

parks, and the development of medieval villages are good resources for faculty or for research papers, though the latter aspect is limited by the lack of footnotes. The bibliography is minimal but does note the works of Colin Platt that would be of use to secondary and collegiate readers.

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Roland N. Stromberg, *Europe in the Twentieth Century*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1988. Second edition. Pp. xi, 481. Paper, \$29.00.

Originally published in 1980, the second edition of this excellent text adds a chapter to bring the story up to date chronologically, slightly revises the organization, and makes a few minor corrections. Otherwise, it remains essentially the same as the original and continues to be distinguished from its competitors in a number of ways. First, with the exception of generally separate discussions of the Soviet Union, Stromberg succeeds in presenting a synthetic treatment of Europe far more successfully than most other textbook writers. To be sure, there are some drawbacks to this approach. The account of politics is not quite as full as is ordinarily the case and domestic developments, especially in Great Britain, are given insufficient attention.

As one might expect from the author of *European Intellectual History Since 1789*, now in its fourth edition, Stromberg is most effective in relating cultural and intellectual developments to the major political, economic, and military events of the century. The chapter on culture and thought in the 1920s, for which Stromberg appropriates Walter Lippmann's apt phrase, "the dissolution of the ancestral order," is outstanding. Far more than a mere catalog of writers, artists, and scientists, it relates the diverse cultural directions of the decade to the loss of prewar confidence in progress and in the possibility of certitude. Sections on the literature and thought of the depression, post-war thought of the late forties and fifties, and ideological twists of the sixties and seventies are almost as distinguished.

The text is well-written, with a deliberate attempt to explain the foreign by reference to the familiar and by occasional use of the colloquial. This device is sometimes successful, as in the author's comparison of the mass hysteria induced by extravagant Nazi ceremonies with the more recent phenomenon of the rock concert and the characterization of the effective manipulation of such mass events as "pop politics." Less effective is the description of the Dreyfus case as "a kind of Gallic Watergate and Alger Hiss case rolled into one." Stromberg's work is all the more engaging for his willingness to question some of the generalizations that are so frequently encountered, such as the unqualified and simplistic condemnation of nationalism as being responsible for World War I. At the same time, however, he presents some arguments that are themselves open to question. Is it really likely that the Austrians would have rejected the *Anschluss* had a plebiscite been held before Hitler's invasion? Does the available evidence support the suggestion that Churchill might well have responded to Hitler's peace overtures had he had accurate information about Germany's military strength and a more realistic estimate of the time that would elapse before America entered the war? Is it appropriate, given the scholarship on the subject, to leave hanging the accusation that Roosevelt might have connived in America's entry into the war by provoking a Japanese attack? More convincingly, Stromberg dismisses the Cold War revisionists and suggests that the "balance of terror" has in fact worked in preventing a nuclear conflict. Stromberg characterizes de Gaulle as "one of the century's greatest men," and provides an admirable treatment of post-war Europe, though it is a bit too compressed on decolonization.

The author provides an excellent bibliography for the student who wishes to engage in additional reading. Given the price of the volume, one might have expected larger and more detailed maps along with more photographs. But the text is highly recommended for college-level classes, and especially for courses that are designed to highlight cultural and intellectual developments.

Memphis State University

Abraham D. Kriegel

J. M. Goldby, ed. *Culture and Society in Britain, 1850-1890: A Source Book of Contemporary Writings*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1986. Pp. xiii, 342. Cloth, \$24.95; paper, \$8.95.

Professor John M. Goldby and his associates on the faculty of the Open University, Oxford, have assembled and annotated an anthology of primary sources "designed to evoke the critical understanding" of students taking the interdisciplinary Arts Foundation course. Problems not covered in this course, therefore, are omitted, e.g., imperialism and foreign affairs. This collection, nonetheless, should be suitable as a collateral-readings book used in American universities for undergraduate studies in the same period.

The compilers have extracted documents from a variety of sources: correspondence, diaries, speeches, parliamentary and church reports, poetry and contemporary books, essays, and newspaper articles. These selections in turn focus on six broad topics: (1) historical and social background; (2) religion; (3) moral values and social order; (4) culture; (5) popular representation; and (6) town and country. But by choice the editor provides no prologues, fearing that they would bias the reader.

The student, of course, should not expect to find all things or everybody in a small volume of this genre. But some sins of omission boggle the mind of this reviewer. The chapter on religion, for example, does not mention Lord John Dalberg-Acton, the leader of the Liberal Catholic movement in Britain, nor Richard Simpson, his editorial colleague on the staff of *The Rambler*. And what happened to John Henry Newman, Bishop Nicholas Wiseman, and Henry Edward Manning, their Ultramontanist protagonists? The sections on moral values and culture ignore a whole galaxy of Christian socialists: Charles Kingsley, Frederick D. Maurice, Stewart Headlam, Henry Scott Holland, Hugh Price Hughes, and Brooke Foss Westcott, to name only a few. One hopes that if a second edition of this work is forthcoming, these lacunae will be filled.

Biographical notes on the authors and an index support this anthology. The book, in sum, is recommended for undergraduate courses in Victorian politics and/or European intellectual history of the period.

University of North Texas

Irby C. Nichols, Jr.

F. M. L. Thompson. *The Rise of Respectable Society: A Social History of Victorian Britain, 1830-1900*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1988. Pp. 382. Cloth, \$30.00.

G. E. Mingay. *The Transformation of Britain, 1830-1939*. London, Boston, and Henley: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1986. pp. xii, 233. Cloth, \$39.95.

Both of these textbooks by English academics are histories of Victorian Britain, even though Mingay extends his chronologically to the beginning of World War II. They are essentially social histories, and treat overlapping but not identical topics.