

in many countries are of poor quality. Probably no one is more aware of this than the editors of the YEARBOOK themselves. Within the limits of their time and prerogatives the editors are apparently doing their utmost to evaluate the quality of the data published and, by use of footnotes and symbols, to warn the user when certain published figures are questionable. Their work of this type will not only be of immense help to the users of the data but should also tend to encourage various national governments to improve their statistics. Students of population and many other social scientists have welcomed the inauguration of DEMOGRAPHIC YEARBOOK and they have a strong vested interest in its continuation and constant improvement.

CLYDE V. KISER



INDUSTRIALIZATION AND LABOR¹

SINCE the end of World War II there has been an increasing realization of the necessity for raising the levels of living of the disadvantaged peoples of the world if peace is to be insured. Attention has been focused upon the so-called underdeveloped areas of the world and the need for helping such areas with their economic and social problems.

Wilbert E. Moore's book describing the social aspects of economic development is the outcome of a project on "Attitudes of Native Labor Toward Industrial Work" initiated in 1946 by the Institute of World Affairs and carried to completion with the cooperation of the Viking Fund and also of the Office of Population Research of Princeton University, with which Dr. Moore is affiliated.

It is commendable that this type of study was undertaken. Too often, industrial development has been studied solely from the economic needs of a country. The total impact of industrialization upon the society of a country and its meaning in terms of revolutionary change in the life of the people is many times overlooked. Further, it must be recognized that certain social

¹ Moore, Wilbert E.: *INDUSTRIALIZATION AND LABOR*, Social Aspects of Economic Development, Published for The Institute of World Affairs, New School For Social Research, Cornell University Press, Ithaca and New York, 1951, 410 pp., \$5.00.

resistances are at work in agrarian countries against any change. Dr. Moore states: "These 'subjective' factors in economic development, the ease or difficulty with which new economic forms are grafted onto native habits and values, constitute an area for investigation that has both practical and theoretical significance. . . . What is essayed . . . is a comparative analysis of the social preconditions to industrial development, particularly with respect to the motivation of workers." (P. 5)

The author describes the content of the book as "a review of the evidence in the extant literature directly bearing on attitudes toward modern economic activity; an appraisal of such primary evidence in the wider context of social organization and social change; a more intensive study of a selected area, where data on the attitudes of workers and on the relevant features of the social structure are supplemented by direct investigation." (P. 9)

Since the scope of the study is broad, the reviewer will attempt simply to state a few of the main conclusions made in this book. The mere existence of a large supply of labor is not enough to permit a rapid transition from agrarian to industrial economy. This transition does not follow a set pattern; it has varied from country to country and from culture to culture. There are definite barriers to modernization and the nature and strength of these are important factors influencing the speed of transition. The most important barriers are believed by the author to be: "ignorance of alternatives and of the skills for their adoption; the security system, both emotional and economic, provided by the social structure of nonindustrial societies; the status-system . . . ; the 'freedom' and socially recognized skill of the independent producer in primitive and peasant societies." (P. 302) These barriers were very evident in the two villages studied in Mexico. Dr. Moore also points out that land reform movements such as those in Mexico can deter natives from leaving the farms to work in factories for wages.

The primary and initial push toward becoming industrial workers is the existence of poverty and the lack of opportunity to earn a living in the traditional ways. This is evident not only in the Mexican data but in data presented from other studies.

Positive incentives reiterated in this book, are considerations of prestige and esteem, the opportunity to specialize, the seeking of adventure and change, and even patriotism.

The study in the Mexican factory town suggests that low wages and low productivity are not necessary features of the beginnings of industrialization in underdeveloped areas. Higher wages coupled with an interest in supplying the workers with good living conditions and allowing the workers to participate in the industrial undertaking can bring higher productivity.

Perhaps the greatest contribution Dr. Moore makes in this book is his description of the complexities of the problem of industrialization in agrarian areas. No one factor is a necessary precondition for industrialization. This analysis emphasizes the necessity for a better understanding of the interrelation between economic, social and demographic problems in underdeveloped areas. It points up the need for comprehensive and balanced rather than partial and one-sided efforts in programs of modernization.

JEANNE E. CLARE



THE BURDEN OF DISEASES IN THE UNITED STATES¹

IN *THE BURDEN OF DISEASES IN THE UNITED STATES*, Cohn and Lingg describe changes in mortality from various diseases in the past half century and the consequent shift in the relative importance of different specific diseases that affect the public health. The general thesis of the book is that total crude death rates have little meaning and can be interpreted only if the ages at which death occurs and the kinds of diseases that cause these deaths are considered. From this type of information, the central, practical problem of how various ailments affect the community is disclosed and "important opportunities for investigation are certain to emerge."

The basic data on mortality in the United States are shown in charts which comprise about one-third of the total pages of

¹ Cohn, Alfred E. and Lingg, Claire: *THE BURDEN OF DISEASES IN THE UNITED STATES*. New York, Oxford University Press, 1950, 129 pp. (\$10.00).