

meeting of the club, and since published as a supplement in the *National Review*, on "The Principles of Constructive Economics as Applied to the Maintenance of Empire," which appears first in the volume, describes the club's *raison d'être*. Conscious purpose and effective action of the State itself are to take the place of *laissez faire*. What follows is a re-statement of Mr. Chamberlain's proposals and an estimate of their effects upon national development and Imperial unity. So far he is clear enough, but his argumentative methods are not convincing. He discards the use of statistics, since they do not rouse enthusiasm, and since "no cause was ever carried by figures." Enthusiasm without knowledge is dangerous, and the cause which Mr. Garvin advocates can hardly be carried without figures. Consequently, his recapitulation of the familiar assertions concerning the decline of British industries carry little weight. Mr. Garvin, indeed, admits the general prosperity of this country, but considers it the result of our exceptional natural resources. Elsewhere he attributes the prosperity of Germany and America to their tariffs, not (so far as can be gathered from this paper) to their natural resources. He also makes a bold attack upon the "fallacy" that exports balance imports, but argues from the point of view of *supply*, leaving *demand* out of consideration.

Mr. H. W. Wilson, in "Tariff Reform and National Defence," makes a strong plea for efficiency in the services, and especially for the increased superiority of our naval power. He regards Tariff Reform as the only possible means of raising the required revenue. He adds two valuable tables illustrating the naval expenditure and strength of the chief Powers.

In "Imperial Preference and the Cost of Food," Sir Vincent Caillard maintains that preference will not raise prices, apparently because the foreign producer can defeat the preference given. Sir John A. Cockburn deals with "The Evolution of Empire"; Mr. H. A. Gwynne with "The Proper Distribution of the Population of the Empire," in the course of which he makes some startling suggestions for encouraging emigration to the colonies by State action; and Mr. John W. Hills, in "Colonial Preference in the Past," summarises the history of the "old colonial system," without, however, noticing its effect upon the loss of the American colonies.

J. H. S.

IMPERIAL FOREST POLICY.

Manual of Forestry. Vol. i. Forest Policy in the British Empire. By Dr. W. Schlich, F.R.S. Third edition, revised and enlarged. Pp. ix+246. (London: Bradbury, Agnew and Co., Ltd.) Price 6s. net.

IN the present edition Prof. Schlich has made some important additions which add considerably to the value of the volume. The volume is divided into three parts, viz. part i., the utility of forests; part ii., the State in relation to forestry; and part iii., forestry in the British Empire.

NO. 1928, VOL. 74]

In part i. the direct and indirect utility of forests are considered, and the author has stated in a very clear and concise manner the great importance of forests to man. Sometimes people are too apt to estimate the utility of forests according to the money value of the timber grown, and to forget the important and beneficial influence which proper afforestation confers on the soil, the climate, and the whole sister industry of agriculture. The indirect utility of forests is of importance, not only to the proprietor and agriculturist, but to the entire State, and is one of those questions of general interest which has been almost wholly neglected in the past. The author deserves great credit for bringing this matter so prominently into notice.

The duty of the State in relation to forestry forms the subject-matter of part ii., and here the author is entirely at home with a subject to which he has given much time and thought, and on which he is a recognised authority. The extent to which the State should go in maintaining, or assisting in the maintenance of, forests is carefully considered from a thoroughly practical point of view.

In part iii. the wider question of forestry in the British Empire is dealt with in a very masterly fashion. As a result of his long experience and wide knowledge, the author is well able to deal with this subject. Space forbids our entering into details, but we are quite certain that but few people realise the enormous amount of revenue which is at present lying dormant or actually lost to the Empire through the deplorable inattention that is given to many of our colonial forests. India is, of course, a notable exception, and the success which has attended proper forest policy in that part of the Empire should stimulate other colonies to follow the good example. This, however, they seem slow to do. Nevertheless, there are signs of awakening interest, for example, in Canada. Many of our colonial forests have suffered severely at the hands of settlers through pure lack of knowledge. It is quite possible to use the forest without abusing it, and to cut timber in such a way that the forest will continue to give a sustained, if not increasing, yield; but this implies a proper knowledge of forestry, and here the author makes out a strong case for improved educational facilities, the end results of which would be increased revenue and benefits from our forests at home and in all parts of the British Empire.

As an example of what may be done in this direction, Prof. Schlich shows (p. 106) how, principally through the exertions of one man, namely, Dr. Brandis, "the greater portion of the Lower Burmah teak forests was saved, forests which now yield an average annual net revenue of 2½ million rupees."

The volume contains many well-chosen photographs to illustrate the different points mentioned in the text, as well as a rainfall map of India. A useful appendix dealing with forestry in the United States is also included in the book. The author is to be congratulated on the production of a work which is of true importance from a national point of view.