Our Modern Jefferson

Woodrow Wilson and His Work, by Professor Dodd, is the best of the already fairly numerous biographies and personal sketches of the President which have appeared. The author, a professor of American History at Chicago University, is not only an understanding admirer of President Wilson but he also is able to trace the political and economic background of his career, from his first struggle for democracy in Princeton to his latest struggle for the League of Nations in Paris and Washington. The author interprets much of the opposition which President Wilson has had to encounter at various stages of his career to sectional hostility. "Articulate America," he says, "was industrial; it was Eastern and Northern, sectional and in absolute control of the economic life of the country." This sentence, tho taken from a description of the campaign of 1896, runs like a refrain thru the whole narrative and is ingeniously illustrated in a thousand ways.

Wilson as the liberal agrarian, the disciple of Jeffersonian democracy, is one of the men in whom Professor Dodd is interested. Another is Wilson the international idealist who defied German militarism and curbed Allied imperialism. We feel again the pressure of criticism that weighed down the President during the war; the outburst of enthusiasm which greeted his first voyage in the *George Washington* when "the mass of European peasantry, shopkeepers, and day laborers looked forward to his arrival in Europe as men looked in medieval times to the second coming of Christ," and the slow ebbing of popular favor on both sides of the Atlantic during the delays of the Peace Conference up to the time when "an alliance between the extreme radicals of New York and the Bourbons of the Senate" was formed to defeat the Treaty and the League.

Woodrow Wilson and His Work, by Professor William E. Dodd. Doubleday, Page & Co.