

CERTAIN ASPECTS OF AMERICAN CIVILIZATION AS EXPRESSED
IN THE REVUE DES DEUX MONDES (1925-1935)

A THESIS

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The Revue des Deux Mondes was founded in 1829 in Paris by Segur-Dupeyron and Mauroy.¹ The success of the magazine was slow at first, and it lacked a definite policy. In 1830 the Revue des Deux Mondes absorbed the Journal des voyages, découvertes, et navigations modernes, which had been founded in 1825 by Frick and Devilleneuve.² The magazine was taken over in 1831 by François Buloz, whose purpose was to reflect literature, history, the arts, sciences and politics. François Buloz edited the magazine from 1831 until 1877, a period of forty-six years. He followed the principle that a Revue should be a combination of literature, art, science, and politics, without any one of these elements overshadowing the others.³ He realized the importance of the Romantic school and of the Parnassian and Symbolist movements. He made a place for the work of the writers of these groups in the Revue des Deux Mondes.⁴ Before 1831 foreign correspondence had predominated in the Revue; but, when Buloz became editor, he emphasized the literary and philosophical aspects, without excluding the foreign ele-

¹ Pierre Larousse, "François Buloz," Grand Dictionnaire universel du XIX^e siècle (Paris: Librairie classique Larousse et Boyer, 1867), II, 1410-11.

² Eugène Hatin, Bibliographie historique et critique de la presse périodique française (Paris: Librairie de Firmin Didot, 1866), p. 367.

³ Louis Jules Arrigon, Cent Ans de Vie française à la Revue des Deux Mondes (Paris: Revue des Deux Mondes, 1929), p. 15.

⁴ Henri Peyre, "The Revue des Deux Mondes," The Saturday Review of Literature, VI (December 7, 1929), 532.

ment. Some of the writers who contributed during the nineteenth century were Balzac, Chateaubriand, Dumas nère, Victor Hugo, Musset, Renan, Sainte-Beuve, George Sand, Taine, and Vigny. During the early part of the twentieth century, among well-known writers who wrote for the journal were Maurice Barrès, Jules Lemaitre, Pierre Loti, and Edmond Rostand.

After Buloz took over the Revue des Deux Mondes, it had few editors: François Buloz (1831-1877), Charles Buloz (1877-1894), Charles Brunetière (1894-1906), François Charmes (1906-1916), and René Doumic (1916-1938). Since the death of Doumic in January, 1938, André Chaumeix has been editor of the Revue. The political policy of the editors has been the presentation of impartial, unprejudiced views rather than of partisan or radical views. This principle is in accord with the conservative character of the magazine.

At the present time, the Revue des Deux Mondes appears on the first and the fifteenth of each month. The price of the magazine is six francs for each issue. Each number contains about two hundred forty pages devoted to literary works, discussions of current affairs and science, and reviews of literary and dramatic productions.

Among recent French writers whose works appear in the Revue des Deux Mondes are André Chaumeix, the present editor, who was earlier literary and political editor of the Journal des débats; André Chevrillon, a member of the French Academy; René Doumic, secrétaire perpétuel of the French Academy and editor of the Revue until his death; Bernard Faÿ, a student of American affairs who has taught in this country; and André Siegfried, who has written several books about America.

The Revue des Deux Mondes has played an important part in introducing

the literature of other countries to the French public. Goethe,⁵ Shakespeare,⁶ and Shelley⁷ are among the most important foreign writers of past centuries whose works or lives are discussed in the magazine. Literary productions of the past do not constitute the only field of foreign literature in which the Revue des Deux Mondes is interested. The magazine has been very important in introducing modern foreign literatures to its readers. Some of the contemporary foreign authors whose works are translated or reviewed in the magazine are Joseph Conrad,⁸ D. H. Lawrence,⁹ Somerset Maugham,¹⁰ Luigi Pirandello,¹¹ Leo Tolstoy,¹² Edith Wharton,¹³ and Virginia Woolf.¹⁴ By their practice of using foreign authors, the Revue des Deux

⁵ R. D. M., X, series 8 (August 1, 1932), 541-73; XI, series 8 (October 1, 1932), 670-91; and LIX (September 1, 1930), 164-86. The title of the Revue des Deux Mondes will be abbreviated in the footnotes of this study as follows: R. D. M. Series 8 is used by the binders to differentiate the bound volumes of the R. D. M. after 1930 from those preceding this date.

⁶ R. D. M., II, series 8 (March 1, 1931), 205-17 and VI, series 8 (December I, 1931), 705-10.

⁷ R. D. M., LX (December 1, 1930), 616-40.

⁸ R. D. M., XXXIV (August 1 and 15, 1926), 548-77 and 778-806.

⁹ R. D. M., XII, series 8 (December 1, 1932), 685-98.

¹⁰ R. D. M., XI, series 8 (September 15, 1932), 425-50, and XVIII, series 8, (November 15, 1933), 257-91.

¹¹ R. D. M., XXXVIII (March 1, 1926), 206-17.

¹² R. D. M., XLIV (March 15, 1928), 444-55.

¹³ R. D. M., XLII (November 1 and 15, 1927), 5-45, 241-74, 554-84, and LV (February 1 and 15, 1930), 481-517, 753-79.

¹⁴ R. D. M., LIII (September 1, 1929), 218-30.

Mondes has helped to contribute to French literature a spirit of cosmopolitanism.¹⁵

The high standards of the Revue des Deux Mondes have long been admired both at home and abroad. The magazine has always had official recognition in France, and has been respected and feared as a power by every administration of the government of France. The group which Buloz wished to attract was that of the haute bourgeoisie. One writer¹⁶ has described the rôle of the Revue thus:

From its earliest days the Revue has appealed and still appeals to those who prefer quality to out-put or who believe in fundamental brain work, well-balanced criticism, and the maintenance of literary standards, even if those standards are bound to change to some extent with the times.

The material for this study has been gleaned from articles concerning America in the Revue des Deux Mondes. The issues of the magazine which were studied cover the period from 1925 to 1935 inclusive. In Chapter II of this study, there will be a discussion of French impressions and ideas of American education and customs. Chapter III will discuss French ideas of American literature and Chapter IV will contain a discussion of French attitudes and ideas toward American public affairs during the years from 1925 to 1935.

Since this period of ten years covers several years preceding the depression and also the period of the depression, French students of American affairs received two different impressions. Before the depression, the general French impression was that the American people were very extravagant.

¹⁵ Arrigon, op. cit., p. 29.

¹⁶ Cloudeley Brereton, "The Revue des Deux Mondes," Spectator, OXLIV (January 11, 1930), 47-48.

André Maurois, who visited the United States before 1929, expresses it thus: "Dépenser était le grand jeu national."¹⁷ M. Maurois visited the United States again in 1935 and received a very different impression of the people. The optimism of the American people, which was regarded by the French as a characteristic American trait, had been shaken severely by the depression.

¹⁷ André Maurois, En Amérique (Robert Waugh, editor; New York: American Book Company, 1936), p. 96.

CHAPTER II

EDUCATION

The American system of education differs greatly from the French both in objectives and organization. This difference is very evident in the American schools for girls and the French schools for girls. The most obvious difference is that the French girls are so busy preparing for life, that, during their years in school, they do not have time to live. The theory that education is a preparation for life has been supplanted in the American educational system by the theory that education is life itself. Paul Hazard,¹ an eminent French professor who has taught in the United States, believes that in the years spent in school the French girl learns more from books, but that the American girl is happier. The American school seems, to the French, like a small city dedicated to study and happiness. Another point which impresses the French visitor is the freedom of the American girls, as opposed to the careful supervision of girls in French schools. The American student through this freedom learns a self-reliance which the French one fails to develop.

Professor Hazard commends the practice followed by some American schools, of having interested and more gifted students spend one of their college years in France. He believes that France should adopt a similar plan and send some of her more gifted students to study in American universities. Such a plan would help to develop a friendly feeling and peaceful

¹ Paul Hazard, "Un Collège de jeunes filles en Amérique," R. D. M., II, series 8 (March 1, 1931), 110-25.

relations between the two nations.

Another point of contrast between the American and the French views of education, from the French viewpoint, is that in France, while the intelligence and mental development of the individual are public interests, the physical development is left to the individual. In America, attention is given to both phases. The French criticizes the American emphasis upon sports and physical development. Sports should be a means to an end and not an end in themselves.

