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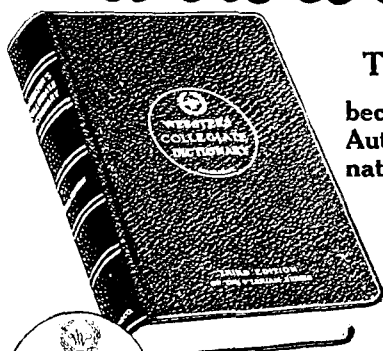
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The New Books Government

(Continued from preceding page)

pages, he discusses a problem of quite primary importance with that easy mastery of the facts, and that fairness in the face of difficulties, which characterize his work. Broadly, we think, his analysis may be said to lead to three great conclusions. First, the evidence is against the notion that the origins of the state must be traced through a uniform series of stages; the history is multilinear and irregular. Secondly the presence of what may be called a public opinion suggests everywhere the existence of that brooding omnipresence we call the state. Thirdly that public opinion translates itself, even in primitive societies, into a coercive force which exercises coercive power; and, in a discussion of quite special importance, Professor Lowie suggests that this coercive power, which he terms sovereignty, is the chief factor in securing that territorial unity which we today recognize as the main element in statehood.

No one who, like the present reviewer, is not an anthropologist is justified in doing more than noting Professor Lowie's conclusion and hoping for its ample discussion by the experts. But we may perhaps be permitted to say that the general result, if accepted, would make much clear in the discussions of political science which is yet far from obvious. In particular, it will be of quite primary importance if Professor Lowie is right in his assumption that territorial organization, of a state-kind, cannot be produced from the activity of associations. That would help the view, which is an urgent part of the pluralist theory of the state, that unified sovereignty is necessary where the maintenance of order is administratively difficult; but that it ceases to have the same force when such a primitive stage is passed. And it would then follow that, granted the thesis of maintained order, the degree of associational activity in a community is the measure of liberty which obtains. We cannot here, of course, attempt to develop the hints which Professor Lowie throws out, and the relevance they seem to us to have for kindred studies. It must suffice to say that all who read his essay will have cause to echo our gratitude.

History

A HISTORY OF EUROPE. By I. L. PLUNKET and R. B. MOWAT. Oxford University Press. 1927. \$3.

The authors of this volume of 800 pages are both experienced historians. They have attempted to portray Europe as a whole, to give a consecutive account of a continent which, though made up of many nationalities and states, yet has had a unity of civilization. While their object is made difficult of attainment by the rise of national feeling and individualistic national development, yet on the whole they have been successful.

The book is divided into two parts, the first dealing with Europe in the Middle Ages, the second with Europe and the Modern World. The dividing line between the two is put at 1494 when the invasion of Italy by Charles VIII put an end to the fiction of Italian hegemony. The second half of the book necessarily includes a great deal of material about the opening of the New World and subsequent relations between it and the mother continent.

The value of such a work as this depends on the choice of material and on the method of presentation. While there is little original in the book, and while it is what may be called a "clipping job," it should not be condemned on this account. It is written most interestingly and the quotations from contemporaries and authorities are almost invariably well chosen and apt. The many illustrations and maps help to enliven the text, and the price is exceedingly moderate for the size and content of the book. At the end of each half of the volume there is a chronological summary, genealogical tables, and a somewhat brief and perfunctory bibliography. Those who are interested in obtaining a "high-light" treatment of European history will find it amply worth their while to purchase this volume. Perhaps its principal fault as a textbook is that it is too interesting.

EGYPT. By GEORGE YOUNG. Scribners. 1927. \$5.

It is most instructive to compare the development of Nationalism in Egypt with similar movements in China, India, and Turkey. One of the principal causes in all four is the impact of Occidental industrial civilization upon more primitive industrial systems, with both destructive and constructive results. This volume in the "Mod-

ern World" series covers the period from Napoleon's "Battle of the Pyramids" to 1926, giving enough detail for most readers in a surprisingly compact form, but with special emphasis on the changes effected by the British administration of Egypt, and on the "Nationalist Renaissance" under Zaglul.

Some of the most interesting chapters deal with the conquest of the Sudan, its loss to the Mahdi after the death of General Gordon, its reconquest by General Kitchener, and the problems which have arisen since the cancellation of the British Protectorate over Egypt, due to the desire of the Egyptian Government to control the Nile floods with the dam in the Sudan, while the British believe it important to use part of the water for irrigating the cotton growing regions of the Gezireh. This is one of the few districts where cotton can be grown to assist in making the British mills less dependent upon the American product.

The principal value of the book, however, lies in the accurate account of the reasons which led the British to withdraw the complete control which they had exercised since 1882, and of the causes which turned the fellahin farmers against the British, in spite of all the benefits of past just and efficient government. Such adequate explanations are rarely given in the literature of the "Great War." The suggestions for the ultimate solution of the problems of the conflicting interests of the two countries deserve study.

