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(maximum and minimum flow, head, storage, and diversion possibilities, etc.), the mechanical installations, the distribution of the power, and the uses to which it is put. Particulars of the Government control of commercial undertakings in each province are added. The amount of power actually developed is over 1,700,000 H.P.; it is very rapidly increasing, and an incomplete estimate of the potential power is ten times this amount. The volume is abundantly illustrated with plans and photographs.

J. F. U.

Brief History of the United States.— **Matthew Page Andrews, M.A.** Philadelphia and London: J. B. Lippincott Co. 1916. 4s. 6d. net.

Mr. Andrews has clearly taken a great deal of trouble to write a text-book suitable for use in schools. This is not an easy task, and is perhaps especially difficult in the case of the history of the United States. His book has some admirable features. It is simply and lucidly written, it is copiously illustrated, and at the close of each chapter topics that deserve further explanation and discussion are suggested for the guidance of pupil and teacher. In these respects it is superior to most books of its kind. But it is too full of facts, and it would probably have been better to have omitted a good deal of detail, selecting only the main turning-points and developments of American history and treating these and the more important characters with greater fulness.

E. A. B.

AUSTRALIA AND PACIFIC ISLANDS

A Short History of Australia.— **Ernest Scott**, Professor of History in the University of Melbourne. Oxford: University Press. 1916. *Maps*. 3s. 6d.

This is a very useful little book. It gives an interesting and on the whole well-proportioned account of Australian history. The author writes with real knowledge and acquaintance with first-hand authorities, and brings the story down to the present time. He has tended to develop the earlier history more fully than the later, and a fuller account of the recent economic history of Australia, of the rise and progress of its industries, of its social and industrial problems, would have increased the value of the book. He has given an excellent series of maps, a chronology and a very useful little bibliography, all showing the care with which the book has been prepared.

E. A. B.

New Zealand in Evolution.— **Guy H. Scholefield.**— London: Fisher Unwin. 1916. Pp. xxiv, 343. *Map and Index, and Forty-nine Illustrations.* 5s. net.

The second edition of Mr. Scholefield's 'New Zealand in Evolution' demands a word of notice, especially as no copy of the original edition (1909) reached the *Journal*. The book gives a short general description of the country and sketch of its early history, a full and vivid account of typical products and industries—timber, phormium, wool, meat, gold, coal, etc., and impartial analysis of the more important economic and political phenomena, leading up to an interesting estimate of the Maori as an economic factor. The book is journalism, but journalism at its very best—wide knowledge based on full investigation, conspicuous ability to differentiate and handle facts, and a vigorous and attractive style. We have noticed in the whole book only one far-fetched or strained point—the statement on p. 75 (made to suggest that the merino sire was naturally acclimatized) that the climate of New Zealand corresponds with that of Spain! And we would recommend the book cordially to teachers of

geography as full of valuable, trustworthy, and well-arranged information, descriptive and critical. It is well illustrated and well indexed. L. W. L.

GENERAL.

Elementary Economic Geography.— Charles Redway Dryer. New York: American Book Company. 1916. Pp. 415. *Maps and Illustrations.*

The improved study of geography in schools during the last few years has called forth a great number of text-books of all kinds and conditions. Some of these have evidently been written to order, and suffer from the defects of such productions. A branch of geography which has hardly received the attention it deserves in elementary works is the economic. This is probably due to its being thought unattractive, and the books devoted to it are sometimes loaded with statistics presented in a dry and uninviting way. The book before us is free from these defects. It is altogether admirable, and should be interesting to every intelligent schoolboy and schoolgirl who is called upon to study geography. It has evidently been compiled with much care and thought, and its contents are given with lucidity and method. The book is however obviously written for American schools, for the greater part of it is devoted to the United States. But as no other part of the world is so well suited for an exposition of the subject in all its various phases it may well find favour in schools on this side of the Atlantic.

The author divides his subject into two distinct parts which may be called general and special. The first part treats of human economics and their natural foundations, the second with the economic geography of the United States. He defines economic geography as "the study of the different kinds of environment as they affect the different ways in which men get a living, and deals with natural resources, industries, and the distribution of useful products."

Part I. is a general elaboration of this definition. The relations of primitive peoples (as the Yaghan Indians, the Eskimo, South Sea Islanders, Pueblo Indians and Amazon peoples) to their environment are sketched in a clear and interesting manner. Plant-life as the natural foundation of human economy is next explained, illustrated by an excellent coloured map. Mineral and marine resources, industry and trade follow, illustrated by maps showing their world distribution. This part of the book concludes with a chapter on economics and economic societies; and a tabular view is given of human economics classified as collective, productive, constructive, distributive, and personal. Economic societies are either simple or complex, the latter being divisible into four classes. The schoolboy or schoolgirl must indeed be dull and unimaginative who does not find this exposition clear, interesting, and stimulating.

In Part II. the United States are divided into five economic regions, viz. the Middle West, the Eastern States, the Southern States, the Interior States, and the Pacific States.* The account of each of them is prefaced by a brief description of its physical features; then its agriculture, manufactures, commerce, transport, and chief cities are explained. The reason for things is always kept in view, and the student cannot fail to be led to think about the many problems expounded, and to be encouraged to apply them to other parts of the world with which he may be acquainted. This in fact is one of the good points about the book, which is admirably illustrated with numerous

* The principles followed by the author for this division were explained in the *Journal* for March, 1917 (p. 237).