The coeducational system, prevailing among the universities of the Middle West and the West, is another phase of American education which interests the French exceedingly.² It is a novelty to the French because coeducation has not been a part of the French system.

Another interesting feature is a change which has occurred recently in American education. This change has come about as a result of the idea of American educators that the university should teach the student to think for himself. Formerly in both French and American universities the tendency was toward mechanical learning. While this tendency still prevails to a large extent in French schools, the student in the American university is being encouraged to think for himself.

The social side of education is stressed more in the American university. In France, one of the primary objectives of education is the acquisition of knowledge but in America the student learns to adapt himself to different situations. The stress upon the social side of education in

² Charles Diehl, "Universités et musées d'Amérique--Tendances nouvelles," E. D. E., XLV (May 15, 1928), 427-50.

American universities promotes a feeling of school loyalty among the students.

The French, whose universities lack the spaciousness of American universities, admire the practicality and accessibility of the libraries in American schools. The American card catalog seems very efficient to the French visitor. The reading and reference rooms of libraries are also admired greatly by the French who find them attractive and conveniently arranged for study and research.

The French are interested in the English language as it is spoken in America and especially in its use by the youth in American schools. Mlle Odette Pascaud,³ a French girl who came to spend a year in an American university, says: "Je parle et comprends l'anglais de l'Angleterre; c'est très insuffisant. Il me faudra apprendre l'américain, et bien plus: l'argot." Mlle Pascaud was especially interested in American slang. She found life in an American school easy, free, and well-organized although the organization differs somewhat from that in France. While the regular schedule of fifteen or sixteen hours for one semester seemed to her to be a rather heavy course, she noted that American students received more help from their instructors than those in the French schools. Although Mlle Pascaud differs in some points in her observations of American schools from those made by Professor Hazard, it is well to remember that Mlle Pascaud was viewing life from the standpoint of a student while M. Hazard saw it from the professor's viewpoint. The important part played by sports in the American University

³ Odette Pascaud, "Quartier latin d'Amérique," R. D. M., XIII series 8 (February 15, 1933), 863-75.

interested Mlle Pascaud greatly. French educators believe that the American universities place too much stress upon sports. They believe that sports, when not carried to extremes, are beneficial, but that they are harmful as they are developed in many American universities.

The French criticize the American system of elementary education which has followed too closely the theories of Rousseau. These principles are based upon the ideas of a Frenchman, but the French believe that they allow the child too much freedom and therefore make American children the most badly reared in the world. This idea is expressed thus:⁴

Les méthodes américaines, héritées de Rousseau, s'inspirent, en effet, des doctrines sur les droits de l'enfant, c'est-à-dire du droit à toutes les sottises; elles font des petits Américains les enfants les plus mal élevés, les plus insupportables du monde.

The writer believes that the great freedom and over-indulgence granted to American children tend to make them self-centered and egotistical.

The features of American education which interest the French include the objectives of American education and the system through which these objectives are accomplished. The French note: (1) the American emphasis upon education as life rather than as a preparation for life, with a great deal of stress upon the social side of education; (2) the place of sports in the American university; (3) American coeducation; (4) the freedom of the American girl; and (5) the spaciousness and convenience of the buildings, especially the libraries.

⁴ Georges Lechartier, "Le président Franklin D. Roosevelt," R. D. M., XII, series 8 (December 1, 1932), 311.

CHAPTER III

AMERICAN LITERATURE

According to M. Firmin Roz,¹ a French critic of literature, it is necessary to distinguish between two classes of society in America: the élite and the masses. The differences in the tastes of the two groups tend to produce two classes of literature: one optimistic and idealistic and the other decidedly realistic. Although the writers of the realistic school belong to the middle class of society, the literature which they produce has a great appeal for the élite group or the intelligentsia. The literature which appeals to the great masses of readers is full of idealism, optimism, and chivalrous ideals.²

The literature of the East shows cosmopolitan influences because the population of the East, more than that of the Middle West, received most of the immigrants from Europe. In addition, Europe seems much closer to the people of the East because they have more contacts with Europe than the people of the Middle West or of the West. Therefore, Europe tends to exercise a much greater influence on the thinking and the literature of the eastern part of the United States. The East is more largely industrialized than the West and the literature of the eastern part of the United States reflects the industrialism of this section of the country. From literature dealing with the East the French receive the idea that America is the land

¹ Firmin Roz, "L'esprit nouveau du roman américain," *R. D. M.*, XXIX (October 15, 1925), 878-900.

² *Ibid.*, 898.

of big business and politicians where the dollar is king. Also, the literature of the eastern part of the United States has been strongly influenced by English tradition because of the fact that many of the people of the East have been of English extraction.

The literature of the Middle West is influenced by the spirit of the pioneers who settled the region. The West and Middle West are primarily agricultural regions and picture rural life to a great extent.³ There are certain primitive aspects, such as isolation of the inhabitants in the less thickly populated districts in the West and the Middle West, which are not evident in the East. The literature of the Middle West appeals to the French because of these primitive aspects. The French like to believe that the picture of rural America is a picture of the real America because they dislike the mechanization and industrialization evident in the cities. They feel that the foundations of rural life are more stable than those of urban life, where a feeling of feverish activity gives rise to a lack of permanency.

The contemporary American authors whose works are most widely read in France and are considered typically American are Sinclair Lewis, Theodore Dreiser, Willa Cather, Carl Sandburg, H. L. Mencken, and Upton Sinclair. Mencken, Lewis, and Dreiser, the observers of American life, are much more severe in their judgment than the French critics.⁴ These American writers satirize not only individuals, but also the American system and the concep-

³ Ibid., 886.

⁴ André Chaumeix, "Revue littéraire--Images de l'Amérique," R. D. M., LVII (June 15, 1930), 928-38.

tions and ideals upon which the country is founded.⁵ They revolt against Puritan attitudes and social injustices. The new literature is full of satire and is critical in spirit. The satire of Sinclair Lewis awakes in the French reader's mind a lively curiosity. Most French critics believe that the books of Mencken, Lewis, and Dreiser show very realistic pictures of America. These stories contrast with those presented in the cinema which gives an idealized view of American life and furnishes almost the only picture of America which the average Frenchman possesses. Although comparatively few Frenchmen read the works of the contemporary American realists, those who do wonder at the two contrasting views of American life, one strongly idealistic and the other realistic. On the whole, the French intellectual class prefers the realistic writers who picture the Americans as commonplace people struggling with unsolved problems.

Much of the news from the United States printed in French newspapers consists of accounts of organized crime. These accounts give the French the idea that American society is filled with gangs and gangsters, presenting a picture which the French find extremely distasteful.

There are, according to M. Roz,⁶ four essential traits of the American character: (1) strict morality born of Puritanism; (2) invincible self-confidence; (3) optimism; and (4) practical idealism. These traits influence American literature profoundly.

⁵ Firmin Roz, "La Crise américaine et le Président Roosevelt," *R. D. M.*, XVI, series 8 (July 15, 1933), 282-302.

⁶ Roz, "L'esprit nouveau du roman américain," *op. cit.*, 878-900.

The French see current American literature as a literature of revolt. In discussing Main Street by Sinclair Lewis, M. Roz⁷ says:

Ce qui s'exprime dans tout le roman, c'est l'esprit nouveau d'une élite intellectuelle en révolte contre l'optimisme traditionnel, nourri, gonflé, déformé par la prospérité croissante du peuple américain.

Sinclair Lewis represents the revolt against the materialistic optimism of the days of American prosperity. According to M. Roz,⁸ Theodore Dreiser represents in American literature

... la voix de la révolte contre la tradition anglaise en Amérique, le représentant de ces immigrants dont l'énorme masse, désorientée, chargée de puissance latente, n'assimile qu'en les simplifiant et en les adaptant à sa mesure les idéals de la civilisation américaine.

Theodore Dreiser voices the spirit of the immigrant in revolt against the English Puritan tradition. In discussing the work of Carl Sandburg, M. Roz⁹ says:

... M. Carl Sandburg avait été jusqu'ici le poète de la métropole du Middle West, Chicago, la ville fournaise, de son activité prodigieuse, de son rude labour, de l'énergie formidable qui se dépense dans toute cette région, creuset où bouillonnent, métal et scories encore mêlés, les éléments nouveaux d'une Amérique en fusion.