The style is extremely readable and the necessary historical narrative is enlivened with illustrative anecdotes and explanations.

THE HAYES-TILDEN ELECTION. By PAUL LELAND HAWORTH. Bobbs-Merrill. 1927. \$3.

This new edition of a book which first appeared more than twenty years ago is a well-merited tribute to a thorough and impartial study of a highly complicated episode, the most bitterly contested event in our history. Mr. Haworth's conclusion is that "all things considered, it appears that both legally and ethically the decision" of the Electoral Commission in favor of the Hayes electors "was the proper one." The concise justification for this conclusion is that "while Hayes was undoubtedly the beneficiary of fraud, Tilden would just as truly have been the beneficiary of violence and murder." The chapters in which the detailed story of the proceedings in Florida, Louisiana, and South Carolina is told supply the evidence by which the reader may judge the correctness of this verdict. Oregon was in a different category, the dispute over that state being concerned not with the casting or the counting of the votes but solely with the eligibility of an elector and with happenings growing out of that question. Mr. Haworth's account is extended to cover the "adjustment" in the South following Hayes's inauguration, with the recall of Federal troops and the consequent triumph of the Democrats in the states affected. His chapters, while analytical, are essentially dramatic.

THIS GENERATION, A HISTORY OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND. Vol. I. 1900-1914. By THOMAS COX MEECH. Dutton. 1927. \$5.

Writing contemporary history by contemporaries has always been a favorite literary pastime. Croce says all history should be contemporary history, meaning that we have no right to pass moral judgments on the past but must regard it our duty to chronicle events. Nevertheless, even historians have points of view if only in the choice of incidents and the award of emphasis. Mr. Meech is the London editor of a group of British provincial newspapers. As such his point of view is essentially parliamentary, for attention to politics absorbs much of the time of a British London editor. His effort to summarize events during the first fourteen years of the present century, therefore, is based on the way parliamentary proceedings appear to Fleet Street.

Even the sinking of the *Titanic*, with its pre-war warning to man that science was still fallible, is treated by Mr. Meech solely in terms of the announcement of the disaster in the House of Commons. Mr. Meech shows how powerfully the mother of parliaments affects the British mind, as well it might, for it is the creation of many centuries of experiments in freedom by Britons. For the British Empire, therefore, Mr. Meech's parliamentary manner must have a strong appeal. For those, too, who, dwelling elsewhere, have a special interest in British ways of thought or who desire an aid to memory concerning the flow of events, consequential and inconsequential, that preceded the World War, Mr. Meech's

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book will have some interest. His style is rather that of the British journalist and his newspaper writings may well have served as the basis for his book. He is cautious in pronouncing judgments, like the true London editor, who in this respect is an unconscious follower of Croce. There are several old cartoons from *Punch* in the book, as interesting now as then, and Mr. Meech would have given his readers added pleasure by including more of them.

ISRAEL IN WORLD HISTORY. By A. W. F. Blunt. Oxford. \$1.

THE JESUIT ENIGMA. By E. Boyd Barrett. Boni & Liveright. \$4.

MARCHING WITH SHERMAN. By Henry Hitchcock. Yale University Press. \$4.

Juvenile

SARAH'S DAKIN. By MABEL L. ROBINSON. Dutton. 1927. \$2.

An energetic thirteen-year-old girl on a Maine farm, her resourceful father and her inseparable companion, the dog Dakin, are the chief characters in this new book by Mabel L. Robinson. Dakin is a remarkable dog who enters with gusto into all his young mistress's adventures. The story is well written and its cheerful realism is the sort that will always make a strong appeal to parents and teachers as especially appropriate reading for growing girls. And the girls themselves will undoubtedly like it, though it is built on no very unusual formula, being one of the good old-fashioned sort in which the heroine's loyalty and hard work are rewarded handsomely in the end by her being given a chance to go to New York and study with one of the best music teachers. A moderately successful and pleasant addition to the Louisa M. Alcott school.

TO AND AGAIN. By WALTER R. BROOKS. Knopf. 1927. \$2.

This story of a group of discontented animals who set off from a barnyard to see the world and who after adventures manifold finally return laden with hard earned gold to bestow on their old master, has much spirit and originality. If at times the talk of the animals palls somewhat upon the adult reader it probably will not upon the younger ones for whom it has been written. This is the sort of story that sets out determinedly to be different and never misses an opportunity to be fanciful and funny. But it falls pretty far below the best when one compares it with Dr. Dolittle and his quaintly sincere drolleries, or with the natural fun and charm of "The Wind in the Willows." It is one of those books that should have been so much better if it had to be quite fair with it as it is. The many strange pictures by Adolfo Best-Maugard seem a trifle too sophisticated and consciously "designed" to please youngsters, but the jacket design is rather pleasant in a Mad-Hatterish way.

JOLLY GOOD TIMES. By MARY P. WELLS SMITH. Little, Brown. 1927. \$2.

