

a valuable contribution, and on the multiple dwelling vs. the single family house—in which Bernard Newman and others vigorously attack the multiple dwelling and meet but a half hearted resistance.

To another group dealing with housing and health, a number of health and housing officials contribute. Here Dr. James Ford presents a paper that admittedly proves nothing but that by its sanity and suggestiveness points the way by which something may be proved. Heretofore we have relied too much upon assumptions and as a result a group of skeptics has arisen who find easy marks in exaggerated claims. Dr. Ford and those who discuss his paper leave us in no doubt as to the desirability of sunlight and fresh air, sanitary conveniences and honest construction.

There is a discussion of the housing needs of Providence, based upon a survey that had been made during the preceding five months and supplementing an inspection trip the day before.

JOHN IHLDER.

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WACKER'S MANUAL OF THE PLAN OF CHICAGO. By Walter D. Moody, Managing Director, Chicago Plan Commission. Second (revised) edition, 1916. 10 x 8, pp. 137. Illustrated.

This important book, named for and dedicated to, but not written by Charles H. Wacker, one of the Chicago Plan pioneers, is confessedly "especially prepared for study in the schools of Chicago," and must therefore be considered as a school text-book. It is a clumsy volume of 137 pages, of the odd size—for a text or reference book—of 7½ x 10 inches, and is in poor taste typographically, seeming either to have been planned to utilize old illustrative material, or more probably to represent bizarre ideas in book making. Indeed, it is printed as if the format had been designed in a newspaper composing-room, rather than by a capable printer of books, acquainted with the usages of good form and of library shelves.

But notwithstanding this mechanical handicap, Mr. Moody has presented a wholly admirable volume, from the stand-

point of aims and contents. It must not only make a strong appeal to the school children of Chicago, for whose study it is designed, but be of immense value to students of city planning anywhere, or of any age. It discusses Chicago—the beginnings, the doings, and the future of the great city.

Mr. Moody's view of Chicago is not oppressively modest, as may be inferred from the opening paragraph of his introduction, in which he says, "Chicago is destined to become the center of the modern world, if the opportunities in her reach are intelligently realized, and if the city can receive a sufficient supply of trained and enlightened citizens." Possibly the author has overlooked the naivete of this remark!

The setting forth of the need for planning, and the comparisons in text and in illustration with cities everywhere, give Wacker's Manual a value much more than local, wherefore it is commended to civic workers and students in general.

J. HORACE MCFARLAND.

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SIXTY YEARS OF AMERICAN LIFE. By Everett P. Wheeler. New York: E. P. Dutton & Company. \$2.50.

For two generations Mr. Wheeler has represented a fine type of American citizenship. A leader in his profession, the law, he has always taken an active and militant interest in various public questions. His three chapters on municipal reform are particularly suggestive, dealing as they do with New York city politics from the time of Mayor Fernando Wood to Mayor William J. Gaynor. Concerning the latter Mr. Wheeler says: "Gaynor, who had co-operated with Shepard in the prosecution of McKane for the election frauds in King's county, commanded the public confidence to such an extent that he was elected mayor although his companions on the ticket were defeated." Further as indicating the progress of reform up to the administration of Mayor Mitchel (which is not included within the scope of his book) he declares, "It may truly be said of all the administrations