

"indeterminate sentence" seem never to have attracted our author's notice, would probably find this fine-spun theory of categories of convicts as impossible to apply in practice as the "classical" theory of expiatory sentences and equivalents decreed upon the basis of absolute distributive justice.

The result of the author's learned and clairvoyant discussion is summed up in this idea: In order to resolve the problem of penal responsibility, it is necessary to divide men into a certain number of kinds; each of these kinds will receive a definite treatment. In applying penalties a utilitarian estimate will be made of the balance of advantages and evils. Intimidation will be sought, so far as the individual can be affected by the penalty, and deterrent influence will be sought by considering the effect of the penalty on the group.

C. R. H.

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*The Government of Maine: Its History and Administration.* By WILLIAM MACDONALD, LL.D., Professor of History in Brown University; sometime Professor of History and Political Science in Bowdoin College. New York: The Macmillan Co. Pp. ix + 263.

ALTHOUGH this volume has primarily none but local interest, the conception of the book, and of the series to which it belongs, marks a salutary change in ideas of what is worth studying. Until yesterday instructors in Maine colleges did not call the attention of students to the institutions of their own state. Probably they were no more delinquent than college officers in other states. College graduates have known more about the British constitution than about the structure of their own local government. Or, rather, they have had command of more formulas about the former than about the latter, but from long-distance survey of all governmental machinery, they have had very hazy notions beneath their formulas. The present book will enable students in Maine to become acquainted with their own legal and political machinery, and by means of this real knowledge they will be in the way of acquiring more and better knowledge of larger systems. A glance at the appendix of this book, containing the constitution of Maine, and other documents which should constitute the primer of political education for every resident of the state, causes one who had his schooling in Maine to protest in spirit against his instructors' sins of omission. The college instructor of today is not ashamed

to deal with the real and the commonplace, and he is a more genuine educator in consequence.

This book is a scholarly exposition of the subject. It is at the same time clear and attractive in mode of expression. It is to be hoped that every state in the Union will soon have a similar text-book.

ALBION W. SMALL.

*Les syndicats industriels de producteurs en France et à l'étranger.*

Par PAUL DE ROUSIERS. Paris: Librairie Armand Colin, 1901. Pp. 287.

M. DE ROUSIERS traces the influence of the modern systems of steam manufacture and transportation on the concentration of capital and trade management. He shows the limitations of this tendency in respect to industries whose products are not uniform and staple articles. In this part of the discussion the argument is not new. Perhaps his most suggestive contribution is the acute comparison of the American trust, the German *Cartell*, and the French *comptoir*. He gives interesting details from a first hand study of the Comptoir de Longwy.

The general conclusion reached is given in the last paragraph: "Neither producers, consumers, nor wage-workers are menaced by the syndicates when they retain their character as merely private associations. The political danger has been made clear. It is very real when any syndicate seizes a part of the public authority; when it corrupts legislators, or when it lays its hands on public means of transportation, as in the United States; when it is openly protected by a strong power, as in Germany; when it is favored by an extreme fiscal policy, as the refiners of sugar in France. On the contrary, the danger disappears when the authority of the state is not controlled by individuals, nor directed by the partiality of the sovereign, nor employed by the legislature to unburden the consumers of a product. In other words, there are political abuses which alone render the syndicates of producers dangerous and oppressive. In themselves the syndicates are a normal manifestation of industrial liberty and of the freedom of association."

C. R. HENDERSON.

*The Economic Interpretation of History.* By EDWIN R. A. SELIGMAN. The Columbia University Press. Pp. ix + 166.

PROFESSOR SELIGMAN has packed into this little book a history, a bibliography, an interpretation, and an estimate of the economic clue