

which he analyzes into a dozen or a dozen and a half logical and mathematical categories. Since the whole world of which we have any knowledge is the subject of investigation, this undertaking involves a very high degree of generality. Readers will probably be restricted to those willing to follow the author's close-wrought analytical argument.

The book lies at the frontiers of logic, mathematics, philosophy, and economics. It had its inspiration, we are told, in the writings of Herbert Spencer, and it may aptly be described as a synthetic philosophy of the accomplishment of results throughout the known universe. Such synthesizing, it need hardly be pointed out, has usually to be done over very often, and at best seldom permanently satisfies more than a few minds. In spite of these unavoidable objections, the book shows a vast amount of insight into the nature of reality, and clarifies some highly important and useful modes of activity, such as re-use, unit and multiplier, groupings, rhythm, limitation, externality, and others. The short, clear-cut illustrations scattered through the various chapters are very suggestive. Extended lists of questions and exercises are appended.

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The Pittsburgh District: Civic Frontage. The Pittsburgh Survey. Edited by PAUL U. KELLOGG. New York: Survey Associates, Inc., 1914. Pp. xx+554. \$2.50.

Industrial relations and civic conditions, especially of the wage-earning population, were the two general objects of investigation in the Pittsburgh survey. Five volumes were allotted to the reports on the former, one to the latter. The present volume contains, in addition to these minor investigations, all of the general material in the entire survey; it is *the* general volume, so far as the survey can be said to contain a general volume. The following reports are of such a nature: (1) a short statement of the most significant conclusions from the preliminary investigations by Edward T. Devine; (2) an interpretation of the growth of Pittsburgh by Robert A. Woods, describing the geographical situation, the racial composition of the population, the economic activities, the earlier mental attitudes, the recent political changes and the cultural institutions; (3) a description by Allen T. Burns of the progressive change from sectional interests to an interest in a unified organic development of the city; and (4) an appendix by Paul U. Kellogg on the field work of the survey. This statement of the purposes and methods of the survey by the director is of very considerable importance

from the standpoint of sociological methods. The purpose is said to be to test the institutions and conditions by a distinctly human measure—the household experiences of wage-earners; to relate the needs to each other so that a synthetic picture of the community may be formed, and, further, to be of immediate service to the community by graphic presentation of the findings and by co-operation with local agencies. This general purpose has been widely approved and generally adopted in subsequent surveys.

The principal part of this volume is the series of monographs on civic conditions. Four reports are on housing, and one on each of the following subjects: typhoid fever, the courts, the system of taxation, schools, playgrounds, public library, and the institutions for normal dependent children. These reports describe not only the archaic social institutions as they existed at the time of the investigations, such as aldermanic courts, the ward school district, family garbage disposal, and unregenerate charitable institutions, but also many recent modifications, due in part at least to the original investigations, in school administration, tax system, provisions for health, housing laws, and courts. For the findings were not reserved for a final formal report but were released whenever they promised to be immediately serviceable.

The table of contents contains a brief sketch of each author, showing his standing and equipment, and a statement of the place of previous appearance of each monograph.

This volume is a very essential part of the general plan of the survey. Most subsequent surveys, in fact, contain little else than the type of reports included in this volume. The volume is valuable, not only as a part of the most monumental of American surveys, but also for the great amount of accurately determined information in the special studies. Pittsburgh has had the opportunity of becoming acquainted with her civic conditions as no other city in the United States has. But it is not possible to pass immediately from these studies to social control. The editor states, in fact, that “with a few exceptions the intensive work has still to be done.” And the studies of civic conditions are less exhaustive than the previous reports on industrial relations. In addition this volume, and consequently the survey as a whole, has no general summary or interpretation of results. The survey is a series of reports which are largely disconnected except for the fact that they are dealing with the same population at about the same date; they do not form a definite “synthetic picture.” It is not only an exceedingly difficult task for the reader to piece these studies together to form such a picture, but it is

quite impossible to do so in the way it could have been done by the members of the staff who were in contact with the case studies and family biographies. While we are informed that each investigator found his work weaving into that of the others, we cannot clearly discover the extent to which the various institutions are related and cannot correlate the results. In this statement exception should be made, however, of the study of child-helping institutions by Miss Lattimore, which does show the correlations specifically and clearly.

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The Mental Health of the School Child. The Psycho-educational Clinic in Relation to Child Welfare. Contributions to a new science of orthophrenics and orthosomatics. By J. E. WALLACE WALLIN. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1914. Pp. xiii+463. \$2.00.

With the application of the experimental method to mental phenomena by Wundt, Helmholtz, and others some forty years ago, a purely rational and introspective discipline was transformed into a science. The early researches of the experimental psychologists seemed remote indeed from concrete, social life. Chronoscopes, plethysmographs, kymographs, and acoumeters seemed to have but little contact with life. William James, writing in 1890 on the methods and snares of psychology, has this to say about the experimental method: "But psychology is passing into a less simple phase. Within a few years what one may call a microscopic psychology has arisen in Germany, carried on by experimental methods, asking of course every moment for introspective data, but eliminating their uncertainty by operating on a large scale and taking statistical means. This method taxes the patience to the utmost, and could hardly have arisen in a country whose natives could be *bored*. Such Germans as Weber, Fechner, Vierordt, and Wundt obviously cannot; and their success has brought into the field an array of younger experimental psychologists, bent on studying the *elements* of the mental life, dissecting them out from the gross results in which they are embedded and as far as possible reducing them to quantitative scales. The simple and open method of attack having done what it can, the method of patience, starving out, and harassing to death is tried; the Mind must submit to a regular *siege*, in which minute advantages gained night and day by the forces that hem her in