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KLAUS J. BADE. *Vom Auswanderungsland zum Einwanderungsland? Deutschland, 1880–1980.* (Beiträge zur Zeitgeschichte, number 12.) Berlin: Colloquium. 1983. Pp. 133. DM 12.80.

As a result of the recent recession and other economic difficulties, problems related to the presence of foreign workers and their families in West Germany—about 4.6 million persons—have increased. Up to now the German government has not accepted the fact that most of these foreign workers want to make Germany their permanent home and that society has been transformed. Germany has developed into a country that receives immigrants but still lacks an immigration policy. Labor-market policy and emotional issues concerning foreign workers have strengthened the interest in the historical development of similar situations.

In his study, Klaus J. Bade examines the historical background of European emigration as it affected Germany. His book begins with the last great wave of emigration that took place at the end of the nineteenth century and goes up to the current immigration of workers into Germany. The enormous emigration of Europeans to overseas countries that occurred between 1880 and 1893 (1.8 million people) was accompanied by an internal migration to Germany: Poles came from East Prussia to the *Ruhrgebiet* and laborers, especially agricultural workers, migrated to Germany from eastern districts beyond the border of the Reich. The author describes the methods used to prevent Germany from becoming a haven for these immigrant workers. The emigration of Germans was seen as a way to solve the "social question," and there was no interest in reviving this problem by accepting new immigrants. Immigrant laborers were employed especially for seasonal work, but they were not allowed to stay any longer than needed or to be followed by their families. So, in spite of a large number of foreign workers coming to Germany every year, Germany was a country of emigration even after World War I. A short section of the book is devoted to the forced migration that took place during World War II, when millions of foreign laborers worked in Germany to stabilize war production, but this is by no means comparable with former migration processes.

Most of the book, however, is devoted to an analysis of the currently existing immigration problems in Germany, the so-called *Gastarbeiterfrage*: that is, after having full employment in the 1950s, foreign laborers were enlisted yearly and their families were allowed to accompany them; but, when unemployment increased, there was no decision as to what to do about these guest workers. Some argued that the workers and, of course, their families should be sent back to their own countries, while others wanted to help them with the difficult process of final immigration and assimilation. Social and ethnic conflicts, prejudices, and competition for jobs, however, affect relations between Germans and the foreign population.

Bade's discussion of the chances of integration comes at a time when the problems still could be solved. The major problems are the lack of a government policy and an unwillingness to make a decision, which reflect an inadequate imagination regarding Germany as an "immigration country" and a failure to develop a suitable immigration law. The book helps to show that the problems are a result of a continuous historical process that began in the nineteenth century by providing a summary history of all the migratory movements to Germany since that time and by analyzing the problems surrounding the foreign population in Germany today. It is an important contribution to the "foreigner" discussion in Germany that, by the way, repeats arguments made in the United States before and after World War I.

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