

Book Reviews

By HOWARD S. ROSS

INDUSTRIAL JUSTICE THROUGH BANKING REFORM. An outline of a policy of individualism, by Henry Menlen, is published by Richard J. James, 10 Ivy Lane, Paternoster Row, London, E.C.

The author makes a strong plea that the reforms advocated would benefit both the manufacturer and the wage-earner, and assist materially in the expansion of trade and the equitable development of remunerative industry—necessary at all times, but more particularly in the near future, if the country is to recover quickly from the severe conditions created by the war.

The author claims the banking and currency laws of the different countries (interfering with liberty of exchange) are the main cause of the industrial injustice which has resulted in the demand for state socialism, which he strongly opposes.

Some of the many interesting chapters are Socialism and Anti-Socialism; The Principles of Exchange; The History of Exchange; The Bank of England; A Review of Scotch Banking; The International Adoption of a Gold Currency; An Invariable Unit of Value; Mutual Banking—Its Defects and Interest.

The appendix contains two very able discussions on The Land Question and The War, Economics and Finance.

THE BIRTH OF THE RUSSIAN DEMOCRACY.

By A. J. Sack, Director of the Russian Information Bureau in the United States. 42 full page, 154 text illustrations, 536 pages, \$2.65 net; \$2.90 postpaid.

The book contains, in its first part, a full history of the Russian Revolutionary Movement from the Decembrist uprising of 1825 up to the March Revolution, 1917. This part is richly illustrated with photographs of the Russian Revolutions—beginning with the rare photographs of the Decembrists, executed in 1826, up to the leader of the present-day Russia. The chapter devoted to the history of the Duma is illustrated with 130 photographs of the most prominent members of the Russian parliament.

The second part of the book is devoted to developments in Russia since the March Revolution. This is presented, as far as possible, by documents giving the declaration and acts of the Provisional Government; the detailed proceedings of the most important historical sessions of the Councils of Workmen's, Soldier's and Peasant's Delegates; the proceedings of the National Conference in Moscow, of the Democratic Conference, and of the Preliminary Parliament in Petrograd. Included are complete speeches of A. F. Kerensky, I. G. Tseretelli, Prof. P. N. Milukov, A. I. Guchkov, Gen. Alexeev, Gen. Kornilov, George Plekhanov, E. C. Breshko-Breshkovskaya, Peter Kropotkin, and other leaders. Documents of the Bolshevik revolt are given. All the most important documents of the Russian Revolution from March, 1917, up to date are reproduced. There are many photographs and facsimiles of important documents.

This interesting book is published by the Russian Information Bureau, Woolworth Building, New York City.

RANSOM! by Arthur Somers Roche, author of "Loot," etc., is published by McClelland, Goodchild & Stewart, Publishers, Toronto. The price is \$1.35 net.

The "Readjustment Society of the World" had large and ambitious designs. In fact, it set on foot one of the most amazing and impudent plots to control the wealth of the world.

The plot was very simple; the agents of the society and type unknown to criminal records.

The hero, an idle young man about town, in striving to recover his fortune, which has strangely vanished, stumbles upon an astonishing clue, and a girl with both courage and brains, and a delightfully eccentric old Wall Street magnate, aid him in unravelling the mystery. The surprises come thick and fast.

THE AIMS OF LABOUR, by The Rt. Hon. Arthur Henderson, M.P., Secretary of the Labor Party, is issued in paper (Third Edition), by McClelland, Goodchild & Stewart, publishers, of Toronto.

"These things shall be! a loftier race
Than ere the world hath known shall rise
With flame of freedom in their souls,
And light of knowledge in their eyes."

—John Addington Symonds.

By many critics this is probably the most epoch-making, if not epoch-making document that has been given to the world, not excepting Magna Charta, or the American Declaration of Independence. As Alexander Mackendrick, of Boston, puts it in his review which appeared in The Public: "Never, indeed, since the greatest labor-leader of all ages issued his manifesto to the rulers of Egypt on behalf of the oppressed Israelites, have the privileged classes been addressed in terms so peremptory and unmistakable and in language so well adapted to their understanding."

NATIONAL SELF-GOVERNMENT, ITS GROWTH AND PRINCIPLES. The culmination of Modern History, by Ramsay Muir, Professor of Modern History, University of Manchester, is published (312 pages), by Henry Holt and Company, New York. The price is \$2.75 net.

The purpose of the book is to provide a brief historical survey of the development of parliamentary institutions such as will put the ordinary citizen in a position to form a sound judgment upon the working of the system in the different countries. He has skillfully used this historical survey as a means of explaining the problem of self-government, the difficulties it has to face, the conditions which are necessary for its success, and the ways in which it is affected by the characters and traditions of the various nations which have adopted it.

The author does not deal with the development of the institutions of half the countries of Europe or with the new lands of the non-European world, excepting the United States. He feels that the main points seemed to be adequately illustrated in the countries he has selected for fuller treatment. The book is not a text book, but a political essay rather than a formal history, or what the author calls "historical politics, a blend of narrative and analysis." This is the first attempt to give in a clear and broad way how it has happened that the institutions of self-government have been adopted within a very short time in every land of Western civilization, how the different forms compare with one another in practice, and how their development explains the problem of self-government, and the dangers against which it has to guard. The book is a sequel to Nationalism and Internationalism, and The Expansion of Europe, books in which Professor Muir has applied the same method to other political problems.

