

Cambridge University Press

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of Lectures Delivered at Cambridge University in the Year 1919 to Students of Economics,  
Among Whom were Officers of the Royal Navy and Students from the Army  
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C. R. Fay

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# LIFE AND LABOUR IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

BEING THE SUBSTANCE OF LECTURES DELIVERED  
AT CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY IN THE YEAR 1919 TO  
STUDENTS OF ECONOMICS, AMONG WHOM WERE  
OFFICERS OF THE ROYAL NAVY AND STUDENTS  
FROM THE ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES

BY

C. R. FAY, M.A.

Late Fellow and Lecturer of Christ's College, and Reader  
in Economic History at the University of Cambridge

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## PREFACE

My thanks are due to Mr F. W. Lawe of St John's College for the Map and explanatory Appendix at the end of the volume; also to a number of friends for assistance in making the index and preparing the book for the press.

The highest hope that can be entertained of such a book as this is that it will direct the student to other and better books. For this reason full references are given in footnotes to all authorities, secondary as well as primary.

The big secondary authorities may be grouped under the following heads:

(1) *Biographies:*

*Dictionary of National Biography.*

F. Podmore: *Robert Owen.*

E. I. Carlyle: *William Cobbett.*

Graham Wallas: *Francis Place.*

John Morley: *Richard Cobden.*

G. M. Trevelyan: *John Bright.*

(2) *Social studies:*

J. L. and B. Hammond: *The Village Labourer* (1760-1832);  
*The Town Labourer* (1760-1832); *The Skilled Labourer*  
(1760-1832).

(3) *Special Problems:*

A. V. Dicey: *Law and Opinion in England.*

T. Mackay: *History of the English Poor Law* (1834-1908).

B. L. Hutchins and A. Harrison: *A History of Factory Legislation.*

A. E. Dobbs: *Education and Social Movements* (1700-1850).

(4) *Popular Movements:*

J. R. M. Butler: *The Passing of the Great Reform Bill.*

M. Hovell: *The Chartist Movement.*

M. Beer: *A History of British Socialism*, Vol. i. to 1835.  
(Vol. ii. announced.)

S. and B. Webb: *The History of Trade Unionism*. (New  
Edition, 1920, deals with developments from 1890 to 1919.)

Catherine Webb: *Industrial Cooperation.*

J. M. Baernreither: *English Associations of Working Men*  
(Friendly Societies).

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The primary authorities fall into two groups.

(I) OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS. These may be divided as follows:

- (a) The Statutes of the Realm,
- (b) *Hansard's Parliamentary Debates*,
- (c) Parliamentary Papers "Blue Books"—in particular the Reports of Parliamentary Committees and of Commissions.

It may seem somewhat naïve to indicate the way to use these, but I believe that the initial slight difficulty in finding the volume required is a reason why many undergraduate students do not consult them. I also believe that an early familiarity with such books not only enhances the interest of the subject, but arouses a desire to do original work. The following brief aids to their use in the Cambridge University Library are, therefore, given:

*Notes for Readers*, price 2d., sold at the door of the Library, furnishes the plan and classification of the Library.

The Statutes are in the Law Room. The simplest way to run down an Act of Parliament is to consult the *Chronological Table of All the Statutes* (1918)—the last book on the shelf of Statutes.

Thus: the Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834 is shewn as 4 & 5 Will. 4 (1834) c. 76 (Poor Law Amendment), i.e. the 76th chapter, or Statute, passed in the Parliamentary year 1834, written as "the fourth-and-fifth" year of the reign of King William IV.

*Hansard* is in Cockerell's Building. It is arranged chronologically in 3 series. Thus, *Hansard* 3rd S. LXXXVII. 1054, means the 87th volume of the 3rd Series (which begins at 1830), p. 1054. The year (in this case 1846) is shown on the back of every volume.

The *Parliamentary Papers* are mostly in the old Divinity School and Law Room (see *Notes for Readers*, p. 15); but to find a particular Committee or Commission it is necessary to go first to the Catalogue Room and consult the indices (B.9.45—). The simplest way is to begin on the subject index of Parliamentary Papers by P. S. King & Son; and from this (when you have got the year of the Paper) to turn to the Parliamentary indices adjacent to it.