Thus Carl Sandburg represents, to the French, the voice of the industrial class of Chicago, which is typical of the American centers of industry.

From his acquaintance with American literature a French critic¹⁰ believes that "... la crise n'est tant une crise économique que de valeurs

⁷ Ibid., 883.

⁸ Ibid., 887.

⁹ Ibid., 894.

¹⁰ Louis Gillet, "Littératures étrangères--Terre d'Amérique," R. D. M., XVIII, series 8 (November 1, 1933), 201-12.

spirituelles." This crisis of spiritual values is particularly evident in the materialistic attitudes depicted in much of the current literature of America.

French impressions of American literature, as shown in the Revue des Deux Mondes between 1925 and 1935, may be summarized thus: (1) the literature of the Middle West is considered as the most truly American; (2) the recent American writers whose works are most widely read in France are Sinclair Lewis, Theodore Dreiser, H. L. Mencken, and Carl Sandburg; (3) American literature reflects the essential traits of the American character; and (4) current American literature is a literature of revolt.

CHAPTER IV

INDUSTRY

The attitude of France toward the American industrial system is one of fear and resentment. The French adopt this attitude because they fear that the mechanization, standardization, and industrialization which go with the American industrial system will engulf European civilization. Mass production is the key to the American industrial system, and represents one of the reasons why Europe has begun to wonder, in recent years, to what extent she should become Americanized. The important factor in European industry is skill in manufacture or craftsmanship. For this reason the European mind cannot comprehend why America can so easily replace workers by machinery or individual action by mechanism.

The rapid development which the United States has followed since the World War is a constant source of worry to Europe. Until the end of the nineteenth century, the United States was preoccupied with conquering a continent. This accomplished, the next step in progress was a complete industrialization. This has been done with such rapidity that America today is almost incomprehensible to the European.¹ He can understand the American types portrayed in fiction and the moving picture--the eccentric millionaire, the gold miner, the negro, the Indian, the wealthy planter of the South, the cowboy of the West--figures of the preceding era, but the average Frenchman cannot comprehend the industrial methods of the United

¹ André Siegfried, "L'Europe devant la civilisation américaine," R. D. M., LVI (April 15, 1930), 757-74.

States, the American business man, or mass production. André Siegfried,² who is an unprejudiced critic of current affairs, observes that America no longer strives to conquer adventurously but to manufacture methodically. The most severe criticism which M. Siegfried makes of the American industrial system is that, through production in large quantities, although American products generally rise to the highest level of quality, they lack individuality. The standardization which follows mass production, is, to M. Siegfried, a great American tragedy--a tragedy made greater by the fact that it is not confined to products of industry but even the spirit of the people must be standardized.

No other people in the world, with the possible exception of the Japanese, are so prone to imitation, according to M. Lucien Romier,³ in an article written in 1927. Herein lies a possible menace to the future of American industry. The favorable factors in the outlook for the future of American industry may be found in the optimism and audacity of the Americans, in the vast space of the country and the exceptional amount of natural resources which have been the foundation of the economic success of the United States. Among those factors which menace the future of American industry are standardization, disintegration of the family, excessive protection of industry, and overproduction, which is one of the greatest evils of the American industrial and economic systems.

In the years preceding 1920, a steady stream of immigrants poured into

² Ibid., 759.

³ Lucien Romier, "Vues sur les Etats-Unis.--III. L'Avenir Economique." R. D. M., XLI (October 1, 1927), 631-49.

the United States. They had been attracted by the wealth and opportunities in the country. The admission of these immigrants brought two important results to the industrial system: (1) the progress of machine production; (2) industrial concentration or specialization. These, in turn, have resulted in the decreasing of hand labor and in overproduction.

Although the French do not approve certain phases of American life, they admit that America has created a higher standard of living. This constitutes one of her most important contributions to human society.

M. Siegfried⁴ believes that many French people make a great error in judging the United States on a strictly material basis.

The problem of the French movies is an interesting one.⁵ In the early days of the cinema industry the French silent movies were sometimes imported into the United States. But, following the World War such men as Loew, Zukor, Laemmle, and Fox made the cinema a national industry in the United States and non-American films were boycotted because they were said to appeal to only a very small group. The French films lost their distinctive personality when they were made to please the miners of Pennsylvania and the cowboys of the West. Now French films are used in the United States largely by groups interested in the French language.

The French resent the invasion of American movies into France. In 1930 eighty-five per cent of the films shown in France were American made.⁶

⁴ André Siegfried, op. cit., 766.

⁵ René Jeanne, "L'invasion cinématographique américaine," R. D. M., LV (February 15, 1930), 857-84.

⁶ Ibid., 860.

The French resented the handicap which this invasion placed upon their own movie industry. Between 1914 and 1918, the French movie industry was reduced to inaction by the World War; in the meantime, the American movie industry developed rapidly. Furthermore, the American movie magnates set out to convince the world that there is only one film in the world and that film is the American. The countries which have no movie industry of their own are conquered in advance. Germany and France, possessing cinema industries of their own, are not easy to conquer because they resent the hindrance to their industries which the American movie offers. However, the French industry is not adequately protected at home because (1) the Americans have accomplished the introduction of their films through a process of slow filtration; (2) the French theater owners prefer to gain money by showing American films rather than to risk their money on their own films; (3) the chambre syndicale française de la cinématographie makes the mistake of allowing American producers to form French companies; (4) the French press misses no opportunity to say loudly, "Défendons le film français," but the papers are full of advertising for American films; (5) the American group is extremely well organized while the French is not.⁷ Many French theaters have signs, "French and english (sic) subtitles."⁸ It has even been predicted by one of the American film executives that the French who frequently attend the cinema will speak English inside of six months from the beginning of their interest in American movies. To the French, it appears that the American civilization is trying to supersede

⁷ Ibid., 868.

⁸ Ibid., 877.

French civilization. The average Frenchman believes that the American film represents a true picture of American life and he objects to this picture which is not pleasing to him.

Another source of resentment among the French lies in the ideas and attitudes of Americans toward French life, but they themselves do not always realize that they are guilty of many misconceptions concerning American life. A common misconception among the French is that Americans do not have time to read. Since many Frenchmen have this idea, it seems paradoxical to them that the public libraries in the United States are well patronized.

Since the depression beginning in 1929, the French have shown a great deal of interest in the way the United States handled the problems arising from this critical situation. The fact that America had never before known such a depression made it seem worse. The American budget of philanthropy dropped greatly during the first year of the depression. This seemed to the French an indication of the seriousness of the situation. The depression shook the self-confidence of the people and it was necessary to make a great effort to restore it. The unemployment situation has been one of the most startling features of the depression. What made the situation seem particularly bad to the French was that in America in 1930 there was no provision made by the government to take care of unemployment. This type of work had at first to be carried on privately, yet the system of caring for the unemployed and needy seemed, to the French, to be admirably organized. Because there was no transition between the period of high salaries and the depression it was difficult for the United States to adapt herself to trying conditions.

It is the general opinion in France that the American system of private philanthropy is very efficient.⁹ America appears to the Frenchman as the country where business men know how to make money and how to spend it wisely. The story of Rockefeller's rise from obscurity to great wealth holds a special fascination for the European mind.¹⁰ Rockefeller's generosity in the distribution of his wealth also greatly impressed the French. M. Lewandowski¹¹ expressed the American philosophy of philanthropy, as practiced by Rockefeller and Carnegie, thus: "Distribuer le surplus de ses richesses est une tâche que le riche ne doit point laisser derrière lui." He observed that, previous to 1930, religious organizations received the most money, with education second, while the Red Cross was third in the amount of money received from private donations.

Since 1929, there has been a tendency among philanthropists to spend money for the benefit of the present generation instead of devoting their funds largely to education and religion. M. Lewandowski considered this tendency a result of the change of attitudes caused by the depression. This new tendency is evidenced by the sums granted by large manufacturing companies of the East for relief of the unemployed. Such companies were able to shoulder this responsibility because they had large financial reserves.

The French attitude toward American industry is one of resentment and fear. The French resent the fact the American manufacturers have hindered the development of French industries by their system of mass pro-

⁹ Maurice Lewandowski, "Le Budget de la Philanthropie américaine,"

¹⁰ Lewandowski, "Deux Rois de l'Industrie aux Etats-Unis--John D. Rockefeller," LIX (September 1, 1930), 151-64.

