

cal problem" (p. 343). The last two chapters are the most interesting, partly because they are the longest and least governed by this formula, partly because the author has more material at his disposal than in the earlier chapters.

Though based almost entirely upon secondary sources, the essays exhibit sound judgment and suggestive comment. They ought to serve admirably the purpose for which they are intended.

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*Representative Government.* By Henry J. Ford, Emeritus Professor of Politics in Princeton University. [American Political Science Series, Edward S. Corwin, General Editor.] (New York, Henry Holt and Company, 1924, pp. vii, 318, \$3.50.) "This work is based upon a great mass of material, collected in the course of an investigation of the history and characteristics of representative government which I carried on for several years in the Politics Seminary of Princeton University, with the assistance of graduate students working under my direction." It is an effective indictment of the "multiple agency system" of the United States and the tap-root evil out of which that system has grown, the separation between the executive and legislative departments, and sets forth the author's well-known admiration of the Swiss system. There are two parts, the first, of ten chapters, on "Origins", and the second, of eleven longer chapters, on "Characteristics". The latter is largely a commentary, written in the light of the last sixty years, on five fundamental propositions drawn from John Stuart Mill's *Considerations on Representative Government*, together with frequent citations from *The Federalist* and lessons drawn from the methods of private business.

The historical part is largely a history of the literature. It is interesting that Professor Ford thinks he should retell (in the first eight chapters) the old tale of the rise and fall of the Mark theory. In the ninth chapter, on the genesis of representative government, he lays down three propositions, the first two of which seem to the reviewer sound and very welcome, but not the third:

1. Representative government originated as a bud put forth by monarchy.
2. It developed first in England, not because the people were more free there but because monarchy was stronger there than elsewhere.
3. In making its start it got its mode and form from the Church.

In the third point he follows Barker's monograph, *The Dominican Order and Convocation*. Barker's striking thesis has not carried conviction. It is essentially gratuitous as far as Parliament is concerned, and omits the many tentatives in representation, election, and concentration before there were Dominicans in England, and from which the later practices were a gradual and natural outgrowth. Again Simon de Montfort figures prominently in parliamentary beginnings: he comes late enough to admit of his adoption of Dominican forms.

It is a pity that the author did not take space to argue further the first two points. They are the themes upon which much more must be written before historians and political scientists know what they should of democracy's rise and nature. It is a profound truth that "where liberal institutions have been successful they seem to have been dependent upon some past discipline maintained by coercive authority". May the author's belief prove true that representative government, with an understanding and administration that he now sees dawning in the world, will break the old vicious circle of despotism to liberalism and back to despotism.

A. B. WHITE.

*Inceputurile Vietzii Romane la Gurile Dunării* [*Beginnings of Roman Life at the Mouths of the Danube*]. By Vasile Pârvan. (Bucharest, Cultura Națională, 1923, pp. 247, 107 cuts, 80 lei.) This beautifully printed and illustrated book is one of a large series, *Cultura Noastră*, due primarily to the munificence of the Bucharest banker Aristide Blank, and bearing eloquent witness to the scientific and literary activity of the new Rumania. In this volume, Professor Pârvan, head of the great Archaeological Museum in Bucharest and of the Rumanian Archaeological School in Rome, tabulates and discusses the evidences of Greek and especially Roman civilization in the lower Danube region. His main thesis is that Dacia was not colonized suddenly by the Romans in Trajan's day, but that Romanization had been going on for generations. He shows from first-century inscriptions that Roman farmers and traders were already numerous in Moesia and the Dobrudja; in 46 A.D., Claudius made the right bank of the Danube Roman; and in 86, Domitian creates a Roman province out of Lower Moesia (Bulgaria). Pârvan excavated Histria, down on the Dobrudja coast, and found there Roman inscriptions dating 46-49 A.D.; he reminds us that Roman legionaries settled at Tomi (Constantza) in Vespasian's day. He thinks the evidence shows that independent Dacia, north of the Danube, was considerably Romanized before Trajan's conquest. Furthermore, he points out that there is no archaeological indication of any large Roman emigration south of the Danube in 270 A.D., but every probability that most of the Roman population stayed on throughout the barbarian invasions. Even Bessarabia was Romanized, and government roads united Transylvania, with its numerous Roman towns, mines, etc., with the Bukovina and Moldavia. Pârvan promises us another book on the details of Roman civilization in ancient Dacia; but this already presents a clear picture of a wealthy and prosperous country, thoroughly Romanized; a Dobrudja and Transylvania full of Roman cities; a Wallachia and Moldavia composed of Dacian towns largely Romanized, where the worship of Silvanus and the Floralia has replaced the old Thracian cults. The book is full of valuable incidental observations, and forms an admirable introduction to the early history