

One might argue that many of the social and political customs of Switzerland are based on far more remote foundations than these, but this book is intended primarily as a text for students of political science, with the expectation that the general reader will find it interesting. In both respects it is successful. The few pages devoted to the physical basis of the confederation are fundamental to the study of its history as well as its politics. The order of treatment begins with the federal constitution, which historically is by centuries younger than cantonal government, but its importance is at present so much greater, and its functions are so rapidly absorbing the duties of the states that, to the foreign reader, its description must obviously come first. Yet the great body of local and cantonal institutions seems to be disproportionately handled in getting less than one-third as much space.

The apparatus for study is good. Each chapter is followed by references to standard writers on Switzerland, and at the close of the work a critical bibliography points the way to still more serious inquiry. The work is brought up to date so far as it is possible to follow a rapidly advancing country which will not stop legislating while its photograph is being taken. The changes in the past ten years justify a new book, and the animated treatment of the subject will gain a place for this convenient volume.

J. M. VINCENT.

The Lost Fruits of Waterloo. By John Spencer Bassett, Ph.D., LL.D. (New York, Macmillan Company, 1918, pp. viii, 289, \$1.50.) The argument of this book may be stated briefly as follows: In 1814-1815 the peoples of Europe achieved, at great sacrifice, a substantial triumph over the imperialistic ambitions of a mighty conqueror and a brilliantly organized nation. Their victory was so complete as to induce a false sense of security, and the hard-won peace was imperfectly organized. The new Concert of Europe was dynastic, rather than popular, and it contained no effective guarantee against a dangerous recrudescence of the imperial idea. Toward the close of the century it gradually collapsed, and was superseded by a new European system based, not upon the idea of a single community of nations, but upon that of two great opposed international alignments, each an armed camp as against the other. This was loudly heralded as a mode of organizing and guaranteeing peace; but statesmen knew in their hearts that it was not such, and the events of the summer of 1914 showed that in reality it was a natural and sure antecedent of war. When, therefore, the consolidating, imperialistic impulse of Napoleon, reincarnated in William II. and the German Empire, broke forth to do its bloody work, the peoples of Europe found themselves, so far as international guarantees were concerned, exactly where they had stood in 1800; the fruits of Waterloo had been lost.

The author conceives his task to be to offer "the material facts out

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of which the reader may form his own opinions". He makes no effort, however, to disguise his conviction that the fruits of Waterloo were lost "through the inexperience of the men who set the world on its course again", that to return to a concerted and balanced international system would be but to invite fresh disaster, and that the hope of civilization lies in a federation of states "with enough cohesive force to guard against secession, repress any constituent state that defies the united will, make laws that concern the purposes for which the federation is formed, exercise the right of interpreting those laws by a system of federal courts, and maintain an executive that can make itself obeyed" (p. 262). Professor Bassett concerns himself with historical facts and with arguments, and wisely refrains from adding to the long list of specific plans and proposed constitutions which writers put forth in profusion during the war period. The statements of fact are almost unexceptionable, and the presentation of arguments, while traversing ground that of late has come to be very familiar, is clear and forceful, and has served a very useful purpose in recent days.

On the other hand, certain analogies that are drawn seem to the reviewer not altogether happy. The benevolently co-operative nature of the German cartel (p. xiv) is exaggerated; and the implication (pp. 194-200) that Germany should be dealt with in the lenient, if not chivalric, spirit that ought to have been shown—but unfortunately was not—toward our own defeated South does not carry conviction. Both the Confederacy and the German Empire fought for things we believe to have been wrong; but the fact that the former fought honorably and cleanly constitutes a tremendous difference.

FREDERIC AUSTIN OGG.

La Politique Extérieure de l'Autriche-Hongrie, 1875-1914. Tome I. *La Marche vers l'Orient, 1875-1908.* Tome II. *La Politique d'Asservissement, 1908-1914.* Par Jean Larmeroux, Docteur en Droit. (Paris, Plon-Nourrit et Cie., 1918, pp. lxiv, 490; 476.) We open this book with pleased expectation. Two stout volumes bearing the imprint of a well-known publisher lead us to hope for something measuring up to the high standard of modern French historical scholarship. The subject is timely and interesting, one about which, though there is a vast amount still to be learned, enough of importance has already appeared in various languages and scattered form to make possible a general comprehensive work of real value. We soon discover, however, to our disappointment, that we have here nothing but a laborious compilation, not based on any special knowledge or on the use of sources except French Yellow Books; also there is no evidence, in spite of a quotation or two, that the author has made use of or can make use of any language but his own. We see that he has done and done carefully a large amount of reading in the French literature available on his topic. This he has digested with fair success, and he has evolved from