¹¹ Lewandowski, "Le Budget de la Philanthropie américaine," 445.

duction. Through mass production, articles are made available at a lower cost than through the French system of production in small quantities. The moving picture industry is a good example.

France envies the position which America holds in world trade. The French people regard American civilization as inferior to their own since it is not so old and lacks traditions which are very important to the French. Consequently, they do not like to be surpassed by a nation which they consider inferior to their own.

Standardization and the feverish activity which prevails in the United States are two aspects of American civilization which the French dislike intensely. They fear that the mechanization of American civilization will wipe out the civilization of Europe, especially because the mechanized civilization tends to standardize the spirit of the people and make them imitators rather than original thinkers.

To the French observer, the mechanized industrial system of the United States is a factor which menaces the industrial and the economic future of the country. France watches with interest to see how the United States will meet the problems of the present period.

CHAPTER V

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

When the United States became a nation, France watched with interest the development of new political institutions by the young country. This interest is still strong today and extends to social customs, political and economic aspects, and to prominent figures in American life. The French fear that certain features of American civilization will invade Europe; and they view developments in political and economic affairs in the United States with a mixture of envy, fear and interest.

France recognizes the United States as a potential rival to Europe in Latin America. Before the beginning of the twentieth century, Europe exercised a veritable monopoly financially, commercially, and intellectually in Latin America. The building of the Panama Canal marked the beginning of the penetration of the United States into Latin America. As the French view the situation, the penetration of the United States necessitates three policies for the United States government: (1) one for Mexico; (2) one for Central America; and (3) one for South America. The policy in regard to Mexico is one of non-interference with the government or people except as interference may be necessary for the protection of the lives of American citizens or of their interests. With regard to Central America the policy of the United States is one of keeping order. In South America, the United

¹ Jacques Kulp, "La pénétration des Etats-Unis en Amérique latine," R. D. M., LIX (October 15, 1930), 840-63.

States strives to act as arbitrator in disputes between countries. The French are interested in the attitudes which different countries of Latin America take toward American penetration. Peru offers no resistance to northern intervention, while Mexico, on the other hand, opposes it strongly.

The influence of the United States in Latin America has been strong since Latin America is no longer dominated by Spain. The government of the United States was the model upon which most of the Latin-American countries based their governments after revolting from Spain. The United States makes no attempt at political domination. The policy is mainly one of protection.

The penetration of the United States in Latin America in the field of education has reduced illiteracy, and the French view this fact as a potential factor in stabilizing the governments of Latin-American countries. However widespread the effects of education of the masses may be, the United States possesses a still more powerful instrument of penetration, that of the moving picture. This makes the deepest impression where culture is at a comparatively low level, because it replaces the theater, the book, and the newspaper. The moving picture constitutes a powerful force against which neither European civilization nor native cultures can successfully struggle.

In considering the relations between Latin American countries and the United States, M. Jacques Kulp² observes that the general reaction of Latin American countries toward the penetration of the United States may be noted in two contradictory tendencies, one of which is favorable and the other unfavorable. The favorable tendency is the movement toward Pan-Americanism

² Ibid., 859.

which has as its chief objective the development of friendly relations among all countries of the New World through trade. The unfavorable tendency is the movement of Ibero-Americanism, which adopts the attitude that it is impossible for Latin-Americans and Anglo-Saxons to be reconciled, and therefore it is better for each group to remain separate and have no dealings with the other.

In view of these facts, France is debating what policy to follow in dealing with both Latin America and with the United States. Although the United States has made, within the past thirty years, great inroads on the monopoly formerly held by Europe in Latin America, Europe is still the leader. There are two courses open to France. One policy is not to counteract or to interfere in any way with the expansion of the United States in Latin America but to allow the United States to continue its penetration into Latin America. It is possible for both France and the United States to play separate parts in Latin-American affairs, and it is not essential that either country have a monopoly on Latin-American trade. Each country has need of the other in protecting its own investments. The other course which is open to France consists in struggling to maintain and develop French commerce with Latin America even at the expense of the United States. Such a policy does not, however, appeal to M. Kulp. He would have France concentrate her attention on the production of articles in which skill in manufacture, and not abundance of raw materials, is important. He believes that Europe and the United States should work together in Latin America for the common good and that neither should attempt to secure a monopoly of trade. He suggests that France should try to attract

tourists and students from Latin America and spread her culture and influence through these two groups.

The French resent the attitude which the Americans took regarding the World War debts in the decade following the World War.³ This is a matter to be handled very delicately by the statesmen of both countries. The fact that the Americans have prospered more than the people of other countries involved in the World War make the French feel that the Americans should be more lenient in the matter of the debts. They believe that the situation is comparable to the one existing between the two countries after the Revolutionary War when France was in the position of the creditor and the United States in that of the debtor. The French feel that they were more than generous in their aid to the United States at that time; they believe that they have the right to expect the United States to be as generous in the present situation.

During the years following the World War, France felt that the attitude of the United States was inclined to be hostile although there was no foundation for this interpretation. The question of the war debts is a delicate one for both countries, but the United States is not hostile to France, as France suspects. The United States, as an ally in the World War,

³ Discussions of the war debts are found in the following articles in the Revue des Deux Mondes: André Chevrillon, "L'Idée de la France aux Etats-Unis," X, series 8 (July 1, 1932), 44-67; J. J. Jusserand, "Le sentiment américain pendant la Guerre.--I. Avant la rupture," LIX (September 15, 1930), 241-73; J. J. Jusserand, "Le sentiment américain pendant la Guerre.--II. Après la rupture," LIX (October 1, 1930), 511-46; Marcel Marion, "La France créancière des Etats-Unis, 1787-1795," XLIV (April 15, 1928), 830-47; Marcel Marion, "Un épisode des relations pécuniaires franco-américaines," XXXVI (November 1, 1926), 46-64; Firmin Roz, "L'attitude des Etats-Unis," (August 1, 1929), 529-47.

was extremely sympathetic toward France, but at the time the Treaty of Versailles was made, it seemed to France that the United States was over-eager to protect the interests of Germany. They attributed this change of attitude to ideas spread by propagandists who wished to arouse sympathy for Germany and to secure advantages for her by undermining the position of France and by destroying the friendly relations which existed between France and other countries.⁴

In the period immediately following the World War, there grew up among the French a great admiration for Woodrow Wilson.⁵ This admiration was so deep and sincere that they could not understand why Wilson was not held in esteem in the same degree in the United States as in France. He was extremely idealistic, and his purposes, as seen by a Frenchman,⁶ were "... comprendre son pays, observer le présent, interpréter le passé, prévoir et orienter les directions de l'avenir." His journey to the Treaty Conference in Europe caused him to lose contact with American opinion. His opposition to the powerful magnates of American business aroused their antagonism, and in turn, the antagonism of Congress because the magnates supported Congress. These leaders influenced the sentiment of the American people so that many people turned against Wilson and his ideas. This same reaction is cited by Europeans as one of the causes of the European depression, for it resulted in raising of tariff barriers because of the clamor

⁴ André Chevrillon, "L'Idée de la France aux Etats-Unis," R. D. M., X, series 8 (July 1, 1932), 44-67.

⁵ Firmin Roz, "Le Cas Wilson," R. D. M., LX (December 1, 1930), 519-49.

⁶ Ibid, 520.

for the protection of home manufactures. The unfavorable American attitude toward Wilson's ideas for a league for world peace is considered by the French as an example of provincial traditionalism.⁷ The French believe that the United States lost, by refusal to join the League of Nations, her opportunity of becoming a leader among the nations of the world.

The economic and the political crises of the present depression are inextricably interwoven. The economic crisis signified the failure of the American system. This failure was due to the appearance of new conditions and the inability of leaders to understand them, and in part, to the political crisis. In the political crisis, the leaders did not understand that the country had arrived at a decisive turn of affairs, and there was a lack of leaders who were able to control the situation. The political leaders did not realize that the future of the nation was in jeopardy. This circumstance made the situation worse. The French believe that, following the World War, there were only a few leaders who realized that a policy of isolation and self-sufficiency was impossible for the United States either in peace or in war. Although M. Firmin Roz⁸ censured American leaders for their failure to recognize what the circumstances demanded, he did not state what the circumstances did demand. The mistakes of Congress are easily explained by the fact that the members are often governed by regional interests.

