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Review

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sending boots to America, recommended as his only chance by Mr. Williams: as these things do not come in thunder-claps, probably everything will be right if he brings up two of his sons to be hatters, and only one to be a bootmaker, instead of two to be bootmakers and one to be a hatter as he originally intended. But why in a country practising free trade should we suppose any diversion of trade to be required? The actual state of things is more like this, taking England and France and boots and hats to be symbols of countries exchanging and commodities exchanged. In England there are now *two* hatters producing four hats: in France there are *two* bootmakers producing four pairs of boots; and two English hats are exchanged for two French pairs of boots. Mr. Williams suddenly stops the importation of French boots. Then one of the hatters must abandon hatting and take to bootmaking, unless both hatters go barefoot, and wear two hats to make up at the other end. There is of course just as much (and as little) justification for saying that a decrease of foreign imports will throw people out of employment or "leave them out in the cold" as for saying that an increase of foreign imports will do so. It is a pity Mr. Cox did not pin Mr. Williams securely on this exceedingly elementary fact, instead of trying to follow him on less important matters. He would, too, have done well to avoid accepting and using that absolutely meaningless phrase of protectionist origin, "commercial supremacy." It is scarcely worth while following the controversy in detail. Mr. Chiozza's introduction contains many useful reminders as to the actual facts of our foreign trade.

EDWIN CANNAN.

*Économie Sociale. Rapports du Jury International de l'Exposition universelle internationale de 1900 à Paris. Introduction générale. Sixième partie.* Par CHARLES GIDE. (Paris: Imprimerie Nationale. 1902. 337 pp. 4to.)

It will be a great misfortune if the blight which seems to fall with fatal certainty upon Government publications should prevent this volume from reaching the hands of the thousands of economists who would be interested and profited by its study. The long-desired synthesis of social science is still to seek. We have here, at any rate, an admirable bird's-eye view of the world up-to-date in the efforts which have been made to improve the condition of the people. Professor Gide sketches briefly the increasing recognition accorded to Social Economy in the great Paris Exhibitions since 1867, when Le Play was obliged to press personally upon Napoleon III. his recommendation to include it in his scheme of organisation. And he shows us how the Section in 1900 fell short of the fine ideal which he himself sketches out. "Great Britain," he observes, "was not generous. She sent but crumbs from her treasures. Her two principal panels were occupied, one by a fine table in gilt letters giving

the figures of the Co-operative movement in England, with photographs of its principal Stores, the other by an immense map of London, translating the admirable enquiry pursued by Mr. Charles Booth, these ten years past, into the life and labour of the London poor—a gigantic labour! A few curves of Friendly Societies, a few photographs of reformatories and industrial schools, and that was almost all. Nothing on Trades Unionism, on the industrial enterprises which are trying co-partnership, on boards of conciliation and arbitration, on cheap dwellings, on the effects of municipal socialism." Fortunately the glossary sometimes completes the text, though the text itself is copious; 4,513 exhibitors contributed to the Section, excluding the commercial or financial houses whose exhibitions were rather of an advertising than a social character. Germany, the United States, Belgium, Italy, and Russia appear to have done themselves most justice among foreign countries by the choice and the number of their exhibits.

After a general introduction of great interest, Professor Gide guides us through the Section, taking in turn Work and Wages, Comfort, Security, and Independence. He would himself have preferred, if only one building was available, something more like a cathedral than a palace. "In the nave I would place all those forms of free association which tend to the salvation of the working-classes by their own efforts; in one of the aisles all the varieties of State intervention; in the other those due to the kindly care of employers; in the chapels or the choir all those lay saints whose memory survives in the movements they founded or the laws they inspired; . . . and below, in the crypt, the social inferno, everything concerning the most destitute—that 'submerged tenth' of whom Mr. Booth speaks—all that helps them in the struggle they wage against the demons and powers of evil—Pauperism, Drink, Consumption, and Prostitution. I would abolish the divisions into nationalities, good in their place but with no claim to be here, since we are no longer on the field of competition but in that of fraternal co-operation. How much clearer and more instructive would be the object-lessons if all the organisations were seen grouped around their original germ, whatsoever its country of origin!" To some extent this Report achieves this object. Each of the sixteen groups into which the Section was divided has its own reporter, charged with the duty of making a detailed report upon his group. The present volume is a competent *vue d'ensemble*. The chapter on Work and Wages deals with the rise of wages, the increase of leisure, the activities of workmen, of employers, and of their combinations, and the intervention of Government. The chapter on Comfort is subdivided into Food, Lodging, Health, and Education (professional and social). Under the head of Security are considered Sickness, Accident, Old Age and Invalidity, Death, Want of Work, Saving, and charitable or public assistance. Finally, Independence leads to a discussion of modes of abolition of the Wages-system,

and to an interesting examination of small industries and small properties.

The temptation to follow the author through his pages, "palpitating with actuality," and never wandering from the central conception of the material and moral conditions of the laborious classes, is almost irresistible. His esteem for England shows itself at every opportunity. Numbers of students here are familiar with the English translation of his *Principles*. Co-operative leaders are aware of his eminence and enthusiasm as a co-operator. It is much to be hoped that some means may be found of enabling the intelligent English artisan to become acquainted with the gist of this striking survey of the present position of the standard of comfort and of the agencies at work which co-operate in the great mission of civilisation to maintain and improve it.

Readers should correct the statement on p. 36 that the Post Office Savings Bank in England dates from 1822. It was only established by the Act of 1861. On page 197 it should be noted that Reformatories and Industrial Schools are under the control of the Home Office, and not—as stated—of the Local Government Board. HENRY HIGGS

*The Adjustment of Wages: a Study in the Coal and Iron Industries of Great Britain and America.* By W. J. ASHLEY. (London: Longmans, Green & Co., 1903. 8vo. 12s. 6d. net. Pp. xx, 362.)

IN this book Professor Ashley has republished eight lectures, which he delivered for the Donkin Foundation at Manchester College, Oxford, during the early months of the present year. He has made no change in the form of treatment, but has contented himself with appending a "great number of illustrative documents." The opening and concluding lectures of the course deal with the more general bearings of the subject, such as the "psychological" and "administrative" aspects of Trade Unionism, regarded in its influence on the efficient conduct of business, and the probable or possible consequences of recent legal decisions to its present position and future policy. They are, in a sense, preliminary and supplementary to the main subject. That, as stated on the title-page, is a "study" of the methods of wage-adjustment found in the Coal and Iron Industries of Great Britain and America. Of the six lectures devoted to this main portion of the subject, one only is concerned with the Iron Trade of both sides of the Atlantic, three describe the arrangements in vogue in the Coal Trade of this country, and the remaining two are similarly occupied with the Coal Trade of America; and of these one consists of an account of the origin and course of that recent dispute in the anthracite district, which invoked the extraordinary intervention of the head of the American Republic, President Roosevelt. The appendix of "illustrative documents" contains the rules of various