

Political Science and Economics

Introduction to Political Science. By R. G. Gettell.
Ginn. \$2.

Government and Politics in the United States. By
W. B. Guitteau. Houghton, Mifflin. \$1.

The Revision and Amendment of State Constitutions.
By Walter F. Dodd. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins
Press. \$2.

History of Economic Thought. By Lewis H. Haney
Macmillan. \$2.

Readings on American State Government. Edited by
Paul G. Reinsch. Ginn. \$2.75.

IN political science and economics there are three or four new books that deserve the attention of teachers and students. *Professor Gettell's Introduction*

to Political Science is a general survey of those themes which systematists of the German type have fallen into the habit of calling "political science." It covers the origin and nature of the state, the character of law, the nature and content of international law, the three great branches of government, local and colonial government, and the ends or functions of the state. In arrangement, presentation and accuracy of statement the book leaves little to be desired, and the author seems to have carefully weighed all the best authorities in his field. The point of view of the book is distinctly conservative, and he believes that it is the business of Teutonic nations to civilize the rest of the earth. The teacher who is sure of the value of covering such a broad field in a college course could not find a better text than

this volume by Professor Gettell. To the already large number of textbooks on American government available for secondary schools, Dr. W. B. Guitteau, superintendent of the Toledo schools, has added another in his *Government and Politics in the United States*. Following the recommendations of the New England teachers, he begins with local government and advances upward. His method of treatment is both historical and systematic.

In common with the more recent writers on the subject, he recognizes the place of the party in our political system, and he takes into consideration the functions as well as the structure of government. He makes use of the first authorities and has adapted all that "apparatus" which seems to be necessary for high school books: extensive lists of readings, questions and exercises, pictures and diagrams, bold type and sideheads. The book is literally jammed with facts and figures, and this is perhaps the most severe criticism that may be made of it. The study of American State government, a much neglected subject, is now made easier by Dr. W. F. Dodd's *Revision and Amendment of State Constitutions*. This volume is based upon scholarly and critical research, and, as far as it goes, will supplant Jameson's great work on constitutional conventions. Dr. Dodd discusses the historical development of the constitutional convention, surveys the various methods devised for the ordinary amendment of constitutions, and examines the working of the constitutional referendum. This is one of the most important contributions made in recent years to the study of American institutions, and it deserves well at the hands of scholars, and, in particular, of the public. Teachers of economics will welcome Prof. L. H. Haney's *History of Economic Thought*, because there is not available in English in systematic form any account of the historical development of political economy. Professor Haney's volume falls into four parts: a general introduction on the nature and importance of economic history; a brief summary of economics previous to the physiocrats; a study of the evolution of economics as a science, beginning with the physiocrats, running thru the various divagations down to the recent troubles of the Austrian metaphysicians; and a general account of the recent schools of economic thought. The volume is critical and is based upon a careful analysis of the best literature on the subject. No important theme seems to be overlooked, and if any one wishes to go deeper he is aided by an excellent documentation. The spirit of the volume is, on the whole, optimistic, and after plowing his way thru an endless confusion of contradic-

tions, the author arrives at the hopeful conclusion that never since the heyday of English classicism has a generation of economists found so united and common a way of looking at economic problems, or so large a body of generally accepted principles. Professor Reinsch, of Wisconsin, follows his "Readings in American Federal Government" with a similar volume on *American State Government*. He has culled from a wide range of sources, Governors' messages, Congressional addresses, propaganda pamphlets, magazine articles and newspaper editorials, illustrative of the practical workings of all branches of State administration. Here will be found Taft on the enforcement of law, La Follette on direct nominations, Hughes on conservation, Beard on the Oklahoma Constitution, Folk on bribery, and White on Folk. It is a useful volume to the citizen as well as the teacher.