

Sociology"; "Rise of Educational Sociology"; "Sociology of Modern Christianity"; "Methods of Sociological Investigation"; and the "Dissemination of Sociological Thought."

The *History of Social Thought* enhances the high reputation of the author of the *Essentials of Sociology* and the *Essentials of Social Psychology*; and it gives earnest, let us hope, of more fruit from his fertile pen.

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*Poverty and Dependency.* By JOHN LEWIS GILLIN. New York: Century Co., 1921. Pp. viii+707. \$4.00.

First Warner, then Henderson, Devine, Smith, Parmelee, and now Gillin. Whether this is an apostolic succession or not we are too close to judge. It is certain, however, that since Warner wrote his epoch-making book many have attempted to bring it down to date. Of the need for such effort every newcomer in the field of social work and every teacher in sociology has ample evidence. In his Introduction the author says "failing to find in any one or two books material with which a college student should become familiar I have tried to bring together the gist of discussions for which I have had to send my students to a large number of publications."

This sentence justifies such a book. The author has not discovered any new formula. He is not a student who has created a new method of attack upon the problem. He is not a social worker who out of his experiences is attempting to interpret the phenomena of dependency and poverty. He is a compiler of widely scattered but available material.

The book is to be judged not as a contribution to the subject but as a compilation and the caution the author utters in his Preface is a just one. "I cannot hope that . . . I have always chosen just those passages which another would choose but I do cherish the hope that this attempt . . . will make the teaching of this important subject easier and will inspire the students. . . ."

With an enormous mass of material to choose from Gillin has brought together in one place a body of material never before assembled and has thus made a lasting contribution to the teaching of this branch of applied sociology.

The material is well arranged. The index is workable and while there is no assembled bibliography the bibliographical references are

abundant and in themselves form an almost complete bibliography of applied sociology.

The book unfortunately lends itself very easily to criticism, with regard both to its content and its omissions. The material at hand is not always used critically. Nowhere does the author's unwillingness to take a stand tell so badly against him as when he handles social statistics. On page 559 he quotes Professor Zacher to the effect that the increase in the average duration of life in Germany between the years 1870 and 1900 "is in great part due to the curative and preventive work of the insurance system" and he does not attempt to show whether that strange statement is so or not so by a comparison of the increased duration of life in Germany with similar increases in other countries. He takes the statement of one society as testimony for its own effective work: the New York Children's Aid Society's report of 1912 in which it estimates that 87 per cent of its placements had done well. One could only wish that the author of a book on dependency might use social statistics more critically and in the first place not accept the estimates of an interested party in a matter so important as this and in the second place know which one among the child-placing agencies in the country is best equipped to judge good from bad placement. The computation of the total amount of dependency in any community or nation is obviously an impossible task and perhaps the author should be criticized for attempting it. For him to compare the guesses of Parmelee and Hunter with the case method of estimating used by Kellogg, with the general conclusion that possibly the truth lies between them, gives one somewhat of a shock (pp. 32, 33, 34).

Aside from the handling of statistics the main criticism against the book is its conception that poverty is catastrophic and economic and that it fails to recognize poverty as a process whose best approach is through psychology. In the beginning of his vision of the future he cites the poem on "The Fence or the Ambulance" in which he gives his implied assent to the theory that people "happen" into trouble. In consequence of his point of view his treatment of heredity is also fragmentary and merely a compilation of the judgments of others such as Davenport, Goddard, and Thomson. There is no discussion of Mendel's laws; no statement of the great hope of democracy which Weismann's theory of inheritance gives us the right to believe in.

The book is not correctly named. A noun is not a title nor are two nouns joined by a conjunction any better. Under such circumstances one fears somewhat to criticize the book lest he accuse the writer of

omitting some subject which he never intended to include. A better title for the book as it stands would be "Economic and Other Backgrounds of Dependency." The whole subject of treatment, much the most important connected with the topic, is not touched although there seems to be a section given to it. The section, however, is concerned wholly with a description of the organizations that have been created to meet the need and the theories on which these organizations have rested. A discussion of methods, however, such as Miss Richmond's *Social Diagnosis* or Miss Colcord's *Broken Homes* is not even attempted. It is not that the author does not recognize that they exist for he refers to socialized case-work as one of the great preventive forces. He evidently did not intend to include them in his book and therefore did not intend to cover that section of the subject.

The book is obviously the product of years of hard, patient labor. The author has sought wisely and widely in literature for everything that might bear upon his subject and has carefully catalogued it and put in the right place. Perhaps too much attention has been devoted to the older material and some obviously new material has been omitted. He quotes a twenty-two-year-old statement of Devine's as the method of social case-work whereas social case-work has been practically created in the last twenty years (p. 493). The book will be of considerable use as a source book in its particular phase of the question of poverty. It shows no such creative imagination as Laughlin did this summer in suggesting the term "socially inadequate" to describe the group about which Gillin writes and is therefore a book from which the teacher and student will turn in expectation for its better inspired successor.

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*A Young Girl's Diary.* Prefaced with a Letter by SIGMUND FREUD.  
Translated by EDEN and CEDAR PAUL. New York: Thomas  
Seltzer, 1921. Pp. 285. \$5.00.

This is probably the most ingenuous and revealing record of the mind of a young girl which has ever been published. Mr. Sigmund Freud, whose letter to the translator has been made the Preface of this volume, says as much. It is, in fact, a fascinating human document, interesting from many points of view.

The diary covers a period of three and one-half years, from the ages of eleven to fourteen and one-half, and records with a naïveté and candor