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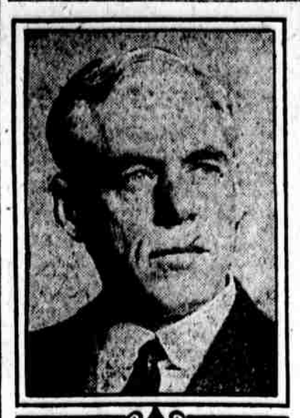

JEREMIAH W. JENKS contributes a volume to the Americanization series

WE AND U. S.

New Civics Book as Entertaining as the Newspaper or Movie

There is currently a good deal of Americanization talk going about, and several organizations, as well as some cities and States, are engaged in promulgating or promoting principles looking toward the amalgamation of the immigrant and the alien into an authenically American product.

The American Viewpoint Society, through Boni & Liveright, has just published a most admirable work for the good service to the Nation of welding its diverse and constantly varying elements into a cohesive and cognate whole.

"We and Our Government" is not too primary for the adult who wishes to learn and appreciate American institutions amid which he has chosen to live, nor is it too abstruse to appeal to the school child. A study and mastery of this book by grown-up Americanization classes and by public school pupils would mean much toward a more rapid and organic integration of nationality.

The editors are Jeremiah Whipple Jenks, the well-known publicist, and now research professor of government and public administration at New York University, and Rufus Daniel Smith, associate professor of political economy at the same institution. These scholarly experts have, without "writing down," made a very definite appeal to the man in the street, the average person who does not buy books, but patronizes the movies and story papers. The method followed in this novel treatment of civics is to secure attention by incorporating in the book features that go to make his favorite daily, his regular magazines and his choice of movies. The aim of the society is to reach the schools, and the book is designed for formal work centering about the intelligence concepts of the seventh and eighth grades, but it has a wider purpose in making civics appealing and attractive to older readers. There is plenty in the book that is of value and stimulation even to citizens who have gone through their American history and their civics textbooks.

The format is handsome and attractive and induces reading. Not a page is without its pictures, and they are significant as well as interest-engaging. There are abundant tables, but not in dry-as-dust form; rather do they make statistics fascinating. Frequent "boxes" pick out "high spots" of the text, just as newspapers do, and the style might be said be a superior variety of journalese—crisp, direct and frequently colorful.

Among the variety of chapter headings are "We the People," "Law and Government," "The Constitution," "American Citizenship," "The American City," "Party Government," "Representatives," "Taxes," "Local, State and National Governments" as organized and functioning and "The People's Vote in Government."

Hanson Booth has contributed fourteen full-page drawings, and there are more than 500 half-tone and line illustrations. A novel point about the illustrative material is that some of it is consecutive or serial, showing step-by-step progress, just as in the movies. It is all graphic and informative.

The American Viewpoint Society includes on its directorate a number of the country's foremost publicists and educators, among them Judge Lindsey, Prof. Albert Bushnell Hart, of Harvard; Eugene Lyman Fisk, of the Life Extension Institute; Dean French, of New York University, and the Alexander Hamilton Institute, and the superintendents of schools of most of the big cities and progressive States. Locally we are represented both by Dr. Thomas E. Finegan and Dr. Edwin C. Broome, respectively heads of the schools of the Commonwealth and the municipality.

"THE NEW PALESTINE" MAKES FINE GIFT BOOK

Many persons like to receive a book on some serious subject among their Christmas gifts. Travel books are especially suitable for such giving. One of the handsome travel books of the season is "The New Palestine" (the Page Company). The author is W. D. McCracken, who has only recently returned from the Holy Land, whence he went to aid in the relief measures sponsored by Americans. After seeing his interesting book through the press, he is off again on a trip that is expected to do much toward cementing Anglo-American solidarity.

