The numerous maps should not pass unnoticed. Several are small reproductions of important contemporary maps. Others illustrate the geographical setting. At the end are three larger maps illustrating the routes of the explorers. It might be suggested that this latter group would have been more serviceable if greater geographical detail had been included. A mountain pass without the mountains leaves something to be desired in locating a transcontinental route. However commendation for this otherwise excellent equipment will be the rightful reaction. JOHN DONALD BARNHART.


This modest volume, which is one in the series of Literary Digest Books, is of unusual merit. The author knows well the European situation. He displays a fine understanding of the events and men with whom he deals. He writes in an engaging manner, though he never uses rhetoric merely for effect. Clearly a liberal in his views, he nevertheless does not indulge in attacks on the men of the hour nor on the extant governments of continental Europe.

The reader is prepared for the treatements of Italy, Germany and Russia (Chapters III-XIV), which make up the bulk of the volume, by two general chapters at the beginning, "The New Deal" and "The Old Deal." The last portion of the book (Chapters XV-XVIII) is devoted to "Some Other New Deals." Chapter XVII, "America Looks at Europe's New Deals," is one of the most fascinating in the volume.

The author's analysis of the "Old Deal" is keen. A remarkable paragraph is that which characterizes the capitalism which developed after the day of Adam Smith:

Then capitalism swung into a more heroic era, filled with the whirling of vast wheels and the shrieking of factory whistles, at the sound of which capital with a sense of mission fled and its place was taken by an utterly irreligious creature, which valued honesty only to the extent that it promoted business. The new capitalism generated tremendous driving power by exploiting every opportunity it found, concentrating on the reward of man's labors on earth and not in heaven. The small manufacturer who had sweated his laborers in their homes became later the factory-owner who sweated his workers in his plants. He was now such a great power that he could keep the government entirely
out of his business. The factory enjoyed special rights; the judges of the crown had no jurisdiction. Just as an Englishman’s home was his castle, so his factory became his fortress from which he could defy the State.

Attempts to regulate industrialism after it had spread to many countries were only partially successful. The World War came and later dictatorships in Russia, Italy and Germany. Stalin, Mussolini and Hitler were evolved and are, at least for the period, powerful figures in a changing world. They are handled vigorously but fairly.

The new deal in America is treated very sympathetically. Resemblances to the regimes of Europe are recognized, but the fundamental contrasts are clearly shown. America is too well off to enter on the path of revolution—"Stronger than steel and cement fortresses against enemies of the existing social order, were America’s twenty-five million motor cars." The government at Washington is credited with more energy and speed than those of Germany or Italy. The author believes that "at one time there were millions who would have taken immense delight in an American man of iron", a time when it seemed to these that shirt-factories might have to provide garments of some special color for the fascist hosts in America. This did not happen. Though vast powers were thrust or gathered into his hands, President Roosevelt did not behave like a dictator. Suppression of opposition and banishment of enemies have had no part in the new deal of the United States. Unlike the new deal of Europe, the American new deal has held to the task of economic reorganization and reconstruction, refusing to enter the political field.

The question of the future of the new deals is difficult to answer. The author’s hint as to America is found in the question: "Who knows but the great social upheaval in the United States will make its inhabitants turn their backs on a civilization propelled largely by fits of explosive energy and nervous breakdowns?" As to Europe, a hopeful possibility is voiced in the last two sentences of the book: "Despite their blunders and cruelties, these new deals of Europe may express an inarticulate craving for a world in which man’s acquisitive instincts are curbed. One is wondering whether the New Deal of the future will not be result of a compromise between these acquisitive instincts and the life necessities of the race."

WILLIAM O. LYNCH.