

the peasant cannot but develop and socialize him, and so build for individual independence and national welfare.

Herr Köhler writes from no cursory acquaintance with the socialist movement. If his work remains a somewhat heated polemic against the Social Democratic party, it is not because he has failed to acquaint himself with the theories and the personnel of the movement. He arraigns the doctrine and its political expression from no mere prejudice, but from the matured conviction of one who has made unlimited research among the most recent writings of his notably prolific adversaries. The reader of his work will find himself in touch with an enormous bibliography. It would perhaps be well for the candid inquirer, before accepting the views of Herr Köhler, to read in connection with them some less unsympathetic study of the socialistic agrarian movement—such, for example, as the lengthy chapter in Professor Edgard Milhaud's *La démocratie socialiste allemande*—and note how citations from some of the same writings as those on which Herr Köhler bases his opinions can lead another to somewhat different conclusions. In that it is perfectly true that the future progress of the Social Democratic agitation now rests with the conquest of the peasant, books such as this of Herr Köhler have special interest, and any student of the political movement in Germany, or any student of the socialist movement, will find much to repay his reading of this latest of many attacks upon the much-belabored socialists, who, open as they are to much of the criticism that Herr Köhler with so many others has leveled at them, have always this much in their favor: that, creating adversaries, they at least arouse men from Philistine satisfaction with existing conditions; asserting extreme social disorders, they fix attention on those really existing; developing a theory of social service and associated effort on fallacious grounds, they press the social question, and force him who would refute their doctrine to propound a sounder theory of social growth.

JESSICA B. PEIXOTTO.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA.

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*The United States and Porto Rico.* By L. S. ROWE. New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1904. 16mo, pp. xiv + 271.

PROFESSOR ROWE is well prepared for the discussion of Porto Rican problems by a residence on the island as a member of two commissions to revise and codify the laws.

It is to the political and legal problems of the island that he especially addresses himself in this volume, with some incidental reference, however, to economic conditions and problems. The decisions of the Supreme Court in the Insular Cases are reviewed at considerable length; a chapter is devoted to the racial composition of the population; and several chapters to an historical sketch of the changes that have taken place in Porto Rico since the American occupation—the establishment of civil government, the reorganization of the system of local government and of the judicial system, the gradual introduction of trial by jury, etc. The chapter on financial reorganization outlines the provisions of the Hollander Act, and predicts that the island will soon need to borrow money for the execution of public works, a necessity thus far avoided through the generosity of the federal government. The author considers it no small tribute to the ability of those who have directed the finances of the island, that, in spite of the ruinous effects of the hurricane of 1899, and the temporarily depressing influence of the change of standard from silver to gold, the insular treasury should have been able to meet all its obligations with such promptness as to command the confidence of investors in the States, and at the same time furnish a salutary lesson in economy foresight, and prudence to the people of the island.

Whether viewed from an industrial, political, or social standpoint, Professor Rowe thinks the conditions are very favorable for the successful solution of the problems confronting Porto Rico. The next ten years, he predicts, are likely to witness a remarkable industrial development of the island, not only in the production of sugar, but also in the coffee, tobacco, and fruit industries; coffee, indeed, may again become the dominant crop, as it was before the disastrous hurricane of 1899. This, however, it may be added, will depend largely upon the development of a demand for Porto Rican coffee in the United States.

An appendix brings the historical matter down to the close of the legislative session of 1904, and an index makes the volume useful for ready reference.

MAX WEST.

WASHINGTON, D. C.