

In *The Constitution of the United States: Its Sources and Application* (Little, Brown & Co., pp. xix, 298), Thomas J. Norton has taken up the federal Constitution clause by clause explaining the meaning of each clause, the historical circumstances out of which it arose and its application to actual cases. The result is a non-technical and readable account of the Constitution, not as a dry-as-dust document but as a living force. It should be especially useful to the average citizen, to new voters and to students desiring an elementary knowledge of American constitutional government. In a few instances somewhat misleading impressions are left such as the explanation that the Twelfth Amendment was adopted because the original provision in regard to the election of the President and Vice President gave rise to conflict of opinion and consequent want of harmony within the administration (pp. 105-106), and the idea that the prerogative of the House in regard to money bills is of great importance (pp. 34-37). There is a useful table of the leading constitutional cases with a brief note as to the significance of each and two large charts, one showing our governmental history prior to the adoption of the Constitution and the other the present form of national and state government.

*The Building of an Army*, by John Dickinson (The Century Co., pp. 398), describes in a comprehensive manner and with scholarly perspective the processes by which the United States, with a regular force of only 100,000 on April 1, 1917, placed more than 3,000,000 men under arms in about a year and a half; and also contains a chapter on the Army Act of 1920 and a discussion of the essentials of American army policy. The material presented is based largely upon a study of the statutes, official reports, general orders of the war department, and records of hearings before congressional committees, and is a discussion of the political as distinguished from the technical military aspects of army building. Mr. Dickinson is of the opinion that the hope of our future preparedness and policy of military legislation lies in the strengthening of voluntary organizations like the state militia, summer training camps and military schools, and the devising of better ways whereby the technical skill in the regular army may touch and influence these voluntary organizations.

*Shall it be Again?* by John Kenneth Turner (B. W. Huebsch, pp. 448), is an attempt to prove that we entered the World War "in the interest and at the direction of high finance, and at all stages to the

prejudices of the general welfare." It is not only an impeachment of American motives for going to war but is also an attack upon the policies and activities of President Wilson, a defense of Germany and a criticism of the treaty of Versailles.

The story of the American Red Cross work in Belgium during the years 1917-19 is told in a terse and interesting fashion by John van Schaick Jr. in a book entitled *The Little Corner Never Conquered* (Macmillan Co., pp. 282). The writer was for almost two years the Red Cross Commissioner to Belgium and his account is therefore authoritative as well as interesting.

*The Myth of a Guilty Nation*, by Albert J. Nock (B. W. Huebsch, pp. 114), is a challenge to the basic assumption of the Versailles treaty that Germany was entirely guilty of starting the war. A good many persons may agree with Mr. Nock in regard to the terms of the treaty but very few will be convinced by his opinion that the economic, diplomatic, and military activities of the Allies preceding 1914 were the causes of the war. The author believes that the causes underlying the present unsettled state of affairs in the United States and Europe are inherent in the terms of the treaty and "the only thing that can better our own situation is the resumption of normal economic life in Europe; and this can be done only through a thorough reconsideration of the injustices that have been put upon the German people by the conditions of the armistice and the peace treaty."

*Germany in Travail*, by Otto Manthey-Zorn (Marshall Jones Co., pp. xi, 139), is a scholarly analysis of the state of mind in present-day Germany as expressed in its literature, drama, music, religion, schools and universities. Although the author is concerned chiefly with the spiritual forces operating in Germany, the first eighteen pages give a very clear resumé of recent efforts toward political readjustment. The volume is the outcome of a half-year's leave of absence granted to the author by Amherst College for the purpose of studying at close range conditions in Germany.

*Reconstruction in France*, by William MacDonald (Macmillan Co., pp. viii, 349), is a comprehensive and readable account of the progress of restoring the devastated portions of that country, the problems of