In the United States, the people are passing through a moral crisis

⁷ Ibid., 536.

⁸ Firmin Roz, "La crise américaine et le Président Roosevelt," R. D. M., series 8 (July 1, 1933), 282.

which corresponds to the political crisis. This moral crisis supersedes all other crises. The predominance of material interests is criticized. This crisis is responsible, in part, for the change in ideas and customs which has taken place. This change is especially evident in the writings of the present period, which satirize not only individuals but the whole American system and the conceptions upon which the nation is founded.⁹

In discussing the American depression, M. Roz¹⁰ says that Franklin D. Roosevelt is the first president of the United States to take office under such critical circumstances. He believes that the situation in 1933 was more difficult than the situation existing after the Civil War or after the Revolutionary War.

Most of the troubles of the present situation have been born of the failure of the American system to adapt itself. As seen by a Frenchman,¹¹ the greatest need for the solution of the present depression is the need of adaptation. The French believe that President Roosevelt's policy represents a practical program of reconstruction. It is necessary to raise the government above politics. The idea of the President is not to do away with the governmental system, but to modify and adapt it to meet the present needs.

President Roosevelt is the most interesting figure of the present

⁹ Cf. ante, p. 11.

¹⁰ Firmin Roz, "La Crise américaine et le Président Roosevelt," p. 301.

¹¹ Ibid., p. 301.

era to the French. They are interested in him as a person and as a prominent figure in American political life. One of the Frenchmen who has written about Roosevelt, Georges Lechartier,¹² has summarized the impression he received at his first meeting with Roosevelt in 1915, in this fashion:

Simplicité, amabilité, désir de rendre service, bienveillance, séduction dans l'accueil, loyauté, enthousiasme, jeunesse, mais aussi maîtrise de soi, habileté à conduire un entretien, à tourner les difficultés sans y paraître, à éviter un jugement délicat ou dangereux par une anecdote ou un trait, invariabilité dans les principes et dans les projets, mais une grande souplesse dans les choix des moyens pour atteindre un but et un sens affiné de l'opportunité en politique, un esprit ouvert et curieux de tout, une information étendue, une inlassable et efficace activité, tel nous avons d'abord connu M. Franklin Roosevelt.

These words represent M. Lechartier's impression of Mr. Roosevelt twenty-three years ago. He believes that these elements--simplicity, amiability, loyalty, ability, determination, the enthusiasm of youth but the wisdom, tact, and poise of mature experience--are the dominating qualities in President Roosevelt's personality.

The theories of President Roosevelt interest the French greatly and they have a large influence upon French ideas of the United States. One of the beliefs of President Roosevelt with which French observers are in hearty agreement is that the great evil from which the United States suffers today is the fact that legislators have "played politics" more than they have worked for the good of the government. M. Lechartier believes that this problem could be solved if politicians had independent fortunes and were not dependent upon their favor with their constituency. President Roosevelt's definition of statecraft is that it is a series of decisions which should

¹² Georges Lechartier, "Le président Franklin D. Roosevelt," R. D. M., XII, series 8 (December 1, 1932), 510.

always be made with a far-sighted view to the public welfare.¹³ This belief, on the part of politicians, would be an aid to solving the problem of "playing politics." President Roosevelt believes that the raising of tariffs has hindered the return of prosperity. The French agree with Roosevelt's point of view--that a high protective tariff is not necessary. With regard to the foreign policy of the United States, President Roosevelt's desire is to have peace and commerce with all nations on a basis of mutual confidence and understanding. One of the most striking features of the French admiration of President Roosevelt is the absolute confidence which they have in him. They are thoroughly in sympathy with the program which President Roosevelt wishes to accomplish. His guiding principle is that it is necessary to raise government above the petty strife and jealousy of politics. His idea is not to do away with the present system of government.

A factor in American life which arouses considerable interest in France is that of the American press. It interests the French especially for the part which it plays in American political life. In the United States, the press has absolute freedom under the law, but it is virtually controlled by political parties. According to M. Pierre Denoyer¹⁴ the papers do not always admit their domination by political parties because they fear a loss of circulation. He is of the opinion that the press in the United States is merely the vehicle of political parties.

Europeans consider the United States a decidedly Puritanical

¹³ ibid., 514.

¹⁴ Pierre Denoyer, "La Presse et la vie politique aux Etats-Unis," R. D. M., LIII (October 1, 1929), 606-26.

country and they see prohibition as a manifestation of Puritanism.¹⁵ Prohibition is blamed, by the French, for the development of gangs. They believe that the desire for liquor by certain groups of Americans opened the way for the appearance of the bootlegger. The bootlegger expanded his business; this expansion resulted in the development of lawless attitudes among certain classes; and these attitudes were responsible for the development of gangs and gangsters in American society. The moral crisis evident in the period studied (1925-35) is a reaction against the tension of the war period.

One of the reasons why America is interesting to the French is that the population is made up of many diverse elements.¹⁶ It is for this reason that it is impossible to take a certain type and label it "American." Although the foreigners who come to the United States soon lose many of the characteristics which mark them as natives of the countries from which they have come, they still retain some distinguishing characteristics. Thus the American people do not have, as the French do, the same background of tradition uniting them. The French marvel at the fact that the diversity of nationalities which, in Europe, causes many discords, is fused into a harmonious whole in the United States. The French believe that there are more similarities between the United States and England than actually exist. One reason for this belief is the fact that both countries use the English language.

¹⁵ Lucien Romier, "Vues sur les Etats-Unis.--II. Les Moeurs," XLI (September 15, 1927), 315-34.

¹⁶ Bernard Fay, "Psychologie du peuple américain," XI, series 8 (September 1, 1932), 115-26.

Ever since the time of the American Revolution, the French have shown a great interest in the famous men of the United States. Prior to the twentieth century, the chief figure of interest was Washington, who was considered by the French as the ideal American. In trying to analyze the character and personality of the American people it is a mistake to choose a Washington, a Lincoln, or a Rockefeller as representative of the whole group of American people. These are exceptional characters and cannot be called representative.

French interest in American public affairs is shown in connection with the foreign policy, the domestic policies, and public opinion in the United States. The policy of the United States with regard to Latin America affects France because France regards the United States as her most powerful rival in Latin America. From the French viewpoint, the wisest course for France to follow is to persuade the United States not to interfere with European interests in Latin America and for the United States and Europe to work together rather than against each other.

Another phase of the foreign policy of the United States is the question of the World War debts. France resents the position of debtor in which she was placed at the time of the World War. The French people feel that the United States is extremely selfish in demanding payment of the debts. It is necessary for the statesmen of both countries to handle the matter of the war debts with extreme care.

The French cannot understand the attitude which the United States took toward Woodrow Wilson's plan for a league of nations. They are thoroughly in sympathy with his ideas and feel that he was greatly misunderstood in his

own country. He was admired for his idealism and his attempts at reform.

The domestic policies of the United States which interest the French most are concerned with the political situation, the depression, and the theories of President Roosevelt. The present political, industrial, and economic situations are inextricably interwoven and are the result of the failure of political leaders to realize that a crisis was at hand. In the United States, political leaders are governed largely by party politics and regional interests.

In the depression in the years following 1929 the United States has been paying the price for the unrivalled prosperity of the World War period. France views with interest the American attempts to solve the problems arising from the depression. The French believe that the American depression is not nearly as serious as the French depression, but it seems worse to the Americans because it followed immediately after a period of high prices and prosperity in the United States. The French consider the American attitude toward the World War debts as partly responsible for their own crisis. They also resent the tariff barriers which the United States has erected as a measure of protection.

The French see President Roosevelt as a broad-minded tolerant statesman, whose aim is to raise the government above the petty strife and jealousy of politics. His idea is not to do away with the present system of government but to modify and adapt it to meet the needs of the present situation.

The importance of the press in political campaigns is a feature of American life which attracts French interest. The French are of the opinion

that American newspapers do not openly admit their domination by political parties because they fear a loss of circulation.

The French believe that the United States is controlled largely by gangs. The development of gangs is attributed by the French to prohibition. Prohibition was a manifestation of the Puritan attitudes characteristic of the United States.

The population of the United States is formed of many diverse elements. The French wonder that these diverse elements, the cause in Europe of much friction, are fused into an autonomous whole in the United States.

Although the French brand American culture as inferior to their own, they envy the position which the United States holds. Since the United States is a powerful nation, France wishes the relations between the two countries to be on a basis of friendship and understanding.

