

scars of history have healed, Africa will remember their courage and their great talent, and take them to its heart".

Dit is 'n publikasie wat vir alle Suid-Afrikaners 'n perspektief van ons land se geskiedenis gee wat net kan help om groter rugterheid te laat posvat al sou jy ook plek-plek swarde kon kruis. Die boek bied meer as genoeg stof tot nadenke vir elke Suid-Afrikaner wat ernstig bekommerd is oor die toekoms van ons land.

MH TRÜMPPELMANN

Mallia-Milanes. Documents and Debates: The origin of the Second World War: McMillan Education. (142 pp)

Hierdie boek handel oor die periode vanaf 1919 tot met die Duits-Russiese nie-aanvalsverdrag en die aanval op Pole.

In die eerste twee hoofstukke handel dit oor die Vredesverdrag van Versailles, die bewindsoornname van Mussolini en die besetting van die Ruhr met die ekonomiese gevolge daarvan, asook die pogings om Duitsland te help om sy oorlogskuld te delg en pogings om ontspanne verhoudings te bewerkstellig tussen Duitsland, België, Frankryk, Brittanje en Italië. Die hoofstuk word afgesluit met die ekonomiese oplewing van die laat twintigerjare.

Hoofstuk 3 hanteer die groot depressie en die invloed wat dit op Duitsland en Frankryk gehad het. Aandag word gegee aan die omstandighede waaronder Hitler die bewind oorgeneem het, die krisis in Mantsjoerye en 'n nuwe wapenwedloop.

In hoofstukke 4 en 5 word 'n uiteensetting gegee van Mussolini en die Fasciste in Italië. Daar word gepoog om 'n verduideliking te gee van wat die Fascisme is. Verder word aandag gegee aan Hitler se bewindsoornname en sy eerste optredes, nl. die afbrand van die Reichstag-gebou en herbewapening. Daarna word aandag gegee aan Hitler se buitelandse beleid soos gestel in 1934 en gepoog om 'n ontleding te gee van sy persoonlikheid.

Hoofstuk 6 dek die periode 1935 - 1937. In hierdie verband word aandag gegee aan die Ethiopiese krisis, die herbewapening van Duitsland, die Spaanse burgeroorlog en die Spil Rome-Berlyn.

Hoofstuk 7 handel oor die inlywing van Oostenryk, die vernietiging van Tsjeggoslowakye en die einde van Chamberlain se paibeleid.

In hoofstuk 8 word die laaste paar maande voor die uitbreek van die oorlog behandel en sluit in die Duits-Russiese nie-aanvalsverdrag, die Britse ultimatum en Frankryk se toetrede tot die oorlog.

Elke hoofstuk van die boek is voorsien van 'n kort historiese oorsig van die gebeure wat in die hoofstuk behandel word. Die wyse van aanbieding geskied deur uittreksels en aanhalings te gee van die toesprake van leiers uit die periode gevvolg deur die menings van diplomate en historici. Elke onderafdeling in die hoofstukke word voorsien van 'n reeks probleemstellings en vrae wat die leser verplig om eie afleidings te maak en moontlike alternatiewe optredes of gedagterigtigs aan te beveel. Oor sommige temas word die menings van vooraanstaande en invloedryke tydgenote gegee. Dit word afgewissel met aanhalings uit tydskrifte en koerante uit die periode. Die bate hiervan is dat die leser gekonfronteer word met verskeie menings oor 'n bepaalde onderwerp. Daar word ook baie gebruik gemaak van die siening van komtemporeêre skrywers oor die onderwerpe, aangevul met uittreksels uit outobiografië.

Die inhoud van ooreenkoms wat gesluit is word ook gegee soos bv. die Konkordaat tussen Mussolini en die Pous.

Selfs telefoongesprekke word aangehaal soos bv. 'n gesprek tussen Hitler en Prins Philip van Hesse, sy gesant by Mussolini. Die mees interessante feite kom uit die privaat dagboeke van diplomatieke personeel. Aantekeninge wat hulle gemaak het en indrukke wat hulle gekry het na belangrike aankondigings of gebeure.

J H HUMAN

Callinicos, L. 1987. Working Life: 1886 - 1940 Ravan Press, Johannesburg (R22,00)

The book under review is Volume Two of a proposed three-volume pictorial labour history of South Africa. Volume One is titled "**Gold and Workers: 1886-1924**" and Volume Three is still to be published. Whereas Volume One is disappointing because it deals rather superficially with its subject, Volume Two is a much more substantial and satisfying work.

A number of works dealing with the labour history of South Africa have been published here and abroad over the past two decades. This growing interest in the labour field can be attributed to two factors. Firstly the revival of the Marxist mode of analysis to explain historical, economic and social phenomena led to a renewed interest in labour relations in South Africa where — according to the neo-Marxist — race consciousness in the past seemed to have obscured the proper understanding of the class conflict. Secondly the growing militance among black trade unions in South Africa since the 1970's added an urgent relevancy to the academic study of this matter. The works published so far have, however, been extremely scholarly and academic in their approach. It is highly unlikely that the controversial works of economic historians such as H. Wolpe, D. Ydelman, F.A. Johnstone, and R. Davies would attract a large reading public outside the field of economic and labour historians. With **Working Life**, however, it is quite different.

Written in a simplistic manner, **Working Life** makes for good popular reading, not only for academics and scholars of history, but also for the general public. The author steers clear of getting involved in the controversial viewpoints contained in the works mentioned. The author maintains that the specific race order that evolved on the Rand can be attributed to capitalistic interests, state intervention and the race consciousness of the white workers rather than merely being the outcome of a class conflict. The author give credit to racial prejudice among the workers:

"Racism and division were a part of everyday life. The society - encouraged by the state, the schools, the press, the church and employers - had created a racial world in which people were expected to behave according to the colour of their skin as well as the class they belonged to. Race therefore cut across class lines — most workers thought of themselves first as blacks or whites, and not foremost as workers. (**Working life**, p.200)

Working Life concentrates on the Witwatersrand. Being the scene of all the major developments in South African labour, the Rand has often been termed the 'play within the play'. This work shows how both Black and White arrived on the Rand and were compelled to join the labour market. The Blacks were forced off the land by continued droughts, backward farming methods, lack of land and government taxation. They had no other option but to submit to the 'pull factors' — the opportunity of making a living as wage earners on the mines or in the growing industrial sector. Similarly the Afrikaners arrived in the cities where they joined the ranks of the Poor Whites and where they had to compete with the Blacks for positions as unskilled labourers.

The book also deals with workers' resistance. It shows how the Whites resisted the growing tendency of the capitalist groups to replace them with cheaper black labour. The 1922 — strike is covered as well as attempts by the Whites to safeguard their position in the labour field by using their