

ADDITIONS, INTEGRATIONS, CORRECTIONS AND SUPPLEMENTS TO THE BIBLIOGRAPHY OF ARNOLD JOSEPH TOYNBEE*

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Addition to Part I, Works by Arnold J. Toynbee

Arnold J. Toynbee, Review of C. Delisle Burns, *The First Europe: A Study of the Establishment of Medieval Christendom, A.D. 400-800*, London, Allen & Unwin, 1947, in «International Affairs», XXIV, 2, April 1948, p. 240.

* *A Bibliography of Arnold J. Toynbee*, compiled by S. Fiona Morton, with a Foreword by Veronica M. Toynbee, Oxford, Oxford University Press, 1980.

THE FIRST EUROPE

by Arnold J. Toynbee

Tough the title of this important and interesting book may give the impression that it has no bearing on present international affairs, the subject does impinge on them in a number of pertinent ways – as was, indeed, to be expected in an exposition of it by a scholar who was both historian and publicist. The First Europe, brought into being during the four centuries indicated in the title, was the prelude, as the author sees it, to a Second Europe which is the modern Western world of our day. For the student of contemporary international affairs, this chain of historical association, long-drawn-out though it may seem, is forged of solid metal; for Delisle Burns points out that the partition of our world into a number of mutually independent sovereign States, which is the crux of our latter-day international politics, is a legacy from the partition of the western provinces of the Roman Empire between a number of rival barbarian successor States in the fifth century of the Christian Era. There is also a much deeper sense in which those four centuries of transition that are the subject of this book are relevant to our present problems and prospects. The author suggests that we ourselves, in our generation, are standing, in our turn, on the appalling brink of a period of social disintegration and reconstruction such as faced our Graeco-Roman predecessors in A.D. 400. It will be seen that this book has a claim to notice in this journal and that it can be read and pondered with profit by students of international affairs.