

BOOK REVIEWS

Inter-American Affairs, 1942. Edited by ARTHUR P. WHITAKER.
[An annual survey: No. 2.] (New York: Columbia University Press, 1943. Pp. x, 252. Maps, tables. \$3.00.)

This volume is the second annual survey "designed to meet the need for periodic reports on contemporary developments in the complex and rapidly changing field of inter-American affairs." It is perhaps more significant than its predecessor because it covers the first full year in which the large majority of the people of the New World were involved in the global war. But it is like its predecessor in general scope, covering the topics of diplomacy and politics, commerce, industry and finance, cultural relations, and social welfare in all twenty-two of the American states. Although the stress is on developments and agencies in the Pan American sphere, Canadian relationships to this sphere in general and to the United States in particular are given recognition. This belated recognition of Canada as a part of any hemispheric system seems eminently wise in face of the fact that the northern nation will occupy a key position in the approaching world that will be based on and controlled by air power, for the American hemispheric system must perforce have a vital relationship to the larger global system. On this delayed recognition of Canada as an important unit in the hemispheric system, the Canadian contributor to the volume had an opportunity to address a sharp and well-directed remark at our antiquated Department of State as constituted in 1928. This remark made public the fact that the United States delegates to the Sixth Pan American International Congress which met in Havana in 1928 had been instructed to oppose Canadian membership in the Pan American Union, in case the question came up for determination. Worse: it divulged colossal ignorance on the part of the department on the nature of the British imperial system.

This volume was undoubtedly intended as a reference work. While the first and last chapters, which deal with "Politics and Diplomacy" and "Summary and Prospect" respectively, should sustain the interest of the reader, the six chapters lying between will probably not do so. These intervening divisions are filled with enumerations of conferences and their resolutions and with lists of agencies and their

activities and accomplishments. The arrangement of the material in these chapters is often illogical, and at times bewildering. Still the confused impression one gets is probably indicative of the lack of method these hundreds of agencies are employing as they play with their elusive jobs. At any rate the reports will never be read except by reviewers. They, along with the nineteen statistical tables, three maps, one chart, and list of chief executives and ministers of state for foreign affairs, may be consulted as references by the seeker after information on inter-American affairs for 1942. The terrible monotony could be avoided only if such a volume could cover a decade or so rather than a single year.

In the entire volume the present reviewer has caught only one typographical error, "as" for "at" on page 103. And the format of the work he has found very pleasing.

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International Bearings of American Policy. By ALBERT SHAW. (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1943. Pp. x, 492. \$3.50.)

Albert Shaw at the age of eighty-six manifests immense physical and intellectual energy in delivering these Shaw lectures on a foundation erected in his name. An elder statesman, he carries into our troubled day the serenity of a seasoned optimism. Events and their participants take on a mellower hue than would be the case if seen through youthful eyes. The aged publicist takes invariably the long view. He is never fretful, never discouraged; on the contrary, always hopeful and fully assured that the best is yet to be. Touching upon all the leading movements toward international organization from the Grand Design of Henry IV and Sully to the League of Nations and the London Conference of 1933, he is not dismayed by past frustrations. Nor does he sharply criticize the devil's advocates who halt the march of progress. Somehow his theme transcends the personal and partisan. It is the ambition of great souls from Isaiah onward. It will not be denied.

The author speaks not only as a man of age and of the ages, but he writes with the authority of one who for more than half a century has been close to great events and in the confidence of their motivators and participants. Notwithstanding extensive quotations from his own editorials this authority is not obtruded. When Dr. Shaw alludes to Woodrow Wilson or Herbert Hoover or Henry Cabot Lodge, to Calvin Coolidge, Frank M. Simonds or Bernhard Dernberg, who, incidentally, gave away the whole German case at a tête-