FRANCE, ENGLAND, AND EUROPEAN DEMOCRACY, 1215—1915. A Historical Survey of the Principles Underlying the Entente Cordiale, by Charles Cestre, Docteur es Lettres, Professeur a la Faculte des Lettres de Bordeaux, and is translated from the French by Leslie M. Turner, Assistant Professor of French in University of California. The publishers are G. P. Putnam's, Sons, 2 West 45th Street, New York, just west of 5th Ave. The price is \$2.50. There are 354 pages.

A clever historical survey covering the relations between France and England from the thirteenth to the twentieth centuries.

The volume presents, also, an able summary of the ideals of these countries and the work they have tried to accomplish.

The following useful works are issued by Cortina Academy of Languages, 12 East 46th Street, New York.

CORTINA FRENCH-ENGLISH RED CROSS INSTRUCTOR. A brochure by Jean A. Picard, for physicians, nurses and Red Cross orderlies, and ambulance assistants. Cloth, 50c.

CORTINA, FRENCH - ENGLISH SOLDIERS' HANDBOOK. A concise text-book of the most necessary phrases and sentences for English-

speaking soldiers doing duty in France. Enables one to find his way and make the best of his surroundings. Cloth, 50 cents.

HANDY WAR GUIDE FOR MY COMPANY, by Captain Hangullart, translated by Jean A. Picard, is a complete text-book for every soldier. It gives detailed instructions for the conduct of operations in the trenches, and during attack, and deals carefully with the organization of trench warfare. This book was written while the author was in the trenches. Cloth covered, 50c.

THE CORTINA FRENCH-ENGLISH MILITARY MANUAL, by Jean A. Picard, of the French army, with a foreword by Major-General Leonard Wood, contains full page illustrations in colors, vocabularies and dialogues in French and English. The manual gives a vivid picture of French army organization, life in the trenches, on the march, in camp and during attack. Well bound in cloth, \$2.00.

CORTINA'S FRENCH METHOD (Twenty Lessons), intended for use in schools, etc., and for self-study, with a system of articulation based on English equivalents, for acquiring a correct pronunciation, is by R. Diez De La Cortina, ex-inspector of public instruction in the Argentine Republic. The publishers are R. D. Cortina Co., New York.

This is the thirtieth edition, has been revised by Prof. J. Leroux, Professor of Modern Languages at the U. S. Naval Academy.

The author aims to enable a student to acquire thorough control of the language he is studying in the shortest possible time, and with the least possible strain upon his patience and mental faculties. He has tried to avoid the slow, monotonous and befogging processes dealing with a large number of grammatical rules which are generally of no practical value.

The method is adapted to the use of children as well as adults. The price is \$1.50.

RUSSIA IN UPHEAVAL, by Edward Alsworth Ross, author of "The Changing Chinese," "South of Panama," etc., Professor of Sociology, the University of Wisconsin; Member of the Institut International de Sociologie; former President of the American Sociological Society, is published by The Century Co., New York City. The price is \$2.50 net.

This is an authoritative account of the Russian Revolution, and incidentally of the Russian National charter—by a trained American sociologist, who was on the ground studying Russia when it happened.

Professor Ross brings an amazing account of how it happened that the working class made itself master of Russia to the exclusion of the property-holding classes. Not in the world to-day, or in fact since the French Revolution, is there a more engrossing story than that of the course of the Russian Revolution in its first nine months. Professor Ross had the trained eye to see, and his pure yet vivid style makes his books easy reading. He travelled 20,000 miles in Russia. After a month in Petrograd and a few weeks in Moscow, he went down the Volga, Russia's Mississippi. Stopping at all the important places and interviewing employers, labor leaders, heads of the councils of workmen's deputies, mayors, land committees, food committees, editors, educators, clergymen, etc. Crossing the Caucasus, he interviewed Georgian and Armenian leaders.

There are 80 splendid illustrations. He discusses the Overthrow of Autocracy, the New Freedom in Russia, Soil Hunger and Land Redistribution, Labor and Capital, the Calling Out of Vodka, Russian Women and their Outlook, the Church and the Sects, the Co-operative Movement in Russia, the Zemstvos, How they Built a State Within a State, and the Future Emigration from Russia.

THE ART OF EXTEMPORE SPEAKING, by Abbe Bautain, Vicar-General and Professor at the Sorbonne, is published by McDevitt-Wilson's, Inc., Publishers, 30-62 Church Street, New York City. The price is \$1.50 net.

This is one of the best books on the subject, a thoughtful work based on the wealth of experience of an eminent scholar, one of the greatest extemporaneous preachers of modern times in France.

The publishers are to be thanked for publishing this valuable book, which had been out of print for such a long time.

Anyone interested in the subject will find it a splendid addition to their library.