

## VI. HISTORY AND EDUCATION.

**The Story of the Great War.** By Roland G. Usher, Ph.D., Professor of History, Washington University, St. Louis. Macmillan Company, New York. \$2.50.

Professor Usher is well qualified by training and experience to write such a book, and in this volume he has done a superb piece of work. The touch of the real historian is felt in every page, with all it is so admirably written that it reads like a novel. It is indeed a "story", a unique story. Every phase of the great war is dealt with in an interestingly scientific manner. The arrangement of the book is also unique. There are separate sections on the personalities in the war, certain phases of modern warfare, and the strategy of the various campaigning. There are many illustrations, including official photos, battle plans, diagrams, etc. These, while supremely interesting, have their chief value in instruction. The author put a vast amount of effort on these illustrations and the accuracy of the historian is manifest. It will be many years before this story is more truly told, and one doubts that any short volume will match it in style and interest. The chapter on "Belgium Defrant" is well worth the price of the book. The chronological chart at the end of the volume enhances its value. This book will answer a glaring need among our people till the years reveal all the facts of this holocaust. The average reader as well as the historian will welcome this volume.

F. M. POWELL.

**The New State. Group Organization the Solution of Popular Government.** By M. P. Follett. Longmans, Green & Co., New York. 373 pp. \$3:50 net.

If the object of writing books is to *make* people think, the author of this volume has succeeded admirably. No matter what

you think when you finish, it is certain that you will think. It contains a great deal of needed and needless criticisms of politics, ideas of society, democracy, psychology, etc. The style is forceful and compelling, often more so than the arguments. The chapters are short and make delightful reading. The need for this book is based on the truism that there is to be a new state. The author clearly sees the collapse of many ancient forms of statecraft and in the plan for the "new state", like the wise scribe, he brings forth many treasures new and old. The old, individual psychology and democracy must go according to our author and he certainly makes a good case against both. Society for every one of us is a number of groups, and around the idea of the group as the unit his plan is constructed. "The most salient political *fact* today is the increasing amount and power of group-life—tradesmans, professional societies, citizens leagues, neighborhood associations, etc. The most pressing political *problem* is the relation of all these groups to one another and to the state. This book seeks to find the essential principles which shall underlie the new state through an analysis of the psychological basis of group organization."

While there is much repetition and one believes often an unwarranted dogmatism, there is never a dull page. The only pity is that this book will not likely be widely read by the class that needs it most, viz., the politicians. To any one who is thinking, this book will be a welcome guest. F. M. POWELL.

**The Preacher-Persuader. The Value of Personal Work.** By C. F. Reisner, D.D. Jennings and Graham, Cincinnati. 67 pp. 35 cts.

This little book is written by one who has been blessed largely in soul-winning, and hence has the freshness that comes from first hand, personal work. The book is well written, neatly bound, and small enough to be carried in the pocket without