

exact requirements of the British and French markets that the present investigation was undertaken by Mr. Rawley with the financial assistance of the Carnegie Research Trust and the India Office.

In his inquiry the author visited nearly all the principal silk centres in this country and in France, and the chief value of the investigation lies in the fact that it has secured expression of authoritative views of the leading members of the trade. The wide ground covered by the inquiry can be only briefly summarised here. It will be sufficient to say that we have now a consensus of expert opinion that with adequate improvement in quality and reeling (embracing evenness in size, cleanliness, and uniformity of strength), together with improved trade organisation (mainly with a view to regular supplies), there is an assured market in this country, and in France, for Indian raw silks. The comparative success of the improved Kashmir silk, especially in the French market, is already a demonstration of this fact. As regards waste silk, and also wild Eri silk, the position is the same; given better quality, greater cleanliness, and improved trade organisation, there will be no difficulty in finding a European market for these products. The author's inquiry has performed a double function, inasmuch as it indicates the possibilities of a neglected source of supplies to the consumer of raw silk and an undeveloped outlet for the producer.

A GREAT INDUSTRIALIST.

George Westinghouse: His Life and Achievements. By Francis E. Leupp. Pp. xi+304. (London: John Murray, 1919.) Price 15s. net.

THE author, in his preface, regrets the lack of all those written records on which biographers usually rely for providing interesting personal reminiscences. Despite this, however, he has succeeded in compiling an interesting, straightforward narrative which will be inspiring to youth for the example it sets forth of success achieved by indomitable courage and persistent effort, and of fame won on sheer merit, without aid from influence or wealth.

Older readers will find the book of interest in so far as it provides an easily assimilated history of many of the important industrial developments of the past generation. On the other hand, they are likely to be disappointed by the feeling that the part accorded by the author to George Westinghouse in bringing about these developments falls short by no small distance of the part he actually played.

Mr. Leupp frankly admits that he confines himself to a portrayal of the human side of his subject. He dwells particularly on a certain bigness which

he finds characteristic of George Westinghouse, who was large-minded and large-hearted, and had the grand style as an inventor, worker, optimist, and industrialist. "Nothing was ever big enough for him." Splendid as was the human side, and worthy as it is of this record, we share with the author the hope that one day some well-known technologist will compile the record of the great inventions and achievements of the man.

It is notable that Westinghouse did not excel at school and college, and that during his brief college career he admitted that he might have been more successful if he could have spared his time for study that he spent more pleasurably in investigating machinery and in making mechanical models. His ready grasp of the opportunity that led to his early connection with railroad work, and ultimately to his development of the air brake, with which his name will always be associated; his investigations into natural gas and its industrial application; his fair appreciation of the inventions of others and readiness to put them into commercial use; his fight for alternating electric current; his care for the welfare of his workpeople; his buoyancy, carrying him over financial crises of a most disturbing character; the esteem of his workpeople that held them to him through precarious times—these tell the man of unusual industrial capacity, personality, and courage.

The book does not possess any marked literary value, but all who are not debarred by its high price will find it worthy of perusal.

FARMING IN THE NEW ERA.

- (1) *A Large State Farm: A Business and Educational Undertaking.* By Lt.-Col. A. G. Weigall and Castell Wrey. Pp. xiii+82. (London: John Murray, 1919.) Price 2s. 6d. net.
- (2) *The Farmer and the New Day.* By K. L. Butterfield. Pp. xi+311. (New York: The Macmillan Co.; London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd., 1919.) Price 8s. 6d. net.
- (3) *The Sugar-beet in America.* By Prof. T. S. Harris. (Rural Science Series.) Pp. xviii+342+xxxii. plates. (New York: The Macmillan Co.; London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd., 1919.) Price 2.25 dollars.
- (4) *Strawberry-growing.* By Prof. S. W. Fletcher. (Rural Science Series.) Pp. xxii+325+xxiv. plates. (New York: The Macmillan Co.; London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd., 1917.) Price 1.75 dollars.

(1) A GREAT deal is being spoken and written about the new era into which we are entering, and agriculturists are wondering what will become of their subject, and incidentally of