

*The History and Nature of International Relations.* Edited by EDMUND A. WALSH. (New York: The Macmillan Company. 1922. Pp. xvi, 299.)

The contents of this volume may be divided into four parts. There are two papers dealing with the development of international organization in the past—one on international organization and practice in antiquity, by Professor Rostovzeff of Wisconsin, formerly of the University of Petrograd; and one on mediaeval diplomacy, by Professor C. J. H. Hayes. There are four papers on the structure and methods of international governmental relations in our own time, including two papers by Dr. James Brown Scott and Professor John Bassett Moore. These six papers constitute two-thirds of the whole book. There follow a paper on the content of international economic relations by Professor Laughlin and three papers on the content of international political relations—Latin-America, the Far East, the United States—by Drs. Rowe, Reinsch, and Borchard. The last three papers occupy about one-third of the volume, the essay on economic relations being very short, not, presumably, because there was some desire to neglect the economic foundations of international relations, as one irate economist seems recently to have supposed, but because the students in the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown, where these papers were originally read, have a full training in international economic relations as a part of their regular work.

It is, of course, no reflection upon any of the authors of these various papers to point out that, to the average reader, certain of them are of much greater value than others, or, rather, that just at the present time it is especially desirable to have published such papers as those dealing with the methods of international government which are available for settling the various economic and political controversies arising among the nations. Granted the existence of the latter, and irrespective of their exact content at any one time or in any particular case, what we need is a study of the machinery and procedure necessary for their regulation and control. Hence the value of the six papers first mentioned.

It is to be hoped that such propagandist utterances as those in the third and fourth paragraphs of the preface and in the appendix will not be too common in subsequent numbers of the Georgetown Foreign Service Series.

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*The Influence of the Sea on the Political History of Japan.* By VICE ADMIRAL G. A. BALLARD, C. B. (New York: E. P. Dutton and Company. 1921. Pp. xix, 311.)

*Sea-Power in the Pacific, a Study of the American-Japanese Naval Problem.* By HECTOR C. BYWATER. (Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Company. 1921. Pp. ix, 334.)

"Lord Palmerston once remarked that whenever he had particularly difficult negotiations to undertake with foreigners he preferred to employ a naval officer," says Vice Admiral Ballard, retired, of the British navy, when dealing with President Fillmore's selection of Commodore Perry for the mission to Japan (p. 80). Certain it is that naval officers have often proved capable of achieving diplomatic results in practice, and since Mahan's works no one can question their equal capacity to have a theoretical understanding of the roots of diplomatic prestige. In writing they are apt to ignore the forms and technicalities of diplomacy delighted in by international lawyers and professional diplomatists but generally they have a firm grasp of reality. Both observations apply to the present author.

Vice Admiral Ballard offers the history of Japan as affected by naval power from Kubla Khan through the Russo-Japanese War. We peruse episodes such as the prompt beheading of Kubla's envoys to Japan, Hideyoshi's six year effort to conquer China, the martyring of a quarter of a million Catholicly Christianized Japanese at command of Iyemitsu with the aid of the Protestant Dutch, and the "good humor" with which the Satsuma clan paid an indemnity after destruction of their city by the British navy and asked whether they might not purchase a war vessel in England, and arise with renewed belief in Darwin's dictum: "*Natura non saltum.*" Japan did not jump from nothing to world power in fifty years. The same heroic and determined people, the same willingness to undertake aggressive war against vastly superior forces, the same adroitness in profiting by defeat and imitating the excellencies of the enemy are evident in the thirteenth and in the nineteenth centuries. "Japan," says the author, "has been potentially a great power from a date antecedent to the political creation of most of the states composing modern Europe" (p. 3). That her strength remained in abeyance was due, in his opinion, to her failure to appreciate the importance of a navy for an insular nation.

The style sometimes lacks ease, and details of naval strategy occasionally become too prolonged for the comfort of the lay reader, but