

society. A recognition of these two facts is essential not only to clear thinking, but as preliminary to any practical solution of the great problems of human betterment. We are doubtless to-day in danger of too much socialistic experimentation; but nothing can be gained and much may be lost by ignoring or condoning the opposite evils of individualism. In fact, the menace of socialism can best be met if we understand and acknowledge the evils which it is intended to remedy. The preliminary to remedy is diagnosis, and an accurate diagnosis will save us from the error of both extremes—the extreme, on the one hand, of an overdose of socialism, and the extreme, on the other hand, of omitting all medication whatever.

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SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

Sociology and Social Progress: A Handbook for Students of Sociology. Compiled by THOMAS NIXON CARVER, Ph.D., LL.D., David A. Wells Professor of Political Economy in Harvard University. Boston, Ginn and Company [1906]. Pp. vi + 810; 8°. List price, \$2.75; mailing price, \$2.95.

This is a timely and valuable book. In these days when social questions are attracting the attention of all, even the scientific specialists, and when an undigested mass of contemporary literature is being poured forth upon the public wholly incapable of appraising it, it is of the greatest importance that the utterances of the masters of thought, science and literature bearing on the subject should be made accessible to all as guides to public judgment. To do this is the purpose of this volume, and even a partial enumeration of the authors and works that have been drawn upon is sufficient to indicate the value of the compilation. The most important are: Comte's 'Positive Philosophy' (Harriet Martineau's English condensation), Buckle's 'History of Civilization,' Darwin's 'Descent of Man,' Adam Smith's 'Theory of Moral Sentiments,'

Bagehot's 'Physics and Politics,' Fiske's 'Outlines of Cosmic Philosophy,' Herbert Spencer's 'Data of Ethics,' Kidd's 'Social Evolution,' Tarde's 'Imitation,' Galton's 'Hereditary Genius,' Machiavelli's 'Prince,' Aristotle's 'Politics.'

When we remember that about two thirds of the space is devoted to these works and a fair share to others ranking second only to these, we can well pardon the introduction of a number of lesser works and even some quite insignificant ones.

The selections from large works, which is no easy task, are judiciously made. For example, the three most important subjects treated by Buckle, viz., the influence of physical laws on society, the rôle of intellectual development, and the influence of religion, literature and government, are introduced here without abridgment. Darwin's chapters on sexual selection in relation to man are given in full with the exception of the scientific details, so that it is quite readable. And so of the rest. Those who read these works in their youth and retain only a vague impression of them, have an opportunity here to refresh their minds with the cream of them, and those who never read them at all can gain from this digest a fairly adequate idea of them.

But Dr. Carver has intended that the book, as its title implies, should be something more than a mere compilation. In the first place, he has supplied an introduction to it of his own, in which he sets forth as clearly as has ever been done the true scope and method of sociology. His treatment is thoroughly sane. He is an economist of the modern school which has arisen from the recent revised definition of value, and which brings the great sciences of economics and sociology into sympathetic touch with each other. If he lays somewhat undue stress on social progress, he only does what others, including the present reviewer, have done before they had devoted themselves to a serious study of the conditions of social order. The doctrine which he specially emphasizes as his own, and which he had earlier set forth, is expressed in these words:

Every great historical epoch and every variety of social organization must be explained on the basis of factors and forces now at work, and which the student may study at first hand.

This is now called sociological uniformitarianism. It was strongly hinted at by Sir Charles Lyell himself ('Principles of Geology,' eleventh edition, Vol. I., p. 167). It is called by Gumpłowicz 'the eternal uniformity (*Wesensgleichheit*) of social processes' ('*Rassenkampf*,' p. 172), and is discussed at length by him. It has been insisted upon by Bernès and Regnano in Europe and by Ross and Small in America, and was applied by Schleicher to language.

Conformably to this philosophical introduction, Dr. Carver has undertaken to classify his materials under certain logical heads. The late Dr. G. Brown Goode described a museum as 'a collection of labels illustrated by specimens.' The materials of this work have about the same importance relatively to these heads as do the specimens of a museum to the labels. He divides the matter of the book into three parts, the first relating to the nature, scope and method of sociology, the second to its bearing on social progress, while the third part embraces the various factors of social progress, which he still further subdivides into physical and biological, psychical, social and economic, and political and legal.

This classification may have value for some minds, but doubtless chiefly for that of the compiler, and the ordinary reader will not generally know, and will care less, where he is in the scheme when he is reading any of the interesting essays that the work contains. It would have been just as well to arrange them in the alphabetical order of the authors, or still better in the chronological order of the works.

As already said, the authors cited are nearly all either famous or of a high order, and some of the essays whose authors are either contemporary or somewhat less well known are among the best selections. The essay entitled 'War and Economics in History and Theory,' by Edward Van Dyke Robinson, certainly answers this description. There are, however, a few of the articles whose appearance in this

roll of honor is matter for regret. Only one such need be mentioned, viz., Drummond's *Struggle for the Life of Others*, from his book 'The Ascent of Man,' 1894, the very title of which was plagiarized from the address of Dr. Frank Baker, as president of the Anthropological Section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at the Indianapolis meeting, in August, 1890, published in the *Proceedings*, Vol. XXXIX., p. 351, and also in the *American Anthropologist* for October, 1890, Vol. III., No. 4, p. 297, and with which Drummond must have been familiar. But this might have been pardoned if the book itself, or most of what is true in it, were not a plagiarism from Haeckel and other authors. Even this offense, however, is less grave than the utterly unscientific and mainly false attitude of the author in the application and interpretation of his facts.

From the standpoint of book-making this volume has its defects. Not to mention its ugly, unesthetic style of binding, it is one of those books in which the user is always lost and constantly compelled to revert to the contents to find what he wants. This could easily have been remedied by head-lines showing 'who is talking' on any page. But such things are 'trifles light as air' by the side of the sterling merits of the work.

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VARIATIONS OF THE BONES OF THE FACE¹

THIS work (which should have been reviewed sooner) is the continuation of Professor Le Double's great undertaking which is to give us a complete account of the variations of the human skeleton. His last work, which was noticed in these pages, treated of the variations of the cranial bones. This one, therefore completes the head. In the preface the author gives some account of his labors and maintains that none of his propositions

¹ 'Traité des Variations des Os de la Face de l'Homme et leur signification au point de vue de l'Anthropologie Zoologique,' par M le Dr. A. F. Le Double, Paris, Vigot Frères, 1906.