

Review

Reviewed Work(s): *Social Pathology in China*. by Herbert Day Lamson

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Book Reviews

the pages of her book, each by a skillful touch of Mrs. Lattimore's pen made to yield up his personality. Saint, rascal, honest servant, autocratic official, homesick exile and placid self-satisfied native are there, vivid and real. Each pony or horse that at one time or another took a part in their travels is made a living part of the panorama of Turkestan. Mrs. Lattimore is no respecter of persons. Her eager interest extends to the lowliest member of their caravans, to the most decrepit pony foisted upon them by a rascal horse-trader, and horses as well as men take on nobility. Iskander, the black stallion, lying sick but just before dark rising and galloping away to die alone, is unforgettable.

In short, *Turkestan Reunion* is a human document, an interesting book for the casual reader and a splendid beginning for those who wish to make a study of Turkestan.

ALICE TISDALE HOBART

SOCIAL PATHOLOGY IN CHINA. By *Herbert Day Lamson*. Shanghai: *The Commercial Press*. 1934. pp. xviii + 607.

THIS volume is described by the author as a source book for the study of problems of livelihood, health, and the family. It has been prepared primarily for the use of students of sociology in Chinese colleges. It contains a great deal of fresh and intimate information concerning living conditions in contemporary China, together with the conventional lists of questions for class discussion, topics for study, and references for further reading. The author's arrangement of his material is convenient for his purpose, and his comments should be helpful to the students for whom the volume is planned. Indeed teachers as well as students of sociology in China must acknowledge a heavy indebtedness to Professor Lamson. His book will stimulate creative thinking and promote constructive social reform.

The very qualities which make the book well suited to its primary purpose limit its usefulness for other purposes. The Western student of Chinese sociology will find this a convenient guide to the current sociological literature of China, but will not be relieved of the necessity of examining that literature for himself. The student of general sociology will find no novel generalization concerning the development of Chinese society nor any attempt to make new contributions to the understanding of social problems in the light of Chinese experience. The author obviously has more to say about Chinese social pathology than he has

« 465 »

chosen to say in this volume. It is to be hoped that he will publish another volume containing his ripe reflections upon Chinese society.

A. N. HOLCOMBE

L'ECONOMIE INDOCHINOISE ET LA GRANDE CRISE. *By André Touzet.*
Paris: Marcel Giard. 1934. pp. 426. 30 francs.

COULD Indo-China have escaped the depression? If it could not have escaped, to what extent has it been affected? A long reply to the first of these two questions would be useless. It would have been impossible for Indo-China to escape the depression, because it has given up the isolation that goes with a primitive economy. Its exports of rice, rubber, coal and metals give it so important a place in the international market that it is inevitably affected by the reactions of international trade.

The second question is worth an answer in detail; and this is what we get in the excellent book on the subject by M. André Touzet, Assistant Director of Finance in Indo-China. He reviews agriculture, industry and trade, the fall in the economic standard of Indo-China in recent years, public works, and emergency measures for relief and protection.

He begins with a discussion of the difficulties of the rice-growers, which admittedly are affected by the depression, but are also due to the geographical conditions of the country and the distribution of its population. The over-populated Tonkin delta can hardly support its own inhabitants, while Cochin China, which is underpopulated, is still an exporter of rice.

The state of affairs in Cochin China [writes M. Touzet] reproduces on a small scale conditions in the United States. In America, when the farmers of the Middle West and West are unable to sell their crops, the industrial East is reduced to misery. In Indo-China, when the purchasing power of the rice-grower is impaired, manufacturers, importers, transport interests and traders generally, wholesale and retail, see their business abruptly slowed up, their general expenses mounting in inverse ratio, their stocks accumulating rapidly, their credits becoming frozen.

The rice-grower in Indo-China, and especially in Cochin China, being affected, does not go into the many causes of the depression and