CHAPTER VI

CONCLUSION

Ever since the Revolutionary War, France has been extremely interested in America. During the period of the Revolutionary War, Benjamin Franklin created a great deal of interest in the new nation among the French. France was very sympathetic with the United States. The United States was such a young nation that France did not fear it as a possible competitor in the future. The attention of France was attracted mainly to the system of government which the United States set up and developed. This interest still exists today. American education, literature, industry, and public affairs constitute four phases of American life which attract French attention.

The French show a great interest in the American system of education because it differs widely from their own. Each country has a different philosophy of education and, consequently, different objectives. Most French educators view education as a preparation for life, while most American educators view it as life. This difference is considered by some French writers as one point in which American education is superior to the French; however, it would not be regarded thus by others who think that American education is addicted to the practice of some ideas which are no more than fads. In keeping with the idea that education is life is the American emphasis upon the social side of education. This idea, to the French, seems to be a good theory, but, in practice, it is likely to be carried to the extreme, and, in this event, has dangerous effects.

Another difference between the French and the American systems of

education lies in the importance of sports in American colleges and universities. The French agree with American educators that sports, when not carried to extremes, are beneficial, but they believe that too many schools overemphasize this phase of education. American coeducation is a phase of American education which arouses a great deal of interest in France. As a system, coeducation does not find favor in France, because the idea does not fit in with French ideas about the education of girls. To the French, the American system of coeducation seems very unconventional. It is successful in America where girls are allowed more freedom, but the French are skeptical about the wisdom of adopting such a system for their own. The freedom of the American college girl is another difference between French and American education. However, it seems that French writers do not always recognize the fact that the American college and the French collège are not the same. According to these writers, this freedom makes American girls more self-reliant. The French have the impression that American doctrines of education, which allow the child a great deal of freedom, make American children the most badly reared children in the world. It is interesting that these doctrines of American education which the French criticize had their origin in the ideas of a Frenchman, Jean-Jacques Rousseau.

In the field of current literature, according to articles in the Revue des Deux Mondes, the American writers whose works are most widely read in France are Theodore Dreiser, Sinclair Lewis, H. C. Mencken, and Carl Sandburg. They are considered as representative of American writers. The French consider the literature produced by writers of the Middle West

as truly American because the life of this section of the country is typical of the American life and spirit. American literature reflects the essential traits of the American character just as the literature of each section of the United States reflects the characteristics of that section. The literature of New England reflects the austerity of the Puritans, that of the South mirrors the tranquility of established traditions, that of New York shows a spirit of feverish activity while that of the Far West and the Middle West reflects the spirit of the pioneers and frontiersmen. Current American literature is a literature of revolt--revolt against established traditions, against domination by the upper or wealthier classes, against present political, industrial, and economic conditions.

The French are envious of the position held by the United States in world trade. Before the United States had become an independent nation, France held an important position in world commerce. France fears the mechanization which the invasion of American civilization brings with it. The French fear that this mechanized civilization will engulf Europe and wipe out European culture. A source of resentment is that American products invade France and cripple French industry. The development of the French cinema has been hindered by the introduction of American films into France.

Two results of the industrialization of American civilization are standardization and the feverish activity which prevails in the United States. The standardization of the spirit of the people is regarded as a great American tragedy.

The French are greatly interested in American problems of government and in problems arising from the depression. With regard to foreign policies of the United States, the rivalry between France and the United States in

Latin America arouses much interest. France should not struggle for a commercial and industrial monopoly in Latin America, but she should strive to maintain her position through the production of articles in which craftsmanship instead of production in quantities is the essential factor. The French resent the attitude which the United States took toward the World War debts, and they also resent the tariff barriers raised by the United States.

French students of American affairs conclude that the chief evil from which the governmental system of the United States has suffered, during the last two decades, has been an excess of party politics. The characters in American public life of the last twenty-five years in whom the French have shown the greatest interest have been Woodrow Wilson and Franklin D. Roosevelt. Wilson's ideals were admired highly in France. Franklin D. Roosevelt interests the French because of his ideas for the solution of American problems.

In regard to the contribution of the United States to world civilization, André Siegfried¹ believes that the United States has created a new social structure. The industrial system has created a new age, the results of which the French view with interest and with fear. How long it will be before this mechanized civilization will engulf Europe remains to be seen.

¹ André Siegfried, America Comes of Age (Translated from the French by H. H. Hemming and Doris Hemming. New York: Harcourt Brace and Company, 1927), p. 347.

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Brogie, M. le duc de, "Aux Fêtes de Yorktown," VI, series 8 (December 15, 1931), 837-54.

The writer received three different impressions of the United States. In the South, there is the calmness of country life and the famous hospitality of the Southern people. In Washington, there is a combination of ancient culture and modern bustle. New York is full of the animation of industry.

Champion, Edouard, "Le Livre aux Etats-Unis.--I. Le Livre américain," XXXIX (May 15, 1927), 420-34.

The United States represents for the French a country of material energies where man applies science to life and harnesses the forces of nature to serve his needs. To the Frenchman it seems that in America intellectual needs are secondary. The American library has democratized the book.

....., "Le Livre aux Etats-Unis.--II. Le Livre français," XXXIX (June 1, 1927), 628-46.

The French book is superior to the American book in the care of writing and the attention to construction, but American book binding and printing is superior. French books reach Americans through English translations. The Puritanical ideas of the Americans keep French books from appealing widely in the United States.

Chaumeix, André, "Revue littéraire--Images de l'Amérique," LVII (June 15, 1930), 929-38.

This is a review of André Siegfried's book, Images de l'Amérique, which represents several years of study in America. The literature of the Middle West seems, to M. Siegfried, essentially American. In America there exists a class of élite writers who recognize the dangerous period through which the United States is passing.

* For a chronological list of these articles, see the Appendix, pp. 50-53. In the few cases where the title of the article in the table of contents varies from that in the body of the journal, the wording used before the article itself has been preserved.

Chevillon, André, "L'Idée de la France aux Etats-Unis," X, series 8 (July 1, 1932), 44-67.

German propaganda may be the cause of anti-French sentiment in the United States.

Denoyer, Pierre, "La Presse et la Vie politique aux Etats-Unis," LIII (October 15, 1929), 606-26.

M. Denoyer has the impression that in the United States the newspapers are merely the vehicles of political parties and yet they do not admit political domination openly because they fear a loss of circulation. Journalists have the power to make or ruin political candidates.

Diehl, Charles, "Universités et musées d'Amérique.--Tendances nouvelles," XLV (May 15, 1928), 427-50.

Whoever visits an American university is surprised by the incessant activity in the construction of new buildings. In French universities, the spaciousness found in American universities is lacking. French visitors admire the practicality and accessibility of the libraries in American universities. The social side of education is stressed more in American universities than in the French ones.

Fay, Bernard, "Psychologie du peuple américain," XI, series 8 (September 1, 1932), 113-26.

The personality of the American people is difficult to define because the United States is made up of people of different races. They do not have the same language and traditions uniting them. The French see the mechanization of American civilization as a menace to the whole world.

Gillet, Louis, "Littératures étrangères.--Terre d'Amérique," XVIII, series 8 (November 1, 1933), 201-12.

This is a review of The Farm by Louis Bromfield which has been translated into French as Terre d'Amérique. This book attacks the idea that America is the land where the dollar is king. The rural element is the predominating element in America.

Gouraud, General, "Pour le deuxième centenaire de Washington," VIII, series 8 (April 1, 1932), 640-44.

The French regard George Washington as the ideal American.

Hanotaux, Gabriel, "France et Amérique.--Après le voyage de M. Laval," VI series 8 (November 15, 1931), 397-405.

The visit of M. Laval was very successful in re-establishing Franco-American relations on a basis of friendship and understanding.

Hazard, Paul, "A New-York pendant les élections," XII, series 8 (December 15, 1932), 857-82.

During M. Hazard's stay in New York,, the depression was the most important topic of conversation. The atmosphere was one of feverish tenseness. Those who were employed lived in a state of fear of losing their jobs.

....., "Un Collège de jeunes filles en Amérique.--Bryn Mawr," II, series 8 (March 1, 1931), 110-25.

M. Hazard views the organization of the American colleges for girls with admiration. Each school is like a small community in which the girls are happier than in French schools.

