

lies the whole study. The committee is content to let this assumption stand with but scant defense. But granted the point of view, the book should realize the authors' hope of arousing "deeper interest in the vigor and energy with which professional women are now striving to make good their economic position." The discussion throughout is on a high plane, and sanity and judgment prevail in its counsel.

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*Interpretations and Forecasts. A Study of Survivals and Tendencies in Contemporary Society.* By VICTOR BRANFORD. New York, Mitchell Kennerly, 1914.—424 pp.

Mr. Branford is of that English school of sociologists who consider their subject as a fine art as well as a science. His master is that amazing personage, Professor Patrick Geddes of Edinburgh, botanist, zoölogist, art-critic, town-planner, writer of pageants, and founder of the "Outlook Tower," the world's first sociological laboratory. It is he who has carried on the Ruskin and Morris tradition, broadening its scope to meet the demands of city development and the claims of the eugenics movement of today. And, like Professor Geddes, Mr. Branford is interested in sociology as applied science, as a body of knowledge for groups and institutions and folkways from which practical implications can be made for the conscious and resolute shaping of the future. He writes of "sociological science beginning to function as spiritual power."

The present book is a collection of addresses delivered before women's clubs, workingmen's educational associations, and societies for local betterment. It discusses current tendencies in education, drama, city development, from the point of view of the Good Race and the City Beautiful. Necessarily somewhat general and soaring in his treatment, Mr. Branford is extremely good reading for political scientists with imagination, who let their minds play not only upon how our social institutions have developed and what we can analyze them into, but also what we can do with them to serve the higher artistic and life-enhancing social purposes which, now that supernatural ends have been generally abandoned, have become for most men of good-will the ideals into which they interpret their world. In this light the work of the sociologist will be to guide with expert and accurate hand the growing good-will of the groups and organizations which are tackling the problems of social disorder and maladjustment.

To give dignity and beauty to the life and labor of woman in the home,

of man in the factory and field; to subordinate the economics of the market to the ethics of the church; to replace the limitations or exaggerations of sects and the pedantries of academies by the realities of a living culture; to clean up the débris and confusion of the industrial cities and enrich their civic life with order and beauty—to achieve these ends is the purpose of innumerable organizations concerned with the task of betterment and uplift. These are concentrating around a double focus. The Town-planning endeavor is one focus, and the culture of Child-life is the other. Round these two complementary centers of interest are developing new social situations, and of high coördinating power. The care of the living child and the planning of the city—here surely are the natural, definite and concrete objectives which tend spontaneously to concentrate the emotion of women and artists, the knowledge of scientists and philosophers, the thought and care of educationists, the energies of labor, the power of statesmen.

Poetical as this may sound to many minds, it does actually grip something very like reality in the tendencies of the day. In this country the numerous social surveys of cities, the town-planning reports and schemes, the sociological studies of typical communities conducted by universities and churches, all speak of a new sense of the community as a living whole, of a determination that our sociological knowledge shall issue forth in applied civic art. It speaks of a new communal self-consciousness. Similarly, the newer tendencies in education, the wide interest in more democratic, more genuinely "public" forms of the public school, the application in schools in various parts of the country of philosophies like Dewey's "instrumentalism," all suggest the reality of this other focus of which Mr. Branford speaks. He has given us the very valuable clue to our *Zeitgeist*.

To those of us who take our sociology more or less emotionally this clue is not only valuable but prophetic. Before I had read Mr. Branford I had decided that the most significant sociological institutions I had seen during the past year were the small town-planned German municipality such as Rothenburg, and the public school system of William Wirt's in Gary, Indiana. The one develops the social and communal resources; the other the capacities of the individual, cultivating his powers and giving him the opportunities for a rounded and expressive and efficient life in his community. Mr. Branford's book confirms this intuition of mine. I should like to see these categories and these "focusses" of his generally accepted, strongly believed and worked for.

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## RECORD OF POLITICAL EVENTS

[From November 5, 1914 to May 1, 1915]

### I. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

**THE EUROPEAN WAR**— On the **western front**, the German offensive along the Yser (see last RECORD, p. 735) was abandoned early in December. The next four months witnessed a series of frontal attacks, at first by the Allies and subsequently by the Germans, at widely separated points along the whole line, for the control of strategic points. The success of these attacks varied, but they were without exception extremely costly to both sides, while in no case did the capture of the objective point significantly affect the general situation. To military critics the lesson of these months seemed to be that only after a prolonged process of attrition had considerably weakened one side or the other, could a decisive result be expected on this front. On the **eastern front**, the Austro-German drive toward Warsaw (see last RECORD, p. 736) compelled the withdrawal of the Russian troops from Galicia, Bukowina and East Prussia, though the drive itself was repulsed early in November. The renewal of the Russian invasion along the whole front, and particularly in the direction of the Carpathian passes, was similarly checked by an enormous German movement into Poland, terminating in February, in which unprecedented losses were admitted on both sides. The repulse of the Russian offensive was but temporary, however, and March again saw fierce fighting along the eastern slopes of the Carpathians, while on March 22, after the repulse of an Austrian relief force, the fortress of Przemyśl, which had been invested since September, fell. This released large Russian forces for the advance upon the Carpathians. By the end of April, these forces had passed over the crests of the two principal passes but had not yet succeeded, in spite of unprecedented sacrifices of life, in crushing the Austro-Hungarian defense. —Following the withdrawal of the Russian offensive in November (see *supra*) a heavy concentration of Austrian troops caused the hurried retreat of the Serbian army into the south, involving the evacuation of Belgrade and all the northwest corner of Serbia. The withdrawal of several Austrian corps to meet the renewed Russian advance upon the Carpathians was, however, immediately followed by a remarkable Serbian offensive which by December 15 had recaptured Belgrade and completely cleared Serbia of Austrian troops. It was announced in Vienna that the campaign against Serbia would for the present be abandoned. Despite their victory, the Serbian armies were in no condition to resume the offensive and April passed without any renewal of activity on this front.—The active entry of **Turkey** into the war was signaled by the proclamation, November 27, by