CHAPTER III

INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATION

THE business man and the worker in industry do not normally inquire into the moral quality of what they are doing, and even the economist is not concerned to think out the fundamentals of industrial activity. None of these is aware how far the explanation of what is done in getting and in using goods can be carried. But, without going so far as to discuss the nature of mind and matter, any criticism of industry should include at least a momentary glance at the activities which logically precede the exchange of goods and services. Industry must first be viewed as one whole and in its proper perspective in reference to human life.

The whole of industry is fundamentally the use of material energy for food, clothing, housing, and other such needs of men. This material energy is, scientifically viewed, the result of the absorption by the earth of the sun's heat. Man lives by taking up from the earth and plants, often through animals, this heat or energy of the sun, and he lived thus

before there was any industry.

But it was not anywhere for long, and it is not now usually a mere going to the earth and taking what is there; for men increase their current resources of energy by skilled agriculture and industry. Tools and their elaboration in machinery,