

of the constitution founded these suffrage provisions on a principle of division of powers, would we agree that the preservation of these regulations was the "surest guarantee of liberty"? Evidently not, for we have already amended the provisions relating to the election of the president and senators, nor would anyone argue that the present provision defining the method of electing the president should not be changed because it would "impeach the integrity of that instrument." Many changes have been made and many more will be made as new conditions arise, that were "clearly never intended by the makers of the constitution." Are the pure food and drug acts endangering that just equilibrium between federal and state governments or would the federal laws concerning military education? These questions as well as the question of suffrage must be decided on their own merits and not on the grounds of some theory respecting the "integrity" of the constitution.

Mr. Tucker presents only one argument, in discussing the question on its merits, which is based on the principle that, "The nearer the government comes to the man—the closer it touches him in his home life—that there his power should be greatest for the protection of his home and his rights." Thus, "in those matters in which all are equally interested, the federal government should act for all, but in matters in which each locality alone is interested no outside power should be permitted to interfere." We agree with this general theory, but does it help us separate federal from state functions in the questionable fields? Certainly the federal suffrage would by his own theory be a matter for federal control. Also local improvements, restrictions as to dogs and fences, as he says, are purely local and should not be controlled by the federal government. But where is the line to be drawn between national and state governments in the field of commerce, education, suffrage and taxation, for instance? This theory of local self-government does not show us, nor has he given us any other material that goes toward the solution of

this, the real problem of state rights and local self-government, to say nothing of establishing the view that the control of suffrage is given or should be given entirely to the states.

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CITY RESIDENTIAL LAND DEVELOPMENT—STUDIES IN PLANNING. Edited by A. B. Yeomans, Landscape Architect, Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Pp. 138. 75 half-tone and color illustrations. \$3.

A selection of twenty-seven plans from a larger number submitted by architects and landscape architects in a competition recently instituted by the city club of Chicago are shown in this most attractive book. The terms of the competition called for a comprehensive plan of a layout for residential purposes of a typical quarter-section in the outskirts of Chicago. The competitors were asked to submit descriptive texts with their drawings and these have been printed along with the selected plans. The report of the jury and critical reviews of the plans from social, economic and esthetic points of view by Carol Aronovici, William B. Faville, Albert Kelsey, Irving K. Pond, and Robert A. Pope are also included.

The form and makeup of the book are unusually good. The plans are large and carefully printed. The type is of a size which makes the book attractive for reading and the aggregate of the illustrations and explanatory texts combined, make the whole book an accomplishment of which the city club may indeed be proud. It is unfortunate, but to be expected, considering the limitations of the competition and the unique character of the problem, that so many of the plans shown fail both in the technique of execution and in a grasp of the essentials of a problem of this character. Perhaps the most valuable and interesting portion of the book are the reviews by Messrs. Aronovici, Faville, Kelsey, Pond, and Pope, which conclude the volume. The book should

prove interesting to the real estate man, the architect, the engineer, the sociologist and hundreds of others, who see in a proper solution of such problems as are embodied in this one, an opportunity for bringing into the lives of the great mass of city dwellers, more wholesome family life, larger opportunities for recreation and play and fuller enjoyment of social and esthetic pleasures.

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A SOCIAL STUDY OF THE RUSSIAN GERMAN. By Hattie Plum Williams. A thesis presented to the Faculty of the Graduate College in the University of Nebraska in partial fulfillment of requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. University of Nebraska, Department of Political Science and Sociology, Lincoln, Neb.

Hattie Plum Williams has begun an interesting study of one of our least known immigrant groups in her work "A Social Study of the Russian German." This, as the author points out in her introductory note, is but a part of a more detailed study which will appear later under a slightly different title.

This particular group of immigrants comes from two provinces in Russia which were settled in 1763 by Germans at the behest of Queen Katherine of Russia who offered them in return for their settlement of the Volga provinces of Saratow and Samara immunity from military duty, religious freedom and continuation of German schooling for the young. The status of these colonists was greatly changed by the Serf Act of 1861 and we find in the early '70's that they were beginning to emigrate to America. We find their settlements in Kansas, Nebraska and the Dakotas.

Mrs. Williams shows very clearly and ably that the group which settled in Lincoln, Nebraska, is an exception to the sociological rule that passage-paid immigrants are an undesirable class. This semi-rural settlement of Russian Germans is highly moral, religious, thrifty and very cleanly. The thrift is shown by the fol-

lowing: of those who have been in America over five years, 60 per cent own their own homes, of those here for less than five years, 8 per cent own their homes. One wishes that here Mrs. Williams had given some idea of the value of these homes as well as the wealth of detail about number of rooms, size of lots, number of summer kitchens, etc.

From the first part of this book one gathers a fair idea of picturesque communal life transplanted from the Volga. The second part deals with "Birth and Death, Marriage and Divorce." It is a wealth of detail and statistics interesting chiefly because the author seeks to establish a working basis for the compilation of future and more reliable figures. Pervading the study is a carefulness of method and an attempt at accuracy which is highly commendable. It is regrettable that more and similar studies are not being made of our smaller and less well-known immigrant settlements throughout the country.

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OUR AMERICA: THE ELEMENTS OF CIVICS. By John A. Lapp. Indianapolis: The Bobbs-Merrill Company. \$1.25.

ELEMENTARY CIVICS. By Charles McCarthy, Flora Swan and Jennie McMullin. New York: Thompson, Brown and Company. 75 cents.

These two text-books are to be added to Dunn's "The Community and the Citizen" as encouraging sign-posts, pointing the way out of the Valley of Dry Bones where the teaching of formal civics in both elementary and secondary school has been slowly shrivelling for the last two decades.

The Lapp book is the larger of the two, and hence finds space for a fairly adequate discussion of the elements of civic welfare such as the protection of life and property, the safeguarding of health, provision for education, recreation and civic beauty, as well as means of communication and transportation, the promotion and control of business, the care of dependents. There