

break with NAWSA over its support of the Anthony constitutional amendment. Clay feared that the enforcing clause of the amendment would open the door to federal intervention in state affairs.

In the final chapter Fuller points out that Clay had always viewed the fight for woman's rights as a many sided struggle. As an Episcopalian she worked for church laity rights for women. She also urged the admission of women to southern colleges. Clay played a role in the Democratic party and actively campaigned for Alfred E. Smith's presidency. Finally, when eighty-six she defended the concept of equal pay for equal work at the University of Kentucky.

The author succeeds in showing the importance and motives of Laura Clay to the woman's rights movement. He has expanded his dissertation in a useful book which saves Clay from being at best a footnote in the story of the struggle for woman's rights.

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The War Generation: Veterans of the First World War.
Edited by Stephen R. Ward. (Port Washington, N. Y.:
Kennikat Press, 1975. Pp. 192. Notes, index. \$12.50.)

One of history's lessons is that warriors sometimes have exerted great influence upon their societies long after the clash of arms has been stilled. In documented essays prefaced by the editor's introduction, five authors examine the actions, philosophies, and organizations of veterans of the First World War in Britain, the United States, France, Italy, and Germany.

Dealing with the British scene, Stephen R. Ward focuses on several organizations, the largest of which was the British Legion which resulted from an amalgamation in 1921 of four earlier groups. He infers that, following a time of militance in 1919 that won them limited governmental benefits, British exservicemen generally slumped into apathy and opted for assimilation into civilian society.

Donald J. Lisio's essay concerns veterans in the United States, especially those belonging to the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars. Veterans' organizations gained congressional approval for a bonus in 1924 and later

a law providing for early payment of it; but, as Lisio indicates, the power of veterans organizations to influence legislation can be exaggerated. Although Lisio observes that the legion's national defense programs met with defeat, he neglects to mention its role in the early successful campaign for the Veterans Bureau. Also, the legion's founders would be taken aback by the assertion that their organization was formed by General John J. Pershing. If any one individual above others deserves credit for creating the legion, it was Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, Jr. Perhaps the chief strength of Lisio's writing lies in his depiction of President Herbert Hoover as being more kindly disposed to former soldiers than has been generally believed.

In France a number of veterans' groups existed. Robert Soucy, an authority on French fascism, gives considerable attention to Henri Barbusse's small Association Républicaine des Anciens Combattants which was oriented to communist causes. The gravest domestic threat to the Third Republic emanated from the right, however; and Soucy devotes much of his essay to the famous right wing Parisian riots of February 6, 1934. The fascist leagues were the driving force behind that uprising, he says, and through them surged strong charges of veterans' mystique.

The value of Michael A. Ledeen's essay lies in its illumination of the Italian veterans usually neglected by historians—those opposing Mussolini's fascism. In an essay at times difficult to follow, Ledeen discusses the split in the veterans' organization, the Arditi. This resulted in some exservicemen gravitating into the Duce's camp, others pursuing far left causes under Argo Secondari, and still others rallying to the banner of the antifascist Gabriele D'Annunzio.

James M. Diehl traces the transformation of rightist military organizations into political combat leagues dedicated to overthrowing the Weimar Republic of Germany. He infers that they and certain veterans' groups, by constantly undermining the Weimar government, contributed to the emergence of the Third Reich.

This learned book merits perusal by anyone interested in veterans' affairs or in the question of how wartime *esprit de corps* among fighting men can carry over into their civilian lives.

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