Conservative and intelligent compromise and adjustment are essential for political progress."

J. Q. DEALEY.

Brown University.

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THE STATE. By Franz Oppenheimer. Trans. by John M. Gitterman. Pages v, 302. Indianapolis. Bobbs-Merrill Company. 1914. \$1.25.

This book is a sociologico economic study of the origin and development of the state. Its material and historical examples are drawn largely from the writings of Ratzel, and its theory that state origin results universally from conquest follows Ratzel and Gumprowicz. The author belongs to the school of writers that emphasizes the economic interpretation of history, but many of his generalizations are original and brilliant.

The general thesis of the book is as follows: there are two methods of securing wealth, production by means of actual labor and robbery by means of superior force. The state as a political organization results from the latter, forced subjection of the weak by the strong inevitably following the accumulation of wealth and the rise of economic differences. When capital is vested in land and other forms of realty the feudal state results, at first in the patriarchal tribal form, later in the more developed medieval type. When capital is vested in movable commodities the commercial state results. Of this form the independent city with its out-lying trading posts is typical. As a money economy develops and standing armies grow in size, a centralized government results, reaching its climax in the Roman empire. This was destroyed by the exploitation of slave labor. Later, when capital was vested in productive industries, the modern constitutional state was formed. In the future, through the increasing socialization of industry and the disappearance of private ownership of land, the political organization will become less and the economic organization more important. The final outcome will be a semi-socialistic "freeman's

citizenship," in which class interests have entirely disappeared.

While decidedly one sided in its neglect of all factors save force in state origin and of all influences save the economic in political development, the book is an important study of certain phases of political evolution. The author errs in believing that the social contract theory of state origin is still seriously held (pp. 4-5), and in considering the political and the economic organizations of society as separable and antagonistic. The translation is unusually well done.

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ESTUDIOS DE DERECHO ADMINISTRATIVO PAR DOMINGO VILLAR GRANGEL—STUDIES IN ADMINISTRATIVE LAW. By Domingo Villar Grangel, Doctor of Laws, College of Madrid. 294 pages. Madrid: Hijos de Reus. 1914.

Doctor Grangel has done a real service to students of municipal institutions in presenting a study of the origins of the Spanish municipality. The book is divided into four parts, the first dealing with the Spanish municipality, the second with the juristic personality of local institutions in Spain, the third with the principles of Spanish administrative law and the fourth with certain proposed changes in the administrative system.

In this work the author shows a wide acquaintance not only with Spanish conditions but also with other European and American systems. He has also evidently been a profound student of general jurisprudence. In reading this work, one is impressed with the highly organized system of administrative control that has been established over Spanish municipalities.

It is to be hoped that a series of monographs in English dealing with the development of municipal institutions in the different countries of Europe will be issued. The work of Doctor Grangel would furnish an excellent basis for a presentation of Spanish local institutions.

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