

CHAPTER VIII

POST-WAR ADMINISTRATION

DEPARTMENTAL LEGISLATION

INDUSTRIAL AND FOREIGN POLICY (*continued*)

Foreign Trade as Influenced by the Occupation. Franco-Germanic Policy.

THE shipping trade affords us the most complete and up-to-date example of German industrial foreign policy overseas. Turning to review its post-war tendencies in connection with the European situation we see that it has been of course in great measure determined by the occupation of her Rhineland frontiers. We need not overestimate the effect so far as the areas which were limited by the terms of the Treaty are concerned, but the results of the taking over of the Ruhr district are far-reaching.

One obvious result is that Germany's determination to exploit new markets has acquired the urgency of need; another that some rearrangement of economic relations between the German and French coal and steel magnates has become an intrinsic part of Franco-Germanic policy—with all that that imports to other competing countries—although for the moment negotiations are at a standstill.