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SOCIOLOGY

PERHAPS WOMEN.

By Sherwood Anderson. Horace Liveright $7\frac{1}{2}$ x $5\frac{1}{8}$; 144 pp. New York

Mr. Anderson's thesis and argument here are somewhat vague. He believes that "modern man cannot escape the machine: he has already lost the power to escape" and that "it is time now for women to come into power in the Western world, to take over the power, the control of life," but just how this is to be accomplished he does not say. Nor does he say clearly why he believes that women would make a better job of the business than men. The book is short, and consists mainly of an account of a visit to a Southern cotton-mill. There is a somewhat sketchy description of what was seen there, but a great deal more space is given over to pondering upon it. The little volume is charmingly printed and bound, and has a woodcut frontispiece by J. J. Lankes.

THE YOUNG DOCTOR THINKS OUT LOUD.

By Julian P. Price.

D. Appleton & Company
\$1.50

7½ x 5¾; 187 pp.

New York

There is precious little here that has not been said before, and far better said. Dr. Price mainly rehearses what is generally known-that the cost of a medical education has become very heavy, that internes in hospitals are badly paid, that establishing a good practice is a difficult matter, that free dispensaries offer cruel competition to the practitioner, that most medical graduates of today disdain general practise and try to set up as specialists, and so on. He adds little out of his own experience and observation, but is content to generalize. Such of his generalizations as appear to be more or less original are certainly not marked by anything properly describable as acumen. Altogether, he has made a poor book, and it is not improved by the foreword by Dr. Wilburt C. Davison, dean of Duke University Medical School.

PAYING YOUR SICKNESS BILLS. By Michael M. Davis.

The University of Chicago Press \$2.50 81/8 x 51/8; 276 pp. Chicago

Most of the ground covered by this book is familiar. Mr. Davis shows how greatly the cost of medical care has grown, how difficult it is for persons of moderate means to meet it, and how public dispensaries have cut into the income of doctors.

He believes that "it is the unevenness of the burden of sickness, not its total amount, which creates most of the present financial problems." He argues that hospital and doctors' bills should be amalgamated, and that it should be possible for a prospective patient to know in advance, at least approximately, what he will have to pay in the end. He favors insurance against sickness, but believes that it should be on the group plan, with groups as little selected as possible—that individual insurance tends to select out the least healthy, and thus costs too much. His book is well documented, and there is an index.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

THE WRITTEN CONSTITUTION & THE UNWRITTEN ATTITUDE.

By Charles Edward Merriam. Richard R. Smith \$1 7 % x 5; 89 pp. New York

Dr. Merriam is professor of political science at the University of Chicago. His present book was first delivered as three lectures in March, 1930, under the James C. Cutler Foundation of the University of Rochester. He begins with a study of the origin and development of the Federal Constitution, and then deals with the influence that document has had upon State and municipal politics and upon the history of political parties. His major remarks about the Constitution are the following: that it was revolutionary, experimental and adventurous in nature; that many fundamental changes in our present government have occurred under it; that its guarantee of person and property "are slender and inadequate protection against the public will"; and that "the present danger in America is not that of lack of stability, but of mobility, failure to make prompt adjustments to the new era in industry and science."

OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES. By Rosamond W. Goldberg.

The Columbia University Press \$4.50 9 x 6½; 280 pp. New York

Many workers are exposed to occupational discases, particularly those employed in dusty trades and in metal and chemical industries. Among the metals causing such disabilities are lead, arsenic, brass, iron, mercury, and zinc; the chemicals include a number of toxic gases, vapors, and fumes. The average number of days a year lost by the average industrial worker because of occupational illness

Continued on page vi

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