But there is one difficulty. The General Parliamentary Index for 1801–52 gives I. Bills, II. Reports of Select Committees, but omits Commissions. The last are the most important documents of the period. It is therefore necessary either to refer to the separate annual index, the last Parliamentary Paper of the year (which is placed among the Parliamentary Papers), or to use the intermediate indices. For the convenience of students the two following intermediate indices

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have now been placed in the Catalogue Room, along with the other general indices:

1845, Vol. XLIV.: containing an index for 1832-44,

1850, Vol. XLVII.: „ „ 1844-50.

These and the later indices in the Catalogue Room give the Commissions; and they are arranged very conveniently by subjects, with sub-headings as follows:

I. Bills,

II. Reports:

1. Committees,

2. Commissioners,

III. Accounts and Papers.

Some further slight trouble may arise in spotting the title under which the Paper is classed. For example, in P. S. King's *Catalogue* the famous Mines Report of 1842 is indexed under W, Women and Children's Employment; in the Parliamentary Index under C, Children's Employment. Again, Lord Durham's Report on the Affairs of British North America (1839) is catalogued by P. S. King under C, Canada; in the Parliamentary Index under D, Earl of Durham. In order to render such assistance as I may, I have compiled a special index (p. 313) of references to Acts of Parliament and Parliamentary Papers. I also append here the year and official number of a few famous Commissions:

Factory Commission, 1833, XX and XXI.

Poor Law Commission, 1834, XXVII.

Durham's Report on the Affairs of British North America, 1839, XVII.

Hand-loom Weavers' Commission, 1841, X.

Children's Employment Commission:

First Report (Mines), 1842, XV.

Second Report (Trades and Manufactures), 1843, XIII.

Midland Mining (South Staffs.) Commission (Commissioner, Mr Tancred), 1843, XIII.

Commission on Condition of Framework Knitters (Commissioner, Mr R. M. Muggeridge), 1845, XV.

Trades Unions Commission: Final Report, 1868-9, XXXI.

Truck Commission, 1871, XXXVI.

The general student will not do more than dip into one or two of the above, but it may be explained that these references are to the Reports only. Each big inquiry has additional volumes containing evidence, supplementary reports, diagrams, maps, *précis*, etc.; and hidden away among these may be found much fascinating matter on topics allied to the subject of the inquiry.

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(2) MANUSCRIPTS, PUBLIC RECORDS, ETC. Among these the following are of special importance in this period:

Place MSS. in the British Museum, catalogued under "Additional Manuscripts". Home Office Papers at the Record Office. The Collection compiled by Professor H. S. Foxwell and now in the Goldsmiths' Library, Imperial Institute, South Kensington.

I am so much indebted to Professor Foxwell's Collection that I give an extract from the notice written by him for the *Dictionary of Political Economy* (1909 Edition, Appendix to Vol. III. "Economic Libraries," pp. 720-722):

*The Goldsmiths' Company's Library of Economic Literature.* This is a collection of books and tracts intended to serve as a basis for the study of the industrial, commercial, monetary, and financial history of the United Kingdom. . . . After thirty years of labour the catalogue contains over 30,000 distinct entries, without taking account of a mass of political literature acquired incidentally, and a large collection of original Acts of Parliament of special economic interest. . . . In economics, more perhaps than in any other subject, its historical sources are largely of an occasional, non-formal character; and the brief contributions of practical men are often of much greater value than the more systematic disquisitions of professed writers. Hence there is an exceptionally large proportion of pamphlets and tracts in the library, not much less in number than 20,000. . . .

Here then is a great harvest. Who will help to reap it?

C. R. F.

March, 1920.

*It may be that some readers of this book are business men or working men. Such readers are invited to turn at once to Chapter XIV and the Chapters following. They will there find what the author conceives to be—from an industrial standpoint—the heart of the matter; and they will be able to correct or confirm the picture, there presented, from their own working experience and their own local traditions.*



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## FOURTH EDITION

THE Appendix has been reinserted, and a small version of the original coloured map has been introduced on p. 298.

C. R. F.

*August, 1947*

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