

Giving it quite a respectable tone,
Don't waste your time on the populace
greasy;
Call up the boss on the long-distance
phone.

If you're an Alderman, duly elected,
Chosen and called the dear people to
serve;

Don't do the thing that they hoped and ex-
pected;
Don't let their clamoring weaken your
nerve.

If you've a franchise for sale, don't con-
sider

Any one's profit at all but your own;
Vote for the cheerful and liberal bidder;
Call up the boss on the long-distance
phone.

—Kennett Harris, in Chicago Examiner
of Oct. 23.

Eighteen languages were spoken in New York before the war of the revolution and that number has now risen to 66 or 67. There is a school in the Syrian district of the city in which, it is reported, 29 languages and dialects are used. The greatest problem to be solved in New York, not only as a municipality, but as the gateway to the United States, is the naturalizing of this host of children—not by the forms of law, but in spirit, temper, habit and speech.—Harper's Magazine.

BOOKS

GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY.

How far man is influenced by natural environment, and how far history is influenced by geography, are unsettled questions. Certainly even the unthinking eye can see that mountain ranges, seas and rivers have something to do with the political divisions of the continents. On the other hand, there are occasional instances where natural marks seem not to have determined nationality. Some boundaries are purely conventional, the line, for example, between Prussia and Russia.

These questions are discussed in a scholarly way by H. B. George, of New College, Oxford, in a recent work (*The Relations of Geography and History*, Clarendon Press). A good test of such a book is to take a definite region and see how it is dealt with. Bohemia will be seen to furnish a fair example of the author's method:

"Roughly square in form, it has its angles towards the four principal points of the compass, and each of its sides is formed by a well-defined chain of mountains or hills, with only a single outlet for the whole of its river drainage. This outlet is at the northern angle where the Elbe emerges on the German plain. The principle most in favor with physical geographers, that of dividing up the earth's surface by the watersheds, would, therefore, make Bohemia belong to northern Eu-

rope. As a matter of history, it has always been closely connected with the regions to the south and east, and for good geographical reasons. The two northern sides of the square are real mountains, not rising to the level of perpetual snow, but sufficiently lofty and rugged to constitute definite obstacles to intercourse. And the defile through which the Elbe passes is not wide enough to neutralize the separating effect of the mountains on either hand. The other two faces are, on the contrary, mere hills, through which roads can readily pass."

Here we see that mountains have been more potent than river drainage. Indeed, the author assigns less importance to rivers, either as centers of nationality or as boundaries, than is generally supposed to be due. The idea, for example, that the Rhine is a natural boundary between France and Germany he scouts as quite absurd. If France has any natural border to the east, it would be, according to him, the mountains from which flow the rivers westward. The extension of the eastern lines of France over a part of the Rhone basin and a part of the Rhine basin is shown to be one of the interesting features of European history.

The book is mainly devoted, as might be expected, to the geography of Europe. The central chapter, entitled "Outlines of Europe," supplied with two maps facing each other, the one political, the other physical, is well worthy of close study, and will be an enlightening assistance to students of European history. Following this chapter the author takes up each country of Europe in detail, and throws light on many important problems of nationality. The last chapter of the book deals with America in a general way, and contains nothing that is strikingly new or suggestive.

It is a pity that the book is not written in a more entertaining style. The author, with all his learning, lacks the touch of a master; but he has given us a book that has really been needed, and students cannot expect to have their food always handed to them by Greens, Froudes and Flakes.

J. H. DILLARD.

MARRIAGE.

That "marriage is character growth and is gained through service," is the theme of Mrs. Mills's little book on the purity and the service of marriage. She includes chapters on "the marriage of the unmarried," and on marriage laws. It is a good and useful as well as timely book, such as only a good and useful woman could write.

Readers prone to regard marriage as a ceremonial institution licensing lust, may think it a dangerous book. For, treating of marriage as in all its functions a sacred relationship,

"made up of all the best of the man and all the best of the woman, with an increasing elimination of their evils," it places marriage above and apart from ceremonial licenses for physical procreation. Yet the importance of the marriage ceremonial is not denied. On the contrary it is approved. But it is assigned its true relative place and value. According to Mrs. Mills, the arbitrary holding together of two characters who never can grow into one is a mockery of marriage. On the other hand, she regards the shifting of marital relations with every changing mood as destructive of marriage possibilities.

Mrs. Mills writes of marriage from the woman's point of view, speaking the word about it which, as she believes and is doubtless true, "only a woman could speak."—[*Marriage*, by Jane Dearborn Mills (Mrs. James E. Mills), author of "Leaves from a Life-book of Today" and "The Mother Artist." Philadelphia: The Nunc Licet Press.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

—The Dark Side of the Beef Trust. By Herman Herschauer. Jamestown, N. Y.: Theodore Z. Root. To be reviewed.

—Forty Thousand Miles of World Wandering. By Helen M. Gougar. Chicago and Philadelphia: Monarch Book Company. To be reviewed.

—An Eye for an Eye. By Clarence S. Darrow, author of *Farmington*, *Resist Not Evil*, etc. New York: Fox, Duffield & Company. Price, \$1.50. To be reviewed.

—The Elements of Taxation. By Newton M. Taylor. Edited and published by C. L. Taylor. Philadelphia: Equity Series, 1520 Chestnut street, Philadelphia. To be reviewed.

—Government Regulation of Railway Rates. A Study of the Experience of the United States, Germany, France, Austria-Hungary, Russia and Austria. By Hugo Richard Meyer, assistant professor of political economy in the University of Chicago. New York and London: Macmillan. Price, \$1.50 net. To be reviewed.

PAMPHLETS

In a British pamphlet (T. Fisher Unwin, Paternoster Square, London) Arthur Kitson attributes periodical industrial depressions to interest. Regarding interest as a premium for money, he argues that "wealth is not produced at a sufficient rate nor continuously enough to keep pace with even five per cent. interest charges," and that in consequence "matters reach a crisis about once every nine or ten years." The writer seems to have been influenced unconsciously, and at times in astonishing fashion, by the notion that "wealth is always distributed in money." It is, in fact, distributed for the most part, not in money, but in terms of money. If interest is a burden, the reason is not monopoly of money, but of commodities.

PERIODICALS

Now, when several of the most earnest men of France are beginning to rid-