

to the average reader or casual student. It is not a library to be "read." One might peruse volume after volume, concentrating attention on their specific contents and finding much obsolete material, without ever grasping the meaning of the whole.

We have in the contents of this volume a sincere and sympathetic effort to explain "what it is all about." Realizing that nowhere except in one single passage has Mr. Spencer performed this task, our author has undertaken it. He has endeavored to establish and substantiate by analysis of the principal doctrines Mr. Spencer's own claim that "The whole system was at the outset, and has ever continued to be, a basis for a right rule of life, individual and social." This little book will help materially rightly to evaluate Spencer's great work. It will help to shift the emphasis from controversies over immaterial fragments and to center attention upon "the main thing" which constitutes Spencer's real contribution to the sum of human knowledge and to the progress of human welfare.

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WICKERSHAM, GEORGE W. *The Changing Order*. Pp. v, 287. Price, \$1.25. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1914.

This book by a former attorney-general of the United States consists of a number of essays which originally were prepared for delivery as addresses on special occasions. The nature of the topics discussed is indicated by the chapter titles. These are: the progress of law; the state and the nation; college men and public questions; palimpsests; business and the law; engineering and culture; the study of law and the work of lawyers; recent interpretation of the Sherman act; further regulation of interstate commerce; results of the trust dissolution suits; federal control of stock and bond issues by interstate carriers; new states and constitutions; the theory of constitutional government in 1787 and 1912.

Considering the nature of the position formerly held by the author, perhaps the greatest interest will attach to his views as to the proper attitude of the government toward business. Mr. Wickersham clearly approves of the principle embodied in the Sherman act, and believes that the recent decisions of the supreme court in the standard oil and tobacco cases have demonstrated, perhaps for the first time, that the Sherman law is an effective weapon to the accomplishment of the purpose for which it was primarily enacted, namely, the dissolution of the great combinations familiarly known as trusts. He further believes that the unfair methods of competition resorted to in the past have been checked, and in large measure destroyed, with the result that the industrial field is open to fair competition and enterprise to a larger degree than for many years past; and that when the pending suits (November, 1912) against the great combinations have been terminated hardly any abnormally large combinations will be left intact.

The author, however, hardly regards the Sherman act alone as adequate for the solution of the trust problem. He suggests the prohibition of the holding company device, thus striking at the very root of the trust evil, but con-

siders such legislation, though admittedly logical and effective, too drastic in character. He favors the proposition to establish a federal commission similar to the Interstate Commerce Commission, yet at the same time views with alarm the resulting increased centralization in Washington of control over the trade of the country, and the possibility of further bureaucratic intermeddling with business. The conclusion is reached that theoretically this federal commission should have some power to regulate prices, but the practical difficulties in the way of exercising this power are held to be so great as to prove well-nigh insurmountable.

On the whole, the argument of the author has an uncertain sound. The nature of his utterances appears to have been determined in considerable measure by political considerations. Certainly there is little in this book of value to the student of the trust problem.

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WORCESTER, DEAN C. *The Philippines Past and Present*. 2 vols. Pp. 1024, 128 plates. Price, \$6.00. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1914.

In these two attractive volumes, the recent secretary of the interior of the Philippine Islands does not aim to give primarily a history and a description of the Philippines. They are written rather as a defense of the past American administration of the islands and as an argument against the granting of political independence to the Filipino. Much of the book is devoted particularly to a refutation of James H. Blount's book, *The American Occupation of the Philippines, 1908-1912*. Indeed, so much space is given to answering Blount's charges that this work might be regarded as a reply to that book.

About one-third of the work is devoted to the relations of the Americans and the insurgents under Aguinaldo. The author has here assembled a vast amount of documentary evidence, both insurgent and American, in an attempt to dispose once and for all of the charge that the Americans promised independence to the insurgent leaders for aid in the campaign against the Spaniards. The evidence shows rather that the insurgents offered no real coöperation with the American forces but were guilty of base treachery toward them, and that the insurgent government finally destroyed by the Americans was in no sense a republic but an oligarchy of the most oppressive kind.

The second third of the book deals with the method of government and the work accomplished under American control. Throughout these chapters that deal with a variety of subjects—justice, education, health, slavery, legislation and so on—the author constantly emphasizes his belief that the Filipinos are incapable of self-government. The results obtained under American rule, in spite of Filipino indifference and opposition, have been remarkable but “the Filipinos are where they are today only because they have been pushed into line, and if outside pressure were relaxed they would steadily and rapidly deteriorate.”

The last group of chapters is descriptive of the islands—their physical features, climate and resources. The economic possibilities of the Philippines are not, possibly could not easily be, overestimated. In a chapter