WILEY

Review

Author(s): Arthur Greenwood

Review by: Arthur Greenwood

Source: *The Economic Journal*, Vol. 25, No. 97 (Mar., 1915), pp. 73-74

Published by: Wiley on behalf of the Royal Economic Society

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2222488>

Accessed: 26-06-2016 04:41 UTC

Your use of the JSTOR archive indicates your acceptance of the Terms & Conditions of Use, available at
<http://about.jstor.org/terms>

JSTOR is a not-for-profit service that helps scholars, researchers, and students discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content in a trusted digital archive. We use information technology and tools to increase productivity and facilitate new forms of scholarship. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Royal Economic Society, *Wiley* are collaborating with JSTOR to digitize, preserve and extend access to
The Economic Journal

reason why it should do so in Mr. Terry's text; but one cannot well see how its men (Astenses they would ordinarily be) could become it, so to speak, by way either of Latin, French, or Italian. If Boston is to be St. Botholf it ought not to be the port of Lincoln (p. 175); it was Boston elsewhere (p. 147). Winchester and Wynchester occur within six lines of one another (p. 174-5).

This kind of thing renders one suspicious of Mr. Terry's details. His broader conclusions cannot be so impugned and are valuable. His study of the competition among Italian, English, and Hanse financial groups brings out the strength of the English merchants in the 'thirties and 'forties of the fourteenth century, and goes to support the growing body of evidence in favour of those who think that the dependence of England on foreign traders and financiers, late in the thirteenth and early in the fourteenth century, has been exaggerated. I doubt whether it had been made quite clear before that the Crecy campaign and the siege of Calais were financed entirely by Englishmen (p. 142), though we have long possessed a study of the *nouveau riches* of the fourteenth century. Mr. Terry corrects some current notions about the bankruptcy of the Bardi and Peruzzi and Edward's share of the blame. He adds to our knowledge of the finance of the staple and to our knowledge of King Edward's shuffling with the moneylenders of many nations. But it is exceedingly difficult to extract from his story a clear view of any given group of financial operations. In fairness one should add that only a very ripe scholar, with an unusual combination of interests and equipments, could be expected to make these things clear. Dr. W. R. Scott could, if he turned his attention to the Middle Ages. So could various mediævalists, whom one might mention, if they happened really to understand finance. The difficulty is that the truth must be pulled direct from the MS.

J. H. CLAPHAM

Boy Life and Labour. By ARNOLD FREEMAN, with a Preface by Dr. M. E. Sadler. (London: P. S. King & Son. Pp. xiii + 252. Price 3s. 6d. net.)

THE problems of the adolescent in industry are attracting an increasing number of students, and probably on no side of the social question has more work been done during the last ten or fifteen years than in the field of juvenile labour, especially so far as boys are concerned. Mr. Freeman's volume is a welcome

addition to the existing literature on the subject. The book deals with both the general and the particular ; herein lies its weakness. For example, it is questionable, in spite of the defence which Mr. Freeman attempts (p. 19), whether a general treatment of adolescence is desirable. Some other passages dealing with boy labour in general add little or nothing to the value of the book. Its value is to be found in the author's own inquiry into the question in Birmingham.

Mr. Freeman's purpose was "to find out why large numbers of boys became 'failures' (using the word in a very broad sense) so early in life ; and, if possible, how many boys were thus unfortunate." The investigation was confined to boys belonging to "the great mass of 'unskilled' boy workers, variously estimated as half, two-thirds, or three-quarters of the whole." "The 'superior' boy (usually making for the highly-paid and better-class manual work)" is excluded, on the one hand, and the youthful street trader and casual, on the other. Mr. Freeman's method was to take a manageable number of boys, and make a detailed individual inquiry into the circumstances of each. Seventy-one boys, believed to be typical, provided Mr. Freeman with his "raw material." Records at the Labour Exchange, and in the hands of the local Education Authority, were utilised, homes were visited, and boys interviewed. Mr. Freeman kept in touch with the boys so far as possible, and made himself acquainted with what he considered to be the main influences in their lives—boys' clubs, picture palaces, music-halls, football matches, and cheap literature. We are given, therefore, a detailed picture of both the industrial and non-industrial influences at work during the period of adolescence and which, in the absence of wise control and continued education, succeed in nullifying in a large degree the earlier influences of the school. In analysing the effects of these social forces in conjunction with the results of employment, Mr. Freeman has made a valuable contribution to the literature on juvenile labour questions. His suggestions as to possible remedies follow lines which are now fairly familiar. His remarks regarding the danger of over-emphasising the importance of technical training are specially useful at a time when, through lack of knowledge of industrial conditions and organisation, educationists are urging its general application.

-ARTHUR GREENWOOD