the city, organizations and what they can do, advertising the town, and the future of the town. At the end of each chapter is a short and well selected list of references for further reading upon the subject of the chapter.

On the whole the volume is a very suggestive one and should be welcomed by all those interested in the betterment of town conditions and more efficient government in our smaller communities. It is a volume that can well be read by the average citizen to give him a broad yet local view of the demands and future requirements of his town. It is attractively bound in brown and gold.

FORD H. MACGREGOR.

The University of Wisconsin.

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PRINCIPLES OF PRUSSIAN ADMINISTRATION. By Herman Gerlach James. New York: Macmillan Company, 1913, pp. 309.

This is an accurate and lucid account of the very complex system of administration which Prussia gradually built up in the course of several centuries. The first chapter shows the historical foundations, upon which the great organic legislation of the nineteenth century was based; to this the greater part of the book is devoted. In addition to a description of the administrative organization of the country we find also a summary of the important legislation touching matters of public administration; such as the laws of the police, law of press and of association, the poor laws, the system of public schools, and labor legislation. These subjects include the imperial or federal statutes which are administered by the state authorities. The book thus gives more than the title indicates, and the student of comparative public law will find it a convenient and reliable handbook.

At the same time he will also be somewhat disappointed. While the task that Mr. James has set to himself has been well performed, it has been confined to

too narrow a compass. The dry bones of these sections of statutes are not enough; we ought to get something of their significance and their operation. For instance, it is a striking fact that while imperial laws are left to state administration there is no supreme judicial federal authority on matters of public law. What happens if a liquor license is illegally refused? On page 66 there is a brief statement as to the power of supervising organs to demand information of the state executive. If this is all the machinery of control, a statement to that effect would be in order. Nor does it appear from the book that the localities below the province, especially the district, are of greater administrative importance than the province itself; yet that is a striking fact of Prussian administrative organization. Altogether there is not enough of critical comment to accompany the exposition of purely legal form and structure.

Exception may also be taken to Mr. James' translation of some technical terms. "Ministry of state" does not convey to us the idea of a council of ministers for which it stands, and the "county prefect" would be preferable to the "circle director." The most literal is not always the most faithful translation, and scrupulousness may easily become pedantry. But slight blemishes like these do not detract from the solid merits of the work.

ERNST FREUND.

Chicago.

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CITY BUILDING. By S. H. Clay. Cincinnati: Clark Publishing Company, 1913, cloth, 8 vo., pp. 165.

This volume is written by the secretary of the Commercial Club of Lexington, Kentucky, and is offered as a suggestive program for the commercial secretary. It is full of suggestions for commercial club activities and should be of no little assistance in directing them in the larger cities. In fact, it is a practi-

cal program which could be adopted as a working basis for any commercial club or chamber of commerce in a large city. Nearly all other books on town promotion that have thus far appeared have dealt with generalities, have discussed the subject in the abstract. The present volume deals with it in a concrete way. Instead of discussing what should be embodied in a town promotion program it actually works out the program. The author has collected a great deal of valuable information with reference to the organization, methods, and activities of commercial bodies in the principal cities of the country, and has put the material in concise and convenient outline.

The volume contains thirteen chapters, each of which is divided into six sections each section being two pages in length. The scope of the volume is indicated by the chapter headings which run as follows: The commercial organization; publicity; location of industries; conventions; extension of trade; street building and cleaning; transportation; the city beautiful; education; government by commission; good roads; and agriculture. The method of treatment is shown by the subdivisions of the chapters. The one on good roads, for instance, deals with: Importance of good roads to a community; an educational campaign for good roads; where good roads are found; some national highways; approved methods of building improved roads; and how to finance construction of improved roads. In the same way the chapter on publicity contains sections on the value of publicity, how to secure it, the personal letter campaign, booklets and folders, post card day, display advertising, the news bureau, and similar subjects.

The chief criticism that can be offered to the work is that the arbitrary outline followed necessarily requires all subjects to be treated uniformly. Some of the subjects cannot be adequately treated in two pages, while possibly others might be disposed of with less. So

broad a field does not readily lend itself to an arbitrary, cut-and-dried treatment. For the purposes for which the volume was intended, however, an inadequate treatment is doubtless to be preferred to one too exhaustive and long. As it is evidently intended as a program of suggestion and direction rather than advice, it will serve its purpose in its present form. It is purely a utility work, and the author himself, probably, would claim for it no literary merits. It is to be regretted that it could not have appeared in a more attractive form. The typographical work is very poor and bears evidence of having been carelessly and hastily done.

FORD H. MACGREGOR.

The University of Wisconsin.

THE OREGON SYSTEM: THE STORY OF DIRECT LEGISLATION IN OREGON. By Allen H. Eaton. Chicago: A. C. McClurg and Company, 1912, pp. VIII, 195.

Mr. Eaton's book is described as "a presentation of the methods and results of the initiative, referendum and recall in Oregon, with studies of the measures accepted or rejected, and special chapters on the direct primary, popular election of senators, advantages, defects and dangers of the system." He discusses somewhat in detail the sixty-four different measures passed upon by the voters of Oregon at the regular biennial elections from 1904 to 1910 inclusive. Of these measures, thirty-one were adopted and thirty-three rejected.

Mr. Eaton's book is very interesting. The author is favorable to the principle of direct legislation, but is critical of some of the practices connected with it in Oregon. He points out as one of its direct benefits, the increasing interest of the average elector in legislation, and shows that the press and all sorts of organizations take a very active part in the discussion of measures referred to the people. He states that