Lord Bryce wrote an introduction to "The New Palestine," one of the last pieces of literary work the distinguished statesman did. He says: "The circumstances of that liberation (of Palestine from the Turk in the great war under General Allenby) and the conditions of Palestine when it took place will always have interest for generations to come, and this book of Mr. McCracken's supplies a simple and lively picture of the facts."

Mr. McCracken presents a comprehensive and first-hand picture of the Holy Land since the great war, and discusses the problems, political, racial, religious and economic, that confront the British administration under the mandate. He also gives intimate glimpses of the customs of the natives of several races and creeds and offers a keenly analyzed appreciation of the beauty and mystery of the Holy Land.

There are numberless illustrations, made from specially taken photographs. Mr. McCracken was formerly editor of the Jerusalem News, and is an expert at travel books, having written "The Spell of the Italian Lakes," "The Spell of the Tyrol," etc. His book is beautifully printed and bound and comes boxed for Christmas giving.

CARDINAL GIBBONS

Definite Biography Tells Career of Notable American Ecclesiastic and Publicist

Allen S. Will, M. A., Litt. D., LL.D., in his definitive biography of James Cardinal Gibbins, quotes the Rev. Dr. Lyman Abbott as saying, in Plymouth Church at a time of controversy when a sort of knownothingism was rampant: "I do not understand the folly of men who would blot out the Roman Catholic Church from this country. Thank God for Cardinal Gibbons. Long may he wear his red cap and his red cloak. And if there could be an election now and you and I could vote, I would vote to make him Pope."

An amusingly unintentional reflex of this is found in the physical equipment of "The Life of Cardinal Gibbons" (E. P. Dutton & Co.). The book proper is appropriately bound in the shade of red reserved to members of the Sacred College, but the jacket goes a bit farther and is a papal purple.

James Gibbons was born in Baltimore in 1834 and died there in 1921. Dr. Will, in his two portly and authoritative volumes, chronicles, usually topically, the fertile career that ran between these two widely separated dates. It was a career that made Gibbons a priest of sanctity, a prelate of power and achievement, a publicist deeply interested in the affairs of his country, a citizen who held highest ideals of his privileges of being an American and who was always ready to serve and to inspire Americanism, a confidant of statesmen, and administrator of wide territory and vast revenues.

Detailedly the story is told of his early days in Baltimore, his education both in this country and Ireland, where the family had gone for his father's health, his return to his native land, his education for the priesthood—he was a Mountaineer, as the graduates of the old seminary of Mount St. Mary's are called—his notable service as a young man at the Plenary Council of Baltimore, his vicariate in North Carolina, his promotion to the Bishopric of Richmond, his translation to Baltimore, his elevation to the archbishop's pallium, and his final sacerdotal honor as cardinal.

On the side of public service are related his chaplaincy on the Federal side during the Civil War, his winning fight at home and at Rome against Cahenslyism, an organized movement sponsored mostly by Germans to have foreign-language bishops and virtually spiritual foreign colonization of the Church in America, in which he took decisive action on the question of excluding foreign nationalist influences from the American Church, following the American national spirit promulgated by Archbishop Carroll on the organization of the Church in the United States; his liberalism on behalf of the right of labor to organize; and of free speech, as evidenced in his attitude toward the Knights of Labor and American Federation of Labor, and toward Monsignor Brann, one of Henry George's most important adherents in the single tax movement; his sagacious and wholly American stand in the settlement of the Philippine friar lands, and the taking over by the United States of Catholic Porto Rico and the Philippines; his patriotism in the World War.

Like John Carroll, he thoroughly believed in the American system of the separation of Church and State. Dr. Will writes—and he had the confidence of the cardinal—on this point: "He felt that the Catholic religion was safer under the American flag than anywhere else. The impartial but full protection of that flag was the best shield for the Church's spiritual mission. She was free in America, as the people were free. None dared interfere, none in authority thought of interfering, in the internal affairs of the Church, directly or remotely. Spoliation, to which the Church in Europe was not a stranger, then or since, was undreamed of where the Stars and Stripes stood as the symbol of guardianship for law and order."

