In the preface the author makes the somewhat startling statement that "if Maximilian had been allowed by the United States to reign . . . . there would have been a stable government and a prosperous people in Mexico today," and that "Mexico civilized . . . . like Canada would be a more desirable neighbor" to the United States. It is difficult to agree with all of Mr. Messervy's conclusions, but the book makes interesting reading.

An Introduction to the Study of Labor Problems (pp. xv, 664), by Professor Gordon S. Watkins of the University of Illinois, has recently been published by Thomas Y. Crowell Company as one of its Social Science Series. This comprehensive and systematic work will doubtless be widely adopted as a text book for college courses. It is divided into three parts: the nature and development of the problems, analysis of the problems, and agencies and methods of adjustment. At the end of each chapter are selected references for further reading. The author does not give any original or exhaustive treatment of questions of principle. His book is distinguished rather for its sympathy with labor aspirations and its skillful summaries of experience and present conditions in the field of industrial relations.

A History of Trade Unionism in the United States by Selig Perlman (Macmillan's, pp. 313) is in part a summary of the work in labor history done by Professor John R. Commons and his collaborators at the University of Wisconsin, and in part an attempt by the author to carry this work further. In both respects the volume is useful; it summarizes a great deal of material in concise and readable form, and it adds some good chapters on recent developments. The ten pages on "why there is not an American Labor Party" are of particular interest to the student of American politics.

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### AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

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