

the account to 1730 in the chapter on *Peter the Great and His People* deserve special notice. The senior editor, Mr. Ward, gives a good survey of Prussian history from the origin of the mark of Brandenburg to the death of Frederick I, the first king of Prussia. The treatment of the great elector's policies, with respect to cultivation, industry, immigration and toleration will be especially interesting to readers of *THE ANNALS*. Unfortunately, clear presentation of the larger economic problems of the period is not a conspicuous feature of the book. In the section on France one misses in Mr. Grant's account of the government of Louis XIV, the searching analysis found in the first volume of Lavissee's *History of Louis XIV* on the economic conditions that underlie the position of the Huguenots. In Mr. Hassall's account of the foreign policy, we are repelled by an array of dates; seventeen, occasionally even twenty, dates to a page approximates the achievement of the last edition of Ploetz's *Epitome*.

The bibliographies are uniform in form and matter with those of previous volumes of this series; there are valuable lists of primary and secondary sources for each chapter with date of editions and publisher, but there is no attempt at critical evolution.

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Gray, B. Kirkman. *Philanthropy and the State*. Pp. x, 339. Price, 7s., 6d. London: P. S. King & Son, 1908.

Few more readable volumes on social problems have come to the reviewer's notice than this, a posthumous work, edited by Miss A. L. Hutchins and the wife of the author. It is to be regretted that the author could not have lived to complete the work, for much of this book is fragmentary—a mere skeleton of the topics intended for further discussion.

A wide range of subjects is treated. Part I, called the "Transition in Thought," is an interesting resumé of the developments of the nineteenth century in the realm of philanthropy in England. The relation of the philanthropist to political measures; the new problems of city life; the administration of the poor law; the development of the charity organization society are typical chapter heads.

The keynote is the author's belief that, "philanthropy cannot remain a private concern"; that the "necessary provision for the weaker classes is a social concern . . . the state should consider the remedy (and in some form or other) should control its application." Few would to-day criticize such a position in the abstract, all depends on the measures proposed. The author sharply criticizes the English charity organization society for its failure to do constructive work. His criticism may or may not be well-taken, but such a charge could not justly be brought against the leading societies in this country.

In Part II, "The Intervention of The State," the author points out various activities undertaken by the state in England. The insane, prisoner's aid

movements, juvenile offenders, reformatories, inebriate homes, hospitals, tuberculosis, public health, widows, children, the aged are all considered. The history of the movement to care for these various classes is given. This section will be of great value to those who wish to understand the drift of things in England.

In an appendix the value of social agitation is considered and the different types of agitators described.

No one will agree with all the author's ideas. There is a charm about the style, a freshness in presentation of topics that constantly holds the attention of the reader, no matter whether it is the old problem of volunteers, the professional or the work of the board of health which is under discussion. Many old fallacies are exposed, as, for instance, the "lingering belief that anything called charitable or religious is of private *concern* and not rightly *subject* to the control of the state."

The book is to be highly commended to all who wish to know recent developments in English philanthropy.

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Gulick, L. H., and Ayres, L. P. *Medical Inspection of Schools.* Pp. x, 276. Price, \$1.00. New York: Charities Publication Committee, 1908.

By making available in this volume their almost unlimited resources of information upon medical inspection in schools, the authors have conferred a great benefit upon those who desire to look into the literature of the subject. The introduction states that the work is one of the by-products of the "Backward Children Investigation," supported by the Russell Sage Foundation. "In the course of this investigation it has been found necessary to accumulate information as to what was being done for the health of children, from both the pedagogical and medical standpoints, in the chief cities and countries of the world."

The ideal given is based on a statement taken from a memorandum of the British Board of Education, which states that medical inspection "is founded on a recognition of the close connection which exists between the physical and mental condition of the children and the whole process of education." With this in mind a clear distinction is made between "medical inspection solely for the detection of communicable disease and that physical examination which aims to discover defects, diseases and physical condition." This leads to the question whether the inspection should be administered under the municipal department of health, or under the board of education; the former being primarily interested in the detection of communicable diseases and the latter in "securing and maintaining the health and vitality of the child." Though the viewpoint of Superintendent Maxwell, in his report for 1907, that "the physicians employed by the board of health do not perform any of the functions which it is highly advisable should be performed by

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