

In *Leading American Treaties* (New York, The Macmillan Company, 1922; 399 pp.) Charles E. Hill, Professor of Political Science in the George Washington University, carries out interestingly his announced purpose of giving "the historical setting and the chief provisions of fifteen of the leading American treaties". The inspiration of the excellent idea underlying the volume is accredited to the late President Angell of the University of Michigan, while the work is more directly the result of the author's own teaching in Washington. The book will be of value to the general reader as well as useful in the class-room. Professor Hill has incorporated enough of the humor and human interest of each situation to hold the attention of the average citizen, who should be more familiar with these bases of our national development. A healthy, but impartial, spirit of Americanism is evident throughout. What the author aptly says of the American commissioners who negotiated the Treaty of Independence may well apply to many of their countrymen participating in subsequent negotiations: "One cannot escape the conclusion that they bore themselves as the peers of the best diplomats of any or all time" (p. 43). A separate chapter is given to a discussion of each of the following treaties, including the events which led up to, and the consequences following, these engagements: Treaties with France, 1778; Treaty of Independence, Paris, 1783; Jay's Treaty, 1794; Convention of Peace, Commerce and Navigation with France, 1800; Louisiana Purchase, 1803; Treaty of Ghent, 1814; Convention of 1818 with Great Britain; Florida Purchase, 1819; Webster-Ashburton Treaty, 1842; Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, 1848; Perry and Harris Treaties with Japan, 1854 and 1858; Alaska Purchase, 1867; Treaty of Washington, 1871; Treaty of Paris with Spain, 1898; and the Panama Canal Treaties. A helpful bibliography is appended to each chapter.

Ernest Hartley Coleridge's *Life of Thomas Coutts, Banker* (London and New York, John Lane, 1920; two volumes: xii, 305; xii, 459 pp.) is of interest not only as a biography of England's greatest banker of the period between Saratoga and Waterloo, but even more as a side-light on political and social affairs in that period. Coutts had as sons-in-law the heirs of two prime ministers and the most famous political reformer of his day—an indication that the gulf between the landed aristocracy and the moneyed men was fast disappearing in England. Coutts was, moreover, the banker of George III and his brood of infamous sons, with all of whom he was friendly. In addition, he was a friend and correspondent of

Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire, Pitt, and the famous wit and littérateur, Caleb Whitefoord. He was the trusted adviser of Lord North, and probably knew more of the manipulations of the secret service money than anyone except the king himself, at the time George III was so intent upon wrecking the Old Whigs. The letters shed light upon the attitude of English financiers toward the American Revolution, as Coutts manifested a constant fear that England's credit could not withstand the strain of fighting at one time both her rebellious colonies and France. The banker revealed a real appreciation of the Irish problem and the means for its solution. Napoleon's advantage in threatening an invasion of England was clear to him when he wrote that his "best plan would be forever to make us expect him, but never to come. He might ruin and even conquer us in that way, if we are governed by weak, inefficient Ministers" (vol. II, p. 219). The selecting and editing of these letters is excellent, and we gladly excuse Mr. Coleridge for including several interesting ones previously printed in the *Whitefoord Papers*. Despite the mass of new materials attractively presented, the reviewer confesses disappointment at the lack of information on finance. He hoped for new light upon British taxation during the Napoleonic wars, and above all for concrete data on England's wealth and the means by which it was acquired at the moment the factory system was getting under way. The letters only indicate that Coutts left his widow the wealthiest woman of the realm, but neither her birth nor her wealth was any bar to her marrying the Duke of St. Albans. The work is remarkably free from even trivial errors. Shelburne's name contains no "o"; Cornwallis surrendered Yorktown in 1781 and not a year later (vol. I, pp. 127, 141).

In lifting the cloud which has settled down over Syndicalism since 1912, M. Maxime Leroy has performed a most valuable service, and one sorely needed because of the rapid changes in the movement during the past five years. In spite of its title, *Les Techniques nouvelles du Syndicalisme* (Paris, Librairie Garnier Frères, 1921; 209 pp.), deals with practically every phase of the modern Syndicalist movement. The author uses "*technique*" in its widest sense and consequently discusses not only the methods by which the C. G. T. can achieve its program, but carefully considers its aims as well. True to the Syndicalist tradition, however, these aims are never considered apart from the technic by which they may be realized. Those who abhor the older conception of Syndicalism as typified by Sorel's praise of violence, will find some comfort in the