It is more than fifty years since this book appeared in a juvenile series and so well has it stood the test of time that it is being reissued in a slightly modernized format. Nothing could be more simple and wholesome and in a sense more removed from all the contraptions and complications of present day life than this little tale of the everyday doings of a group of country children. Ted and Millie and Roy and Lois and the rest, work and play, go berrying, explore small islands on familiar rivers and celebrate their holidays in anything but a thrilling or original way. But there is reality about them all and a joyous sense of life and natural high spirits which it must be hard for even the most sophisticated young readers of today to resist. After all, discovering islands, picnicing, planning parties, and celebrating holidays must always be the stuff of which childhood experience is made. The fact that children take their excursions by motor rather than by farm wagon or coach; that their lives are a trifle more complicated by movies, telephones, and radios, seems to matter very little so long as the infectious spirit is there. In fact so long as the author enjoys writing the tale himself there will always be children to listen. It was a happy venture of the publisher to reissue so friendly and spontaneous an account of young doings in a New England village of the day before yesterday.

THE BOY'S LIFE OF ALEXANDER HAMILTON. By HELEN NICOLAY. Century. 1927. \$2.

A straightforward account of the romantic career of one of our most influential statesmen, Miss Nicolay's story depends for its interest upon the inherent importance and appeal of the events it relates. There is a

refreshing restraint in her narrative which is especially appropriate for a biography of Hamilton. Yet this does not mean a flattening out of the adventurous turns in his life. On the contrary, these are emphasized as they should be. In Miss Nicolay's pages Hamilton stands out as the precocious, capable, gracious, and dauntless figure in either war or peace which every American boy should know him to be.

SKITTER CAT AND MAJOR. By ELEANOR YOUMANS. Illustrated by RUTH BENNETT. Bobbs-Merrill. 1927. \$1.50.

PRANCING PAT. By HELEN FULLER ORTON. Illustrated by MAURICE DAY. Stokes. 1927. \$1.25.

These are both small books about animal pets, for children up to about eight or ten, the authors being already known for others of the same kind or (in the case of "Skitter Cat and Major") on the same subject. This latter recounts a succession of happenings to the two cat-and-dog friends in a family which might be that of any of the child readers, with the adventures and the friendly coöperation of the two animals sustaining amusement and interest. "Prancing Pat" has more of a developed plot, a faint and far suggestion of a miniature "Black Beauty" in the first half, and at the end the satisfactory return of the pet horse to his own family by his own unexpected devices. Both books are written in a direct, simple style and attractively illustrated. "Prancing Pat" is the shorter and simpler and with its large clear type will undoubtedly be given to younger children to read to themselves.

FLOWER FAIRIES. By CICELY MARY BARKER. Macmillan. 1927. 3 vols. 60 cents each.

Miss Barker initiates young readers into the manners and mysteries of flower life throughout three seasons. Her really valuable subject matter is given through the medium of good verse, which, together with the colored illustrations of flowers, flowering shrubs and trees, makes of these small books a desirable addition to the nature study section of the children's library. The set is composed of three volumes, dealing with the Flower Fairies of Spring, of Summer and of Autumn.

CHARLIE AND HIS FRIENDS. By HELEN HILL and VIOLET MAXWELL. Macmillan. 1927. \$1.

The younger children are learning to welcome another "Charlie" book with great joy and it is a pleasure to report "Charlie and His Friends" as quite up to the rest, if not even better. These stories are real life as the seven-year-old would like to have it, and as it might possibly exist in prosperous kind-hearted America. All the grown-ups and children act from the best of motives and even the dog is reformed from such mischief as chasing cows by being merely put on leash for a while. An interesting contrast to the crime and punishment of children which filled the old-fashioned juveniles! To have achieved this psychologically correct optimism in clear English without sentimentality and with enough realistic incident to make the plot absorbing for the age for which it is intended, seems to us to make the book a veritable younger children's classic.

A LITTLE CHRISTMAS BOOK. By ROSE FYLEMAN. Doran. 1927. \$1.25.

A brief miscellany of verse and prose all by this well-known English writer for children and all concerning Christmas. The book is not distinguished, but it would make an agreeable Christmas offering to some child in lieu of an expensive card. The ten scissor cuts by L. Hummel that decorate it are most charming silhouettes.

A LITTLE BOOK OF DAYS. By RACHEL FIELD. Doubleday, Page. 1927. 75 cents.

A series of verses and pictures in a tiny book showing and describing children's favorite holidays. The pictures are in color, the verses, at their best, on this order:

*Pink and white arbutus
In a basket gay,
Hang it on your neighbor's door
The first night of May.*

THE CAT AND THE CAPTAIN. By ELIZABETH J. COATSWORTH. Macmillan. 1927. \$1.

This is a small book for six- to eight-year-olds in Macmillan's "The Little Library." Miss Coatsworth is one of the most interesting of our younger women poets. And even in her poetry her fond-
(Continued on next page)

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