Jeanne, René, "L'invasion cinématographique américaine," LV (February 15, 1930), 857-84.

The French resent the introduction of American movies into France and the boycotting of French films in America. This invasion of American movies has crippled the French cinema industry severely.

Jusserand, J. J., "Le sentiment américain pendant la guerre.--I. Avant la rupture," LIX (September 15, 1930), 241-73.

Franco-American relations were very friendly before the question of debts arose. Then French sentiment changed because the French did not like the position of debtor to the United States. The French also resent the fact that Wilson proposed the League of Nations and then the United States did not join.

....., "Le sentiment américain pendant la guerre.--II. Après la rupture," LIX (October 1, 1930), 511-46.

The French attitude toward the entrance of the United States into the World War was one of surprise at the whole-hearted participation of the United States.

Kulp, Jacques, "La pénétration des Etats-Unis en Amérique latine," LIX October 15, 1930), 840-63.

Until the beginning of the twentieth century the United States saw Europe exercise a veritable financial, commercial, and intellectual

monopoly in Latin America. The building of the Panama Canal marks the beginning of the penetration of the United States into Latin America. The purpose of United States' intervention is not to acquire territory but to better conditions and to stabilize the government.

....., "Le problème mexicain.--Les Etats-Unis et nous," LIII (October 15, 1929), 917-30.

Education of the masses in Mexico should remedy the instability of the government. The backwardness of Mexico may be attributed to the instability of the government and the illiteracy of the people. Intellectual penetration in Mexico has been, for the most part, European. To protect her own interests in the future, France must collaborate with the United States and the United States must be persuaded to further and protect European interests.

Lechartier, Georges, "A Washington.--Sur les pas de la mission française," XV, series 8 (June 1, 1933), 613-32.

M. Lechartier believes that the American people understand better than any others that a nation cannot live alone in selfishness.

....., "Le président Franklin D. Roosevelt," XII, series 8 (December 1, 1932), 506-21.

The French have a great admiration for Franklin D. Roosevelt and are in hearty accord with his foreign policy of peace and trade with all the world. M. Lechartier described Roosevelt as a man desirous of rendering service, loyal, enthusiastic, with a youthful outlook and mature judgment.

Lewandowski, Maurice, "Deux Rois de l'Industrie aux Etats-Unis.--II. John D. Rockefeller," LIX (September 1, 1930), 151-64.

To the French, the rise of the late John D. Rockefeller from poverty and obscurity to wealth and prominence is typical of the opportunity found in the United States.

....., "La lutte contre le chômage aux Etats-Unis," IV, series 8 (August 15, 1931), 913-27.

In the American depression, the United States is paying the price for the unrivalled prosperity of previous years. The real force for conquering the depression rests in the spirit of optimism and self-confidence, and in the cooperation between employer and employee. The greatest interest of the people lies in putting everything in its true place and in re-establishing the necessary equilibrium for prosperity.

....., "Le Budget de la Philanthropie américaine," LVII (May 15, 1930),
444-52.

America is the land where business men know how to make money and how to spend it wisely. It is a country of philanthropic Rockefellers.

Marion, Marcel, "La France créancière des Etats-Unis, 1781-1795," XLIV (April 15, 1928), 830-47.

M. Marion exalts the French attitude of generosity toward the United States after the Revolutionary War as contrasted to the attitude taken by the United States toward France following the World War.

....., "Un Episode des relations péuniaires franco-américaines," XXXVI (November 1, 1926), 46-64.

In Europe the idea prevails that the United States has not been gravely affected by the depression of the post-war period and the United States is selfish in demanding that the war debts be paid.

Pascaud, Odette, "Quartier latin d'Amérique," XIII, series 8 (February 15, 1933), 863-75.

Mlle Pascaud is a French girl who came to spend a year in an American University. She found life there easy, well-organized and free. The emphasis upon sports in American universities interested Mlle Pascaud greatly.

Renouvin, Pierre, "Les historiens américains et les responsabilités de la guerre," II, series 8 (April 15, 1931), 886-903.

The French were indifferent to any discussion of the responsibility for the World War until some historians absolved Germany of all blame. A small group blames Austria for the War, but M. Renouvin agrees with the majority of American historians who say that all the European powers brought the war on Europe.

Romier, Lucien, "Vues sur les Etats-Unis.--I. La civilisation de masse," XLI (September 1, 1927), 56-75.

American civilization, mechanized and standardized as it is, is not pleasing to the Frenchman of classical education and tastes, but it attracts his attention because it is different. To the French it is a miracle that the diversity of nationalities, the cause in Europe of many dissonances, in the United States is merged into an autonomous whole.

....., "Vues sur les Etats-Unis.--II. Les moeurs," XLI (September 15, 1927), 315-34.

The obligation of making money is at the foundation of all customs in America. The American views everything from a materialistic standpoint. American society is sound only so far as its economic bases are assured.

....., "Vues sur les Etats-Unis.--III. L'avenir économique," XLI (October 1, 1927), 631-49.

The economic success of the United States is founded upon the vast natural resources of the country. The future depends upon the optimism and audacity of the American people, but the future of the American economic system is menaced by the disintegration of the family and an excess of protectionism.

Roz, Firmin, "La Crise américaine et le Président Roosevelt," XVI, series 8 (July 15, 1933), 282-302.

No other president since Lincoln has taken office under such critical circumstances. In the political crisis, the leaders did not realize that the country had arrived at a decisive turn of affairs. The moral crisis is more serious and is attributed, by M. Roz, to the predominance of material interests over all others. The economic crisis signified the failure of the American system. It is inextricably interwoven with the political crisis.

....., "L'attitude des Etats-Unis," XXXIV (August 1, 1929), 529-47.

The French cannot understand the attitude of resentment which the American people have adopted with regard to the World War debts. They also find it impossible to understand the attitude of the United States toward the peace treaty and the League of Nations.

....., "Le Cas Wilson," LX (December 1, 1930), 519-49.

The French attribute the blame for the European crisis after the World War in part to the attitude which the United States took toward Wilson's policy. They believe that this reaction represented the feeling of a certain group and was not typical of the attitude taken by the American people as a whole. The American refusal to join the League of Nations is considered by the French as an example of provincial traditionalism.

....., "L'esprit nouveau du roman américain," XXIX (October 15, 1925), 878-900.

There are two classes of literature produced in America. That which interests the masses is idealistic and optimistic; the other class of literature interests the élite class and is realistic. M. Roz wonders which trend will dominate in the literature of the next generation.

Siegfried, André, "L'Europe devant la civilisation américaine," LVI
(April 15, 1930), 757-73.

Mass production, which is the key to the mechanization of American civilization has caused Europe to wonder to what extent she should become Americanized. The great American tragedy is that standardization is not confined to products of industry but even the spirits of the people are standardized.

SECONDARY SOURCES

Anderson, Sherwood, "Four American Impressions," New Republic, XXXII
(October 11, 1922), 172-73.

This article contains a discussion of the work of Gertrude Stein, Paul Rosenfeld, Ring Lardner, and Sinclair Lewis. The author criticizes Lewis for the sense of spiritual death which pervades his work.

Arrigon, Louis Jules, Cent Ans de Vie française à la Revue des Deux Mondes.
Paris: Revue des Deux Mondes, 1929, 315 pp.

A volume written for the centenary of the Revue des Deux Mondes.

Barrett, John, The Pan-American Union, Washington, D. C.: The Pan-American Union, 1911, 254 pp.

In this article are discussed the organization of the Union, the work, and the ideals for which it stands.

Bassard, L. and P. Crabitès, "The Centenary of the Revue des Deux Mondes," Nineteenth Century and After, CVI (November, 1929), 710-16.

A survey of the history of the Revue des Deux Mondes, dealing with the principles on which the magazine was founded and summarizing the contribution of the magazine and its importance in French life.

Bercovici, Konrad, "Romantic Realist," Mentor, XVIII (May, 1930), 38-41.

A discussion of some of the inconsistencies of opinion and contradictions in the personality of Theodore Dreiser.

Brereton, Cloudsley, "The Revue des Deux Mondes," Spectator, CXLIV
(January 11, 1930), 47-48.

A summary of the contributions which the Revue has made to French life.

De Voto, Bernard, "Sinclair Lewis," Saturday Review of Literature, IX (January 28, 1933), 397-98.

