

Prestige: A Psychological Study of Social Estimates. By LEWIS LEOPOLD. London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1913. Pp. 350. 10s. 6d. net.

This is a book of subtle observation and of keen insight. It is written in something of the manner of those earlier observers and commentators upon human behavior of whom Montaigne and La Rochefoucauld are perhaps the best examples. It is stylistic and clever, innocent of abstractions, but not always clear, the fruit of much observation and wide reading.

The wide range which studies of human nature have taken in recent times has, on the whole, tended to discourage the broad, leisurely, and philosophic view of human character and conduct characteristic of the earlier observers. The study of human life has fallen into the hands of specialists whose minute studies have produced an enormous amount of brute fact, the interpretation of which, because of the narrow range of their studies, has too often turned out to be rather barren and abstract.

The social sciences undoubtedly can still profit from the observation and study of those men who have retained the habit of looking at life broadly and who base their knowledge of human nature, not merely on the fruits of special studies, but upon the casual and intimate observation of life at first hand. This is, perhaps, the chief merit of the present volume. It is the work of a scholar but also of an observer, one who has studied human nature with something of that affectionate interest with which a naturalist studies bugs.

The thesis of the book is that prestige must be looked upon as a psychological, rather than as a moral, value. It is something, in short, that we must study disinterestedly as we would any other object in nature. The author has attempted to exhibit systematically, in all the important relations of life, the manner in which the influence of prestige exercises a subtle and often unperceived influence, especially over our moral and aesthetic judgments. To the extent, however, that our judgments of the values of life are subject to this insidious bias, prestige becomes a force that must be reckoned with.

Among the subjects discussed in this volume are: "Prestige and Democracy," "Prestige and Love," "Prestige and Religion," "Prestige and Economic Life," "Prestige and Brute Force," "Prestige and Intellect," "Prestige and Abnormality." One of the most interesting chapters in the book is that in which the author describes the intimate relations existing between prestige and prejudice, two forces which

play so important a part in the racial and class conflicts which have assumed a prominent place in the modern scene. Interesting, in this connection, is the author's description of the manner and circumstances under which prejudice may be converted into prestige.

The book is valuable for the wealth of acute observation and subtle suggestion which it contains, as well as for its main purpose of bringing the subject of prestige into the field of scientific observation and of making it an object of study.

ROBERT E. PARK

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

The Development of Modern Turkey as Measured by Its Press.

By AHMED EMIN, PH.D. Vol. LIX, No. 1, "Columbia University Studies in History, Economics and Public Law." New York: Longmans, Green & Co., agents, 1914. Pp. 270. \$1.00.

Much has been written about the "power of the press," and there is, or used to be, a pretty general conviction that the newspaper, unrestrained in its activities, was vital to the existence of democratic institutions. Very little has been done as yet, however, either to describe the nature and function, or to define the character and limits, of the power and control which the press exercises. This volume, which is primarily historical, is a contribution to our knowledge of the subject. While its chief interest is, perhaps, in the intimate glimpse that it gives into the working of the forces that are making history in Turkey today, it presents at the same time a striking illustration of the way in which great and revolutionary changes have been effected through the medium of the printed page.

The effect of the press in Turkey has been to release and set in motion immense social forces which had only needed the contact with modern life to stimulate them into action. The Young Turk Movement is evidently the product of the newspaper and its history is bound up with the extension, to isolated communities of the empire, of modern machinery for the communication of ideas and sentiments.

No special attempt has been made in this volume to do more than present the outstanding facts, and no effort has been made to draw any general conclusions in regard to the influence or function of the press in society generally. Its value to the student of the newspaper is that of a sourcebook. It offers an opportunity to study the effect