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Canada, one might judge by this volume, is composed of two provinces, formerly known as Upper and Lower Canada, but now called Ontario and Quebec. At any rate the contribution of the maritime provinces to the winning of responsible government for the Canadian people (and it was of considerable extent) is given no adequate recognition. Nor, with the exception of two federal statutes, does the book contain any documents illustrating the development of free government in that vast expanse of modern Canada which lies beyond the Great Lakes. Yet the story of how this great tract was acquired, how it was organized into territories and how it was finally parceled into provinces is not the least interesting chapter in the history of empire building.

In spite of these limitations, however, Mr. Kennedy has compiled a useful book. He has brought together a great many documents which have not hitherto been available save in out-of-the-way places and has put them together with a great deal of care.

W. B. M.

Cambridge, Mass.

Government and Politics of Switzerland. By ROBERT C. BROOKS. (Government Handbooks, edited by David P. Barrows and Thomas H. Reed. Yonkers: World Book Company. 1918. Pp. xvi, 430.)

The purpose of this volume is to provide a textbook for students of political science and at the same time attract the attention of the general reader who may be visible in the offing. The author is an enthusiastic admirer of Swiss institutions and a professor in an American college. Comparisons between the two countries are constantly in evidence. Even when no parallels are drawn in words the descriptions distinctly presuppose an American background. No better combination of sentiment and method could be devised to bring out the salient features of Swiss government, for the likenesses are so strong that the differences stand out in high relief. We scarcely need the express declarations of the writers of 1848 that the American Constitution was consciously before them, so conclusive is the internal evidence.

Descriptions of the little republic need to be renewed at intervals, for Switzerland is a progressive state and its laws are not written on tablets of bronze. The voters do not always do the logical thing, but they eventually correct their mistakes and the adoption of improvements marches on. Even while this book was passing through the

press the people voted to adopt proportional representation for the lower house of its national legislature, a question which the author had to describe as "pending." Indeed, it seems but a short time since the railroads of Switzerland became national property, but, as a matter of fact, the government has already had experience enough to give us good advice.

All this in justification of the new book. Many more reasons are furnished in the editorial preface where have been assembled the facts most useful for reviewers who do not read the rest. The author would not have suffered if most of this part had been omitted.

The plan of the work is well suited to purposes of study. Each chapter is followed by references to standard writers on Switzerland where the reading may be extended, and an elaborate critical bibliography will be useful to teachers and others who may desire to follow foreign authorities as well. The historical chapter is severely compact, but the book is avowedly descriptive of the present, and the combination of constitution, law, political parties, and actual practice has been skilfully wrought.

Johns Hopkins University.

J. M. VINCENT.

Modern and Contemporary European History. By J. SALWYN SCHAPIRO, under the editorship of James T. Shotwell. (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin Company. 1918. Pp. 805.)

Discussions of recent European history, brought substantially up to date, were needed more than ever as soon as the United States entered the world war. This book was written to meet this demand and provide a text which should bring the courses in this field as far as possible through the period of the war.

After an introduction upon the revolutionary and Napoleonic era, ten chapters (approximately 220 pages) carry the reader through to the end of the Franco-Prussian War, and the development of European states up to the outbreak of the world war is covered in nearly five hundred pages. The study of the world war through Brest-Litovsk (1918) takes up the last chapter of about forty-five pages.

Dr. Schapiro's book differs from other recent publications in throwing much more emphasis on the period since 1870, and particularly upon very recent events. It brings us down to the world war much more rapidly. It also is larger, containing nearly eight hundred pages, or a hundred or so more than the average text. More space than usual is assigned to government and politics, and probably one-fifth of the