A denunciation of the work of Lewis because it presents a distorted caricature of life in America. The author admits its value as satire, but he believes that it is not realism.

Duhamel, Georges, Scènes de la vie future. Paris: Mercure de France, 1930, 248 pp.

M. Duhamel views American civilization with fear and dislike. The features which he dislikes most are the mechanized aspect and the sense of feverish activity and the noise which pervades large cities in the United States.

Padiman, Clifton, "Dreiser and the American Dream," Nation, CXXXV (October 19, 1932), 364-65.

A brief analysis of the significance of Dreiser as a realist.

Fay, Bernard, "American Civilization Assayed," The New York Times Magazine, (February 28, 1932), 2.

M. Fay suggests that if there is anything valuable in American civilization, European countries should modify it to suit their needs; if American civilization is completely worthless, then Europe should turn to the Orient for guidance.

Feuillerat, Albert, "Revue des Deux Mondes--Centenary," Yale Review, XIX (March, 1930), 643-48.

A survey of the history of the Revue des Deux Mondes, dealing especially with the connection between the Romantic school and the Revue and with the relations between French politics of the nineteenth century and the magazine.

Hatin, Eugène, Bibliographie historique et critique de la Presse périodique française. Paris: Librairie de Firmin Didot Frères, Fils, et Cie., 1866, 657 pp.

A historical and critical bibliography of French periodicals from their beginning until the middle of the nineteenth century. There is a short article on each of various periodicals.

Kansas City Times, "Revue des Deux Mondes, France's Atlantic Monthly; a Hundred Years," October 11, 1929.

An evaluation of the part played by the Revue des Deux Mondes in French life.

Larousse, Pierre, "François Buloz," Grand Dictionnaire universel du XIX^e siècle, Paris: Librairie classique Larousse et Boyer, 1867, 17 volumes.

An encyclopedia containing brief accounts of the lives of prominent French men.

McCole, Camille, "The Tragedy of Theodore Dreiser," The Catholic World, CXXXII (October, 1930), 1-7.

In this article, the author concludes that Dreiser is not a great novelist, because his misfortune consists in not having quite sufficient stature to reach up to that genius which is so nearly in his grasp.

Maurois, André, En Amérique (edited by Robert Waugh). New York: American Book Company, 1936, 196 pp.

An interesting revelation of the impressions which a contemporary French author received while visiting the United States in 1929, in 1931, and again in 1935.

Mumford, Lewis, "The America of Sinclair Lewis," Current History, XXXIII (January, 1931), 329-33.

The author makes this comment on the works of Lewis: "As a satirist he has created a picture of America that corresponds in a remarkable degree with the naive caricature of America that all but the most enlightened and perceptive Europeans carry in their heads."

"Paul Morand Looks at Sinclair Lewis," Living Age, CCXXXVIII (April 15, 1930), 253-54.

Paul Morand compares the work of Lewis to that of Flaubert.

Peyre, Henri, "The Revue des Deux Mondes--Centenary," Saturday Review of Literature, VI (December 7, 1929), 532.

The author praises the contribution made by François Buloz to the Revue des Deux Mondes.

Semper, I. J., "H. L. Mencken--doctor rhetoricus," The Catholic World, CXXX (October, 1929), 30-41.

An analysis of Mencken's style and the devices he uses.

Siegfried, André, America Comes of Age (Translated from the French by H. H. Hemming and Doris Hemming). New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1927, 358 pp.

An unprejudiced analysis of the ethnic, the economic, and the political situations in the United States before the depression beginning in 1929.

Usher, Roland Greene, Pan Americanism. New York: Century Company, 1915, 466 pp.

A foreshadowing of the inevitable clash between the United States and Europe in Latin America.

APPENDIX

APPENDIX

CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF ARTICLES CONCERNING THE UNITED STATES IN
THE REVUE DES DEUX MONDES (1925-35)*

- Roz, Firmin, "L'esprit nouveau du roman américain," XXIX (October 15, 1925), 878-900.
- Marion, Marcel, "Un Episode des relations pécuniaires franco-américaines," XXXVI (November 1, 1926), 46-64.
- Champion, Edouard, "Le Livre aux Etats-Unis.--I. Le Livre américain," XXXIX (May 15, 1927), 420-34.
-, "Le Livre aux Etats-Unis.--II. Le Livre français," XXXIX (June 1, 1927), 628-46.
- Romier, Lucien, "Vues sur les Etats-Unis.--I. La civilisation de masse," XLI (September 1, 1927), 56-75.
-, "Vues sur les Etats-Unis.--II. Les mœurs," XLI (September 15, 1927), 315-34.
-, "Vues sur les Etats-Unis.--III. L'avenir économique," XLI (October 1, 1927), 631-49.
- Marion, Marcel, "La France créancière des Etats-Unis, 1781-1795," XLIV (April 15, 1928), 830-47.
- Diehl, Charles, "Universités et musées d'Amérique.--Tendances nouvelles," XLV (May 15, 1928), 427-50.
- Roz, Firmin, "L'attitude des Etats-Unis," XXXIV (August 1, 1929), 529-47.
- Kulp, Jacques, "Le problème mexicain--Les Etats-Unis et nous," LIII (October 15, 1929), 917-30.
- Dancyer, Pierre, "La Presse et la Vie politique aux Etats-Unis," LIII (October 15, 1929), 606-26.
- Jeanne, René, "L'invasion cinématographique américaine," LV (February 15, 1930), 857-84.

* The articles in this appendix are listed in the chronological order of their appearance in the Revue des Deux Mondes. An alphabetical index of authors appears in the bibliography of primary sources.

- Siegfried, André, "L'Europe devant la civilisation américaine," LVI
(April 15, 1930), 757-73.
- Lewandowski, Maurice, "Le Budget de la Philanthropie américaine," LVII
(May 15, 1930), 444-52.
- Chaumeix, André, "Revue littéraire--Images de l'Amérique," LVII (June 15,
1930), 929-38.
- Lewandowski, Maurice, "Deux Rois de l'Industrie aux Etats-Unis.--II. John
D. Rockefeller," LIX (September 1, 1930), 151-62.
- Jusserand, J. J., "Le sentiment américain pendant la guerre.--I. Avant la
rupture," LIX (September 15, 1930), 241-73.
-, "Le sentiment américain pendant la guerre.--II. Après la rupture,"
LIX (October 1, 1930), 511-46.
- Kulp, Jacques, "La Pénétration des Etats-Unis en Amérique latine," LIX
(October 15, 1930), 840-63.
- Roz, Firmin, "Le Cas Wilson," LX (December 1, 1930), 519-49.
- Hazard, Paul, "Un Collège de jeunes filles en Amérique--Bryn Mawr," II,
series 8 (March 1, 1931), 110-25.
- Renouvin, Pierre, "Les Historiens américains et les responsabilités de la
guerre," II, series 8 (April 15, 1931), 886-903.
- Lewandowski, Maurice, "La Lutte contre le chômage aux Etats-Unis," IV,
series 8 (August 15, 1931), 913-27.
- Hanotaux, Gabriel, "France et Amérique.--Après le voyage de M. Laval," VI,
series 8 (November 15, 1931), 397-405.
- M. le duc de Broglie, "Aux Fêtes de Yorktown," VI, series 8 (December 15,
1931), 837-54.
- General Gouraud, "Pour le deuxième centenaire de Washington," VIII, series 8
(April 1, 1932), 640-44.
- Chevillon, André, "L'Idée de la France aux Etats-Unis," X, series 8
(July 1, 1932), 44-67.
- Fay, Bernard, "Psychologie du peuple américain," XI, series 8 (September 1,
1932), 113-26.
- Lechartier, Georges, "Le président Franklin D. Roosevelt," XII, series 8
(December 1, 1932), 506-21.

- Hazard, Paul, "A New York pendant les elections," XII, series 8
(December 15, 1932), 837-52.
- Pascaud, Odette, "Quartier latin...d'Amérique," XIII, series 8 (February 15,
1933), 863-75.
- Lechartier, Georges, "A Washington.--Sur les pas de la mission française,"
XV, series 8 (June 1, 1933), 613-32.
- Roz, Firmin, "La crise américaine et le Président Roosevelt," XVI,
series 8 (July 15, 1933), 282-302.
- Gillet, Louis, "Littératures étrangères.--Terre d'Amérique," XVIII, series 8
(November 1, 1933), 201-12.