

day when luxury is softening our hands and ennui is muddling our souls we need the awakening shock of real life that has made our fathers and our mothers great.

JOHN W. WAYLAND

A BOOK FOR THE TIMES

ETHICS AND CITIZENSHIP, by John W. Wayland. Staunton, Va.: The McClure Company, Inc. 1924. Pp. 251. \$1.85.

"The world must look to good character rather than to intellectual power and learning for release from its ills."—Elihu Root.

Present conditions emphasize only too forcibly the truth of the above statement. Corruptness and lack of moral stamina are prevalent in our national life. Men of ability lack an unselfish love of service and a clear conception of duty and responsibility. The United States is not suffering from ignorance and incompetency as much as it is feeling the effects of low ethical standards and suffering because of the absence of that keen and discerning sense of right and wrong which makes men worthy of faith and trust.

The success or failure of a nation does not rest ultimately upon its material wealth and prosperity, but upon the character of its citizenship. Too often we fail to recognize the importance of ethical and moral standards by which men and women judge their actions. Not a mere knowledge of the duties and privileges of citizenship makes the most desirable citizen; definite and high ideals must reside in the heart and mind of each citizen. Standards of right and wrong, pure and unselfish motives, a desire to live truly, must pervade the man or woman, boy or girl, or else the foundation upon which our citizenship rests will not be permanent.

Dr. John W. Wayland, of the Harrisonburg State Teachers College, presents this idea in an unusually able and inspiring manner. He stresses the importance of a practical study of ethics and right living as being necessary to a proper conception of citizenship. The purpose of the author is to present and analyze the motives that lead men to act as they do. "The state consists largely and essentially in good government. Good government rests upon good citizenship. And good citizenship must have a sure founda-

tion." Among the civic foundation rocks are found love of truth, love of justice, sympathy, sense of duty, courage, and fidelity. These must rest upon intelligence, knowledge, and skill; and all must be quickened by conscience.

"Some things are right; some things are wrong." The ethical content of this assertion is not presented in an abstract and philosophical manner, but a simple and straightforward explanation is given: the concrete examples forcibly bring out the lessons of the text. The origin and growth of ethics is briefly treated, and this is followed by a study of the virtues and vices, those characteristics the living application of which will bring both individual and national happiness or sorrow.

Important as the foregoing may be, the real value and contribution of the work lies in the practical application of ethics to everyday life and living. The names of the chapters suggest the lines of thought which are developed. These chapters are as follows: The Good Citizen at Work, The Good Citizen at Play, The Ethics of Conversation, The Ethics of Politeness, The Ethics of Beauty, The Ethics of Business, The Ethics of Democracy, The Ethics of Humanity, and Incentives to Right Conduct. These chapters are rich in thought and suggestion. Homely and simple incidents and illustrations are used with telling effect. Fundamental truths are presented and taught and become thoroughly lodged in mind and conscience of the reader. The study of ethics found in the first half is made alive and vital in this practical and modern application found in the latter half of the book.

The author includes in his text a few chapters containing valuable suggestions as to the proper and effective teaching of good conduct and strong character, and concludes with these two chapters, the one entitled, Our Debt to the Ideal, the other, Opportunity.

The treatment throughout is simple and straightforward and devoid of abstract rambles characteristic of many books on ethics and morals. Much philosophical material is omitted, 'tis true, but this is to be commended. The author holds the attention of the reader throughout while at the same time he teaches truth and justice.

Dr. Wayland has tried an experiment in the field of both ethics and citizenship and success should crown his efforts. In view of present disclosures in our national political life, this contribution is particularly timely and opportune and should command the attention of all citizens, as well as students and teachers.

RAYMOND C. DINGLEDINE

#### HOME DECORATING

A SIMPLE COURSE IN HOME DECORATING, by Winifred Fales. Boston: Small, Maynard & Company. 1923. Pp. 295. \$4.00.

Here is a simple practical discussion of the historic background of home furnishings. "French Periods," "Tudor and Jacobean Periods," "The Dutch Influence in England," "The Golden Age," "Our American Heritage," and "Italian and Spanish Influence in Present Day Decoration"—these periods are studied and provide standards by which to judge the furnishings of the present day.

Wood and wall finishes, color schemes, rugs and carpets, decorative textiles, making and mounting shades, curtains, draperies and valances, choice and placement of furniture, decorative accents and artistic lighting of the home are taken into careful consideration, as well as questions of size, exposure, position of doors and windows, architectural characteristics, amount of light received, and the relation of room to room.

It is a helpful book for home-makers, professional decorators, and students of art. The illustrations throughout are charming and well chosen, and the paper and binding are in keeping with the character of the subject-matter.

ALICE MARY AIKEN

GOOD CITIZENSHIP THROUGH STORY TELLING, by Mildred B. Forbes. New York: The Macmillan Co. 1923. Pp. 255. \$1.60.

From the beginning of time knowledge and ideals have been handed down from one generation to another through the medium of the story. Since printing has come into use, the telling of stories has gradually been given the place of mere entertainment or has been used educationally only in the primary grades. But recently there has been a reaction in favor of story-telling to serve a great social purpose. This book shows how stories may be made to function in the home, school, and community for the development of wholesome American citizenship.

It not only portrays splendid methods of using stories, but also suggests how personality can best be cultivated in the story-teller

himself. "Personality," says the author, "is something which grows richer as love for humanity becomes stronger, as service is given more freely, as ideals reach higher."

There are fifteen delightful type stories and a classified bibliography of stories suitable for children of all types and ages as well as for adults. These alone make it valuable to teachers, mothers and community workers.

VIRGINIA BUCHANAN

ROGET'S TREASURY OF WORDS, by C. O. S. Mawson and Katharine A. Whiting. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell Company. 1924. Pp. 496. \$1.00.

Bearing the same relation to Roget's Thesaurus that school dictionaries bear to the unabridged, this handy pocket volume provides for students in their formative years an indispensable treasure-house of synonyms, antonyms, and shades of meanings.

Those who do not feel justified in buying the Thesaurus cannot do better than to get this little volume. One would have to look far and wide for a better place to invest a dollar.

JOB SHEETS IN HOUSEHOLD MECHANICS, by Earl L. Bedell. Peoria, Illinois: The Manual Arts Press. 1923. 32 sheets. 55 cents.

Prepared for use in a notebook, each sheet is to be followed by a blank sheet on which questions are answered and on which necessary notes and sketches may be made.

LESSON SHEETS IN ELEMENTARY ELECTRICITY, by George A. Willoughby. Peoria, Illinois: The Manual Arts Press. 1923. 24 sheets. 45 cents.

The information on each of these sheets enables the student to work out each problem with the least possible amount of attention from the teacher. Designed especially for junior high school boys.

THE BUSINESS OF SELLING, by Harold Whitehead. New York: American Book Co. 1923. Pp. 247.

A high school textbook for which it is claimed that the author has subordinated the vocational, psychological, or general education values of his subject matter to the service idea underlying all good salesmanship.

DISEASES OF THE THYROID GLAND, by Arthur E. E. Hertzler. St. Louis: C. V. Mosby Company. 1922. Pp. 245. \$5.00.

MAKING AMERICANS, by Etta V. Leighton, Danville, N. Y.: F. A. Owen Publishing Co. 1920. Pp. 127.

HEALTH, PUBLIC AND PERSONAL, by Ralph E. Blount. Boston: Allyn and Bacon. 1922. Pp. 316. \$1.20.

THE CONFLICT, A Health Masque, by Gertrude K. Colby. New York: A. S. Barnes and Co. 1921. Pp. 70. \$1.50.