This "Life" may be said to be authoritative. For years before the cardinal's death Dr. Will had by arrangement almost daily talks with him, with the understanding that the material would be used in a biography, and, in fact, prepared such a work on a smaller scale during the subject's life. (This was the nearest Gibbons would heed the oft-made suggestion that he write his autobiography.) The cardinal's diary of a lifetime, the co-operation of his immediate friends as well as of the hierarchy, and access permitted to the archiepiscopal archives, have resulted in a comprehensive, well-documented and usually very interesting biography of a great American.

A JAPANESE WRITES ON JAPAN'S PACIFIC POLICY

K. K. Kawakami, who has written two or three books on Japan and her relation to the rest of the world, has returned to the subject in "Japan's Pacific Policy" (E. P. Dutton & Co.), a book in which he discusses the Washington Conference and its relation to the Far Eastern question. He says that Japan went home from the Washington Conference on probation and that the opinion of her held by the Western world will depend on her conduct in China and in Siberia. He says that if she curbs the power of the militarists she will commend herself to the good sense of outside observers. But he also reminds us that her past course in the Far East is not without precedent among the Western nations. He does not seek to justify it, but merely to point out that she is not chief among international sinners. He hopes that the age of international freebooting has come to an end. His book is well documented and will be valuable as a work of reference for those who wish to be informed on what has been proposed and what has been done toward solving the Asiatic problems.

CARDINAL GIBBONS
The authoritative story of whose life has now been written

CARIBBEAN ADMIRALS

An Excellent Book About Them by Boston Banker

More men like Francis Russell Hart are produced by England than by America. Mr. Hart is a banker, who began active life as a civil engineer in the West Indies after being graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1889. He was an officer of the Cartagena-Magdalena Railroad Company in Colombia from 1892 to 1906. In 1896 he became a director of the Old Colony Trust Company in Boston and is chairman of its board of directors. He is an officer of the United Fruit Company and other companies engaged in trade with the West Indies.

This man, interested commercially in the Caribbean, has taken the pains to inform himself on the history of that part of the world. He has dug out the original documents from the archives of various nations and consulted the contemporary accounts of the early advent of the Europeans. It occurred to him that the story ought to be retold for the correction of popular misapprehensions as well as to revive an interest in a most picturesque and romantic period of history. In "The Admirals of the Caribbean," (Houghton, Mifflin Company), Mr. Hart has discussed the early navigators, as an introduction to his essays on Sir Francis Drake, Sir Henry Morgan, Admirals de Pointis and Du Casse, Admiral Vernon and Lord Rodney. He devotes greatest attention to Morgan and tells the story of the libel suit brought by this buccaneer against the London publisher of an English translation of a Spanish edition of Exquemelin's "Buccaneers of America," in which scandalous statements were made about Morgan's conduct. Morgan denied the charges of inhumanity and the like.

Although Mr. Hart is neither a man of letters nor a professional historian he has made a book of which any specialist in letters or history might be proud. His investigations have been thorough. He has digested his material and he has written his narrative in a lucid style. The charts and illustrations are chosen with discretion for they illuminate the narrative. His publishers have produced a volume which is a delight to the eye.

A Bit of Old England in America

Miss Cecil Leitch, famous English golfer, during a visit to America was very much impressed by the English aspect of the country round about Philadelphia. In her book "Golf," published this fall by J. B. Lippincott Company, she says: "The Huntingdon Valley course is quite the most English in appearance that we saw," and a few pages beyond again she writes: "As we motored through the wonderful park at Philadelphia, with the trees glorious in their autumn coloring, it was difficult for us to believe that we were not in the English Lake District, so strong was the resemblance."

WM. LYON PHELPS
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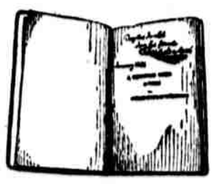

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