediæval life was all jam. Robbery and assault, fire, pestilence and famine make human life both insecure and uncomfortable. To understand the Middle Ages we must understand "the structure of their economic life." This Mrs. Stocks should certainly help her readers to do by her altogether admirable twenty-page sketch of the manor and the gild, a miniature portrait of quite exceptional skill. Two chapters on the "Close of the Middle Ages" and the "Birth of a Sea Power" carry us over the rise of the money economy, the Black Death and the legislation which followed and ignored

it, introduce us to the domestic system in the cloth industry, and show the relations of our island to a rapidly expanding world with a new scale of international values. Thus we are landed in the first "Age of Paternalism," concerning which the author sagely remarks, "It is possible that some of our fatherly Tudor legislation was just a little grandmotherly."

As she approaches the modern age, Mrs. Stocks handles her subject well. Without belittling the importance of the Industrial Revolution she avoids giving the too common impression that history broke off sharply about 1762, to start again on quite new lines thereafter. She is cheerful, more cheerful than some of us would be, about the future of the Great Society, and dismisses Malthus with an assurance that "his soul may rest in peace, for in spite of his grim apprehensions our food supply has more than kept pace." In the chapter entitled "The Great Society comes of Age" the "problem of Labour and Capital" is somewhat boldly disposed of in a single paragraph.

There are naturally some omissions in this little book. For instance, we are surprised to find no mention of the invention of printing, nor any of the penny post. But these do not seriously impair the great merits of the book, which should be read by many more than the Continuation School pupils for whom it is primarily intended. An old story so remarkably well told is as well calculated to refresh the interest of the "professional" as to stimulate inquiry in the learner.

BARBARA WOOTTON

Government and Industry. By C. DELISLE BURNS. (London : George Allen & Unwin, Ltd. Pp. 315. Price in Great Britain, 16s. net.)

MR. BURNS attempts, in his publishers' words, to describe "the existing relations between the British Government and the industrial system and the tendencies that indicate (in the author's opinion) the formation of an organised economic community."

The author appears to take a middle position in the controversy between "freedom" and "interference." He rejects much of the reasoning of the *laissez-faire* school, and holds that, far from there being a necessary antagonism between the government and industry, "what makes the British experience specially important is that the movement between government and industry