

in the vastest of all problems. If he would transform his essay into a real history, embodying not merely those facts which fit into his theory, but also the modifications and exceptions, his book would be less popular perhaps, but more convincing.

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*The American Republic and Its Government.* — v, 410 pp. *Political Parties and Party Principles in the United States.* — ix, 314 pp. By JAMES ALBERT WOODBURN. New York, G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1903.

These companion volumes on the American system of government are a useful addition to the literature of that subject. Intended as text-books or manuals for students' reference, they make no pretensions to exhaustive study of the facts or the philosophy of American politics. The strictest tests of scientific criticism would therefore be inapplicable to them.

*The American Republic* is a treatise designed, as the author indicates, to fill a gap between the ordinary high-school text-book on civil government and Bryce's *American Commonwealth*. Viewed in this light, the volume is seen to possess many excellent features. Professor Woodburn's treatment of the subject is concise, clear, and in the main attractive. Of greatest value and interest are the chapters on the President and on Congress, which, in fact, constitute the larger part of the work.

The most serious faults of the book are a lack of proper proportion or balance and a frequent inaccuracy of statement. In a volume of 410 pages, the federal judiciary receives only 25 pages, while to the highly important subject of state government a brief chapter of 20 pages is all that is given. Fifty pages are devoted to the principles of the Fathers of the Republic, and nothing at all is said about municipal government.

The working value of the book is lowered by the presence of many distressing inaccuracies. Thus the statement (p. 19) that the Fathers did not adhere to the doctrine of the social compact requires qualification to the limit of negation. Farther on, the dates for the meeting of Presidential electors and the count of the electoral votes are incorrectly stated as the first Monday and the first Wednesday in January and February respectively (p. 118). The Secretary of Agriculture should not be included in the line of Presidential succession (p. 142);

for his department was created after the Succession Law was passed. The number and salaries of the federal judges are incorrectly given (p. 319). The constitution of Connecticut to which reference is made was rejected by the people and did not, as is implied (p. 349), become law. The Danish West Indies are not yet a part of the United States as stated (p. 378). Four States instead of two accord full rights of suffrage to women (p. 351). The governor lacks the veto power in three States, not four, as given on page 353. The number of members in the upper house of the Delaware legislature is no longer nine since the adoption of the Constitution of 1897 (p. 349). The salary of the governor of Michigan is now \$4,000, instead of \$1,000 as indicated on page 352. The form of government imputed to the Philippines (p. 376) is assuredly not the one provided for in the Act of 1902, under which they are actually governed.

The volume on *Political Parties* is designed to arouse more general interest in the study of this important part of our political system. Although the place of the political party in a democracy is hardly less important than that of representative government, no attempt was made until the last decade to analyze, classify, and interpret the great mass of facts respecting it. Mr. Bryce, in the second volume of his *American Commonwealth*, presented the first systematic discussion of the party system, and this admirable exposition has been followed in very recent times by the work of Ostrogorski on *Democracy and the Organization of Political Parties*. To other special works on the subject by such authorities as Goodnow, Macy, and Dallinger, the volume by Professor Woodburn is a welcome addition. His treatise is indeed the first attempt made by an American to give a scientific account of the organization and activities of political parties in the United States.

One-half of the book is occupied by a history of party platforms and campaigns, and the remaining part by a study of political organization and methods of action. A great variety of interesting and valuable material is clearly and attractively presented by the author, but there is, on the whole, little that savors of original and exhaustive research. The discussion is free from the pessimism so unpleasantly characteristic of Ostrogorski's work, although none of the unpleasant facts regarding political parties are glossed over, and the author fully recognizes the dangers that lurk within the party system as developed in the United States.

Excellent as the volume is in many respects, it is defective in some others. The history of party principles is developed at the expense of the history of party machinery and organization. In a system where

machinery plays so large a part, the history and description of the machinery have an equal importance, and should receive equal attention, with the history of party principles. There are many omissions of important matter, not all of which can be justified by the limitations of space. For example, the subject of primary reform is very scantily treated, in view of the great mass of primary legislation since 1866. Description and explanation of systems such as are found in the large cities of this country would have been a very valuable addition to the book. The attitude of the courts toward primary legislation and toward party organization might have been advantageously included in the discussion.

A few errors of statement have crept into this volume, but these are not of such a character as to interfere in any way with the usefulness of the work. On the whole, Professor Woodburn's discussion of political parties, although by no means an exhaustive treatment of the subject, will serve well the author's purpose of arousing greater interest in the study of political organization.

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*The Negro in Africa and America.* By JOSEPH ALEXANDER TILLINGHAST. Publications of the American Economic Association, 1902. — 231 pp.

Mr. Tillinghast presents here a social history of the American Negro from the time of his life in Africa to the present. His thesis is that the Negroes in West Africa were in a low state of savagery, with low forms of social, economic and political organization; that the slave trade and slavery were a species of natural selection in which "the race probably made a gain," the American Negroes, through inter-tribal amalgamation, becoming "rapidly superior to their West African contemporaries;" that emancipation, by isolating them in groups by themselves, has taken away the contact with the whites which makes for uplift; and that consequently the Negro is "slowly but surely tending to revert" toward savagery or extinction.

The work calls forth two preliminary criticisms, the first favorable. Undoubtedly Mr. Tillinghast has made an excellent attempt to study the vital connection between the Negro in his own home and the Negro in his foster land. The fact that the history of the slave did not begin with his landing in America is one that must be more and more impressed on students of the problem of the races, and such students