

Mr. Rider Haggard, "cares twopence how many quarters of wheat we produce." In a still greater degree does the existence of the poorer type of villager tend to be ignored. The valuable information contained in *Rural England* is derived almost entirely from squires, farmers and land agents: how seldom in these pages do we come across conversations with farm labourers. Mr. Wilson Fox's careful statistics of agricultural wages would have been even more reliable had they not been based so largely on returns made by employers. At "Fat Stock Dinners" and the like, the toast of "Agriculture" always has reference to the prosperity of landlords and farmers: and, in response, you will hear employers and landagents regretting the "good old days of agriculture," when wheat was 60/- a quarter and the labourers suffered cruelly from dear food and wretched wages. It is a significant fact that the only complete and scientific history of the English agricultural labourer has been written by a foreigner, Herr Hasbach. No apology, therefore, is needed by any writer who strives, in however humble a fashion, to focus the attention of his fellow-citizens on the problems of rural England.

Against one danger any author who deals