

There are twenty-five contributors to *The Coming Newspaper* (New York, Henry Holt and Company, 1915; vi, 323 pp.), which takes its name from the introductory article written by Professor Merle Thorpe, of the School of Journalism of the University of Kansas. The distinctive feature of the book is its optimism. Changes for the better are recorded in several of the chapters, notably in the contribution of Professor James Melvin Lee, of New York University, who notes with satisfaction the vast improvement in recent years in the advertising columns of the American newspapers. The Associated Press and the United Press are presented in a much better light than that in which they have appeared in many recent magazine articles. One of the most valuable contributions, that of Mr. Oswald Garrison Villard, deals with "Some Weaknesses of Modern Journalism." Mr. Villard lays most emphasis on the lack of accuracy in the reporting of speeches. He notes, however, that our news columns at present are cleaner than they used to be, and that our newspapers exhibit a steadily growing freedom from political partisanship.

There are at least three good histories of English journalism, one of which carries the history nearly to the end of the Victorian period. Mr. R. A. Scott-James' book on *The Influence of the Press* (London, S. W. Partridge and Company, Limited, 1913; ix, 320 pp.) will have a distinctive place in British newspaper literature, partly because of the year in which it is written, which is on the eve of the Great War, and partly because it analyzes with care and discrimination the causes of the great changes which came over the English daily press in the period from the establishment of *The Times* in 1785 to the creation of *The Daily Mail* by the Harmworths in 1896. The chapter on the penny press—the daily press that came into existence after the last of the taxes on newspapers had been repealed in 1861—is a peculiarly valuable contribution to English social history. It is to be regretted that in a book that covers so much ground and covers it so satisfactorily, there is scarcely a mention of English and Scottish weekly newspapers—newspapers established in every provincial town, which furnished so large a part of the newspaper reading of the industrial and farming classes before the days of the half-penny morning and evening papers. A new England and a new British Empire are being developed by the war, and the home and oversea problems growing directly out of the war will make new demands on the newspapers. This fact adds greatly to the value of Mr. Scott-James' study of the growth, history and influence of the press up to the beginning of the conflict.

In what is apparently a doctoral dissertation entitled *The Function of Socialization in Social Evolution* (Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 1916; vii, 237 pp.), Prof. Ernest W. Burgess defends the important sociological thesis that socialization, or the "participation of the individual in the spirit and purpose, knowledge and methods, decision and action of the group" is the most important factor in social evolution. The work is divided into three parts; the first is devoted to the task of proving that socialization is the dominant factor in the evolution of the technique by which man has been able to utilize or control his material environment; the second traces the influence of socialization in the development of English society from the earliest times to the present capitalistic stage and is an admirable brief survey of English social history; the third considers the function of socialization in the development of the human personality in its three aspects of cognition, feeling and volition. Dr. Burgess concludes that geographic influences, in general, but condition and only in extreme instances determine human activity. The social environment, social heredity, social organization—in a word, socialization—are the dominant forces. Thus instead of economic determinism we have psychic and social determinism. While Prof. Burgess has not exhausted the subject, his work is a serious contribution to what is perhaps the cardinal proposition in sociology.

Professor E. C. Hayes intends his *Introduction to the Study of Sociology* (New York, D. Appleton and Company, 1916; xviii, 718 pp.) to serve primarily as a textbook for a general course in sociology. After a brief introduction, dealing with the nature of society and of sociological explanation, he takes up those causes which affect the life of society as the general subject of the first part. There are four of these: (1) the natural physical environment, or geographic conditions as they affect life; (2) the artificial physical environment, or the effects of the material products of man's labor upon himself; (3) the psycho-physical conditions, or the population with its hereditary and acquired traits; (4) social conditions, or the nature and relationship of the activities prevailing in a social environment. The suggestive chapters on the social causes affecting the life of society deal with association, communication, suggestion, imitation, prestige and accommodation. In the second part an analysis of the life of society is made, and part iii gives in brief compass an instructive view of the chief facts of social evolution, while part iv deals with social control. There is a vigor about this book which makes it readable, and an earnestness which makes it carry conviction.