

BOOK REVIEWS

History, Constitution and Annual Report, 1918. By THE EASTERN WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY. (Spokane, The Society. 1919. Pp. 16.)

The Spokane Historical Society has enlarged its scope and its field and this pamphlet is the initial publication of the reorganized society. In the program, personnel and equipment there is every promise of brilliant success. Readers of the *Washington Historical Quarterly* have had frequent opportunity of reading the work of such men as T. C. Elliott of Walla Walla, William S. Lewis of Spokane, Jacob A. Meyers of Meyers Falls and L. V. McWhorter of Yakima. These are among the men mentioned in this pamphlet. All who are interested in the history of the State of Washington will join in wishing a prosperous career for this new organization.

EDMOND S. MEANY.

National Governments and the World War. By Frederic A. Ogg, Professor of Political Science in the University of Wisconsin, and Charles A. Beard, Director of the Bureau of Municipal Research New York City. (New York. The Macmillan Company. 1919. Pp. 603. \$2.50.)

The world war has demonstrated among other things, "The power of political institutions, ideals and practices—national and international—to contribute to or detract from human welfare." At bottom it was a struggle between "two great schemes of human government,—autocracy and democracy," and the victory will be complete and final "only in the measure in which democracy is prepared to bring intelligence and sanity to the new and great tasks which it has assumed." These sentences from the preface of the book give the reasons for the issue of this volume by two writers well known in their respective fields. It is a rather sad commentary that such a volume became a necessity for Americans about to engage in a world engagement on the side of democracy, for the preparation of the American soldiers and citizens was without doubt the primary aim in its publication.

Chapters one to eight and also twenty-seven are by Prof. Beard. The first chapter on national ideals and government is a succinct and

stirring recital of the faith that is in us, and the next seven sketch the government of the United States.

Chapters nine to twenty-six, and twenty-eight are written by Prof. Ogg. Eight chapters deal with the governments of Great Britain and her colonies. Putting it in another way just about half the volume is given to the discussion of the two great leaders in democratic government. This is as it should be. Then follow three chapters dealing with the government of France; one each to the governments of Italy, Belgium and Austria-Hungary; and six to the German Empire, Prussia, and German politics. The concluding chapters (XXVII and XXVIII) present the "American War Aims" and the "Problem of International Government." The government of Russia is nowhere mentioned. The whole book is clearly and vividly written and we now have in convenient form a reliable, up-to-date volume for the study of comparative government. It will be interesting to watch the results in this hitherto neglected but important field of political study.

EDWARD McMAHON.

Fourth Message of Governor Ernest Lister to the State Legislature.
(Olympia, Frank M. Lamborn, Public Printer. 1919. Pp. 44.)

The importance of the document lies in the fact that it was issued so soon after the signing of the armistice bringing the great war to an end. Soon after the message was issued, Governor Lister was taken ill and was unable to continue in his duties. He is a Democrat and both houses of the Legislature were controlled by Republicans. However, at the close of the session the Legislature made provision for the Governor to travel in search of health and he issued public thanks to the members of the Senate and House for having given cordial and effective attention to all the items in his message.

The Frontier State (Illinois) 1818-1848. By THEODORE CALVIN PEASE. (Springfield, Illinois Centennial Commission. 1918. Pp. 475.)

This is Volume II. of the Centennial History of Illinois. There is not much, except a good example of state history, to interest readers on the Pacific Coast. The Pacific Ocean is mentioned on page 184, during a discussion of squatters. Senator Samuel A. Foot said: "Instead of legislating for them, we are to legislate after them, in full pursuit to the Rocky Mountains, or to the Pacific Ocean." Oregon is