

Contents

Introduction

PART I 1760–1850

INDUSTRY

Page

- 1 **Before the Industrial Revolution:** the Domestic System — the Woollen Cloth Industry — Capitalist Clothier and Cloth Merchant — Merits and Defects of Domestic System — Reasons for Change 16
- 2 **The Industrial Revolution—Textiles, Coal, Iron:** Changes in Technique and Organisation in the Coal, Cotton and Iron Industries — Mechanical Inventions and New Processes — Importance of Steam Power — the Factory System — Expansion in Industry — Changes in Location 24
- 3 **The Industrial Revolution—Social Results:** Two Views — Working Conditions — Wages — Boom and Depression — Unemployment — Living Conditions — Slum Towns — Slow Improvement 38

AGRICULTURE

- 4 **The Agricultural Revolution:** Open Field System of Farming — Reasons for Change — Enclosures — the New Farmers 46

TRADE

- 5 **Mercantilism and Free Trade:** the Free Trade Movement — Pitt, Huskisson, Peel, Gladstone — Anti-Corn Law League — For and Against Repeal — Results of Repeal 61

TRANSPORT

- 6 **Roads:** Early History — Turnpike Trusts — Carrying Goods — Canals and Roads — Passenger Transport — Mail Coach — Road Engineers 73
- 7 **Canals:** Why were they Built — Sankey Brook Canal — Bridgewater Canal — James Brindley — Grand Trunk Canal — Canal Carriers — Merits and Defects of Canals 84
- 8 **Railways:** Early Railways and First Locomotives — George Stephenson — Rainhill Trials — Liverpool and Manchester Railway — For and Against Railways — Trunk Lines — Railway Act 1844 — Battle of the Gauges — Railway Mania — Importance of Railways 97

WORKING-CLASS MOVEMENTS

- 9 **The Co-operative Movement:** Beginnings — Robert Owen's New View — Early Co-operative Societies — Labour Exchanges — Co-operative Communities — Rochdale Pioneers 115
- 10 **Chartism:** Character of the Movement — L.W.M.A. — Birmingham Political Union — Feargus O'Connor, Stephens and the North — the Convention — the Second Phase — the Last Phase — Success or Failure 126
- 11 **Trade Unions:** Early Craft Unions — the Combination Acts — the National and District Unions — the Grand National and Consolidated — the New Model Trade Unionism 139

SOCIAL POLICY

- 12 **Poverty and the Poor Law:** Gilbert's Act — the Speenhamland System — the Poor Law Amendment Act 1834 — the Application of the Act — For and Against the Act — Poor Law Board 1847 155
- 13 **Public Health:** the Background — Dr. Southwood Smith — Edwin Chadwick — Report of 1842 — Health of Towns Commission — Public Health Act 1848 168
- 14 **Factory Legislation:** the Acts of 1802, 1819, 1825, 1831 — Factory Act 1833 — Factory Act 1844 — Triumph of 'Ten Hours' Movement — Mines Act 1842 179

- 15 **Education:** Day Schools, Dame Schools and Charity Schools — Robert Raikes and Hannah More — Lancaster and Bell — Ragged Schools, Endowed Schools, Village Schools and Infant Schools — the State and Education — James Kay-Shuttleworth 193

PART II 1850–1914

INDUSTRY

- 16 **Workshop of the World 1850–75:** Factors behind Prosperity — Cotton, Iron and Coal Industries — Companies — First Industrial Power — Who Benefited? 212
- 17 **A Period of Decline 1875–1914:** General Character of Period — Prices, Profits, Wages and Unemployment — Staple Industries — New Industries — Changes in Organisation — Nature of and Reasons for Decline 222

AGRICULTURE

- 18 **The Golden Age of Farming 1850–75:** Reasons for Prosperity — High Farming — Drainage, Fertilisers, Machinery — the Agricultural Labourer 234
- 19 **The Great Depression 1875–1914:** the Nature, the Causes and the Results of the Depression — the Agricultural Labourer — Government Policy 245

TRADE

- 20 **Overseas Trade—Tariff Reform:** Markets, Exports and Imports — Invisible Exports — Free Trade and Tariff Reform 255

TRANSPORT

- 21 **Railways:** Further Development of Railways — Safety and Comfort — Suburban and Underground Railways — the State and the Railways — Railways and Trade Unions 267
- 22 **Roads:** Feeding the Railways — Turnpike Trusts and Road Maintenance — the Horse Bus — Tramways — the Bicycle — Motor Transport 278

WORKING-CLASS MOVEMENTS

- 23 **Trade Unions and the Rise of the Labour Party:** New Model Trade Unions — Case of Hornby versus Close — Trades Union Congress — Trade Union Acts 1871, 1875–76 — the New Unionism 1880–1900 — Dockers' Strike — Joseph Arch — Taff Vale Case — Osborne Case — Militant Unionism 1910–14 — Rise of Labour Party 291
- 24 **The Co-operative Movement:** Growth of the Rochdale Society — Christian Socialists and Co-operation — Co-operative Wholesale Society — Producers' Co-operation — Annual Congress — Women's Co-operative Guild 303

SOCIAL POLICY

- 25 **The Poor Law and the Liberal Reforms:** Administration of the Poor Law 1834–1914 — the Poor Law and the Sick, the Able-bodied, the Old and the Young — Royal Commission of 1905 and the Report of 1909 — Liberal Reforms 1906–14 313
- 26 **Public Health:** the Board of Health, the Privy Council and the Local Government Board — Sir John Simon — the Sanitary Commission 1869 — Public Health Act 1875 — Food Drugs and Vaccination — Housing 327
- 27 **Factory Legislation:** Extension of Factory Acts — Dangerous Trades — Factory Acts 1864, 1867, 1878 — Sweated Trades — Climbing Boys — Factory Acts 1891, 1901 — Workmen's Compensation — Wages and Conciliation Boards — Trade Boards 336
- 28 **Education:** Forster's Elementary Education Act — Compulsory and Free Education — Technical Education — Cross and Bryce Commissions — Cockerton Judgement — Education Act 1902 — Education 1902–18 — Fisher Act 1918 349

PART III 1914–1939

INDUSTRY

- 29 **Old and New Industries:** Post-war Problems — Coal, Cotton, Iron and Steel — Shipbuilding — Engineering — 368

Factors Common to the Older Industries — The New Industries — Electrical, Motor car and Chemical — Glass, Aluminium, Rubber and Rayon — the Building Industry

AGRICULTURE

- 30 **Mixed Farming and Protection:** Wartime Prosperity — 381
Back to Mixed Farming — Government Assistance in the Twenties — the Depression 1931-33 — the Policy of Protection

TRADE

- 31 **The War and the Depression:** Effects of the First World War — the Depression of 1929-33 — Exports and Imports — Protection — Britain's Financial Position 388

TRANSPORT

- 32 **Railways, Motor Cars, Aeroplanes:** Railways in Decline — 395
Development of Motor Transport — Social and Economic Effects of the Motor Car — the Birth of Civil Aviation — Early Air Transport — Imperial Airways — Internal Air Transport

WORKING-CLASS MOVEMENTS

- 33 **Trade Unions:** Growing Strength — Post-war Militancy — 407
Causes and Results of the General Strike — Trade Unions and the Labour Party — Ernest Bevin, Trade Union Leader

SOCIAL POLICY

- 34 **Social Conditions:** People out of Work — People in Work 418
— Conclusion
- 35 **Relief, Housing, Health, Education:** Unemployment 427
Relief — Housing — Health and Pensions — Education — Conclusion.

BIBLIOGRAPHY