

of view is summarized in the following quotation from the introduction: "The basic fact about Japan is that it is an agricultural country. Japanese aestheticism, the victorious Japanese army and navy, the smoking chimneys. . . ., the pushing merchant marine, the Parliamentary and administrative developments of Tokyo and a costly world wide diplomacy are all borne on the bent backs of the Japanese peasant and his wife." The book is based upon personal observations and experiences which the author has presented in a most delightful manner. For the student in search of detailed facts there is an appendix of some forty pages to which the more technical and statistical data have been relegated.

The Shantung Question, by Ge-Zay Wood (Revell, pp. 372), is a history of the Shantung difficulties from the German occupation of Kiaochow, in 1897, to the settlement at the Washington conference. Available documents are given in full in the appendix. Emphasis is laid upon the negotiations at Paris, 1919, and at Washington, 1921-2. Separate chapters deal with such problems as railways and mines. The text is well supplied with extensive quotations from source material. The author considers the Washington settlement "much better than hoped for."

The Second Year Book of the League of Nations (pp. 423) edited by Dr. Charles H. Levermore has been published by the Brooklyn Daily Eagle. There is a concise description of the work of the council and assembly of the league during 1921, as well as the proceedings of the Supreme Council which is the guiding force although not technically within the League. The editor regards the Washington conference as a meeting of the Supreme Council with a few invited guests, and therefore includes a full account of the conference and the texts of the treaties and resolutions adopted thereby.

Professor W. B. Munro of Harvard University and C. E. Ozanne of the Central High School of Cleveland are the authors of a recent high school text-book, entitled *Social Civics* (Macmillan Co., pp. xiii, 697), which presents many points of difference from other books of a similar nature. In the first place the work covers a wider range than most books on civics since it includes not only an analysis of governmental framework and functions but also a number of topics dealing with economics, sociology and international relations which are pre-

sented under the heading of "Civic Activities." These topics are not considered as isolated subjects but are linked up closely with governmental action and policy. In the second place the supplementary material is more abundant than usual with over one hundred pages of carefully selected references, group problems, short studies, questions and topics for debate. In the third place the illustrations are unique, being reproductions of certain masterpieces of mural art each symbolizing some important phase of government rather than the ordinary photographs of voting machines, public buildings, etc. The chief merit of the book, however, is not to be found in the features of arrangement and illustration but in its thoroughness and accuracy and the presentation of subject matter in a manner which is scholarly and at the same time within the grasp of youthful minds for which the volume is intended.

We and our Government, by Jeremiah Whipple Jenks and Rufus Daniel Smith (published under the auspices of the American Viewpoint Society by Boni and Liveright, pp. 232), represents a new departure in the preparation of elementary text-books on American government. In addition to the body of the book there are over five hundred carefully selected illustrations arranged along the outside column of the page with a running explanation, presenting a continuous narrative which not only explains the text in a graphic manner but constitutes a story which might be read independently of the text. No more useful book could be found for continuation and evening classes in citizenship among those whose knowledge of the English language is somewhat limited, and it should also be helpful in the regular elementary and secondary schools as supplementary to a more detailed text.

For high school courses in the problems of democracy two useful text books have been made available within the last few months. R. O. Hughes' *Problems of Democracy* (Allyn and Bacon) has the conspicuous merits of the author's earlier texts, being comprehensive, well-arranged and practical in its tone. *Economics and the Community*, by John A. Lapp (The Century Co.), has been written from the view that the teaching of elementary economics has been hindered by the lack of concrete text material related to community life, and the plan of presentation therefore provides for a preliminary gathering of local data for each chapter before beginning the study of the text.

Civic Education, by David Snedden (World Book Co., pp. xiii, 333), is designed to aid educators who are engaged in the teaching of the