

and that of Hegel (the last two in particular being conspicuous examples of keen analysis and lucid statement), the editor's article on "Belief," President Wheeler's on "Language," and a long article on "Laboratories of Psychology," by Professor Warren and others.

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Inductive Sociology: A Syllabus of Methods, Analyses and Classifications, and Provisionally Formulated Laws. By FRANKLIN HENRY GIDDINGS, Ph. D., LL. D., Professor in Columbia University, New York. Pp. 302. Price, \$2.00. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1901.

Suggestive and stimulating as Professor Giddings' other works have been, for the scientific student of society this book has a much higher value. Indeed, it may be doubted whether as an illustration of the application of scientific method to the study of social phenomena it has a superior. It is a most successful attempt to show how that method can be applied to the study of the problems of social life. It is perhaps not too much to say that this book, despite certain faults, represents the high-water mark of scientific sociology in America. As such its value should be cordially recognized by every American sociologist.

The book is a radical departure in that it proposes to demonstrate even the most general propositions of sociological theory by the statistical method. The author admits that exact statistics cannot be obtained, but thinks that exactness in statistics is not required for the demonstration of social laws; that all that is necessary to prove in many cases in the quantitative analysis of social facts is the "more or the less."¹ Whether this important modification of statistical method is sound or not, every scientific student of society will commend the proposal to make larger use of statistical material. Professor Giddings deserves the appreciation of his co-workers for this departure from the beaten path of sociological method.

While the work is free from those errors in logic and psychology which characterized his earlier work, "The Principles of Sociology," Professor Giddings has not wholly broken away from his fallacies of the past. He still attempts to interpret all social phenomena in terms of one elementary fact, namely, "like-mindedness," or "the consciousness of kind."² So far as Professor Giddings makes this his leading theory, and attempts to make the whole social process

¹ See pp. 23, 24.

² See Part II, chapters i, ii, iii and iv.

revolve around this fact, he is guilty of leaving the standpoint of inductive sociology and of reducing induction to a mere method of fortifying deduction. Part II, on "The Social Mind," shows no clear evidence of formulation through induction. It is in spirit and method, in fact throughout, deductive; and induction, when used, is used to corroborate the "leading theory." We can hardly properly call this "inductive sociology." If Professor Giddings had interpreted social phenomena in terms of other elementary facts, such as "co-ordination" and "imitation," he would not again have been guilty of letting his "leading theory" run away with him, and thus vitiate the whole process of induction. The process of induction must be controlled and checked, not by one "leading theory," but by many hypotheses. The emphasis of this elementary principle of inductive logic would have been salutary in a present work on inductive sociology.

Professor Giddings does not often enough take the functional point of view in his description of social reality. He does not describe the social process *teleologically*, but looks at it from the point of view of structure. He looks at society in cross-section and not in movement.

The view he presents of society is *non-evolutionary*. It leads one to see it as a stationary process, confined within the limits of apparent antecedent causes. However, Professor Giddings meets this criticism by a statement in the preface that "studies of the historical evolution of society, and of the deeper problems of causation, are not included." In a work of the scope of Professor Giddings' the functional and evolutionary points of view should have been more largely introduced. There can be no true view of society which is not functional and evolutionary. The process of society is essentially and primarily teleological, and any interpretation not teleological will be mechanical and therefore false.

The most important criticism of the book is that Professor Giddings lays more stress on the method of quantitative analysis than on the nature of the subject-matter of sociology. This position is in no way inconsistent with a full appreciation of the value of the statistical method. Methods of measurement should be employed in sociology wherever they can be, in order to give the science as much exactness as possible. But care should be taken not to over-emphasize mathematics in the methodology of the social sciences, for much of the phenomena with which they deal is capable only of qualitative analysis and not of quantitative measurement. If this fact be not clearly recognized at the outset the whole subject of sociology may be easily brought into disrepute, for a sociology that wholly depends upon mathematical method is foredoomed to failure. Sociology, in com-

mon with all psychical sciences, submits itself to logic rather than to mathematics as its controlling and regulative discipline, and its essential method of generalization is not through quantitative measurement, but rather through qualitative analysis of facts.

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Introduction to the Study of the Dependent, Defective and Delinquent Classes, and of Their Social Betterment. By CHARLES RICHMOND HENDERSON. Pp. viii, 397. Price, \$1.50. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co., 1901.

The work is a revision of a volume published eight years ago under the same title. Since the earlier edition many changes have been made and matter has been added as a result, the author states, of "wider reading and further practical experience in charity organization work and class-room instruction." The book is divided into four parts: 1. The Phenomena of Dependence and Their Explanation; 2. Social Organization for the Relief and Care of Dependents; 3. Social Arrangements for the Education, Relief, Care and Custody of Defectives; 4. An Introduction to Criminal Sociology. The first part is theoretical and considers the general conditions which are responsible for the Social Debtor and the Anti-Social Classes. The other parts are largely practical. The work is comprehensive and well suited to use as a text. In fact it is the only work in English covering the entire field. In the practical parts the work is largely descriptive, giving methods and purposes in treating the dependent, defective and criminal Classes. The author, however, has definite opinions as to the causes of the various classes receiving special care by society, and passes judgment on the institutions organized for their treatment and the methods employed. This adds greatly to the value of the work. We are interested in knowing what institutions exist and what methods are employed in them to care for these various classes; but we feel that a man who has devoted years to both theoretical study and practical work has a right to speak with authority.

The author severely arraigns the system of public indoor relief where sexes mingle, where respectable poor people are compelled to associate with the feeble-minded, "the debased, the diseased and criminal," and where children are compelled to grow up "in these abodes of the unfit," where "the natural avenues to wholesome living—industry, school, church—are closed." He advocates that children should never be kept in county poorhouses, that "men and women should be housed in non-communicating wards," and that "inmates should be separated on lines of character and habits."