

means. Suffering is described under the captions, Inebriety, Female Degradation and Subjection, War, Poverty, The Prison System and Flesh-Eating. Christianity is indicated as the ally of Customal Wrong and thus is powerless to help. The book ends with a plea for a new religion of humanity that will devote itself to the problem of prevention and elimination. The main contentions are socially sound, notwithstanding certain extreme views with which many social students will not agree.

J. P. L.

### POLITICAL AND GOVERNMENTAL PROBLEMS

HILL, JOHN PHILIP. *The Federal Executive*. Pp. viii, 269. Price, \$2.00. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin Company, 1916.

This book is the outgrowth of a series of lectures, delivered by the author in several colleges. Its aim is to "assist in the understanding of the creation, development, organization, and functions of the federal executive," using the latter term to include the President and the executive departments. After a general survey of the position of the executive in the federal government, the establishment and growth of the various departments are traced. The status of the heads of departments as a cabinet and the present organization of the separate departments are next considered. A brief chapter indicates the influence of some of the presidents upon the executive departments, and a concluding chapter suggests probable future developments. The author recommends the establishment in the near future of departments of Education, of Transportation, and of Interstate Trade, together with considerable coördination of the present somewhat chaotic distribution of functions. For some reason he fails to note the need for a department of Colonial affairs. The book, while adding little that is new, is a valuable compilation of information. Like most books of its kind, however, it fails to give any adequate idea of the actual working of the administration.

R. G. G.

*Index Digest of State Constitutions*. (Prepared by Legislative Drafting Research Fund.) Pp. vii, 1546. New York: New York State Convention Commission, 1915.

MUNRO, W. B. *Principles and Methods of Municipal Administration*. Pp. xi, 491. Price, \$2.25. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1916.

This volume is intended to supplement the author's *Government of American Cities* which dealt with the organization of city government in the United States. The present volume deals with functions rather than frame work. It aims to show how various city departments are organized, what work they have to do and what problems they usually encounter in getting things done. After an introductory chapter the author considers the following branches of administration: City Planning, Streets, Water Supply, Waste Disposal and Sewerage, Public Lighting, Police Administration, Fire Prevention and Fire Protection, School Administration, Municipal Finance.

In his method of treatment the author has tried to steer a middle course between a general survey of the most elementary character, and a technical

treatise covering in great detail some single branch of municipal work. In this purpose the author has succeeded admirably, as well as in his desire to provide a means whereby public opinion may be educated to the point of understanding the underlying questions of policy, principle and method involved in the various branches of administration discussed. The volume is well written and would make interesting and valuable reading for every citizen, and especially for every municipal officer.

The principal defect of the book lies in its omissions. The reader in looking through the table of contents is at once struck by the omission from the list of subjects of a treatment of public health, social welfare activities, and public utility regulation. These are certainly among the most fundamental of the problems of municipal administration today and among those on which the public and the officials alike are most in need of enlightenment. The author does indeed admit that the book does not touch upon every phase of city administration, but it is doubtful whether his assertion that it includes a substantial part of the entire field can be interpreted to mean the main or most important part. A discussion of the three omitted subjects mentioned on the scale adopted for those included might have increased the size of the volume beyond the desires of the publishers. But in that case the treatment of some of the subjects discussed might with profit have been condensed or omitted altogether to make room for what seem to be more fundamental matters. For instance, by combining the chapters on police and fire administration into one chapter and the chapters on streets and public lighting into one chapter, public health and social welfare might each have been given a place.

These omissions are particularly unfortunate from the point of view of text-book use. There is still wanting a text-book on municipal functions which covers substantially the entire field of municipal administration in the admirable way in which Professor Munro covers the subjects treated by him.

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### INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS

ABBOTT, JAMES FRANCIS. *Japanese Expansion and American Policies*. Pp. viii, 267. Price, \$1.50. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1916.

This lucid and interesting book is, *first*, a brief history of the modern evolution of Japan, showing how the magnanimous treatment of the country by the early American diplomats and missionaries gained its confidence; *then*, the gradual separation of interests as Japan matured and found a divergent field, a separation encouraged by our own unfriendly attitude in California; and, *finally*, a consideration of the results likely to follow this separation.

In dealing with "the yellow peril" he advises the adoption of some such policy as that proposed by Dr. Sidney L. Gulick of admitting from each foreign country a percentage of the immigrants from that country already here, which general rule would offend no one, and yet render assimilable all who come. This would reduce yellow immigration to very small dimensions.

As to the chances of war he considers them negligible. America is the only