

of industry and transportation will find a long list of papers written by well-equipped engineers.

In connection with this reference to the treatment of economics in the *Encyclopædia*, attention may well be called to the position taken by the editor as to the place that should be given statistics in historical and economic articles. The editor says:

"While the most recent statistics have been incorporated when they really represented conditions of historic value, the notion that economic development can be truly shown merely by giving statistics for the last year available is entirely false, and for this reason in many cases there has been no attempt merely to be 'up-to-date' by inserting them. Statistics are used here as an illustration of the substantial existing conditions and of real progress. . . . In such a work statistics are only one useful method of expressing historical evolution; their value varies considerably according to the nature of the subject dealt with. . . . In general, far less tabular matter has been included in the Eleventh Edition than in the Ninth. Where it is used, it is not as a substitute for descriptive accounts, which can put the facts in readable form much better, but more appropriately as showing concisely and clearly the differences between the conditions at different periods."

It is, indeed, gratifying that in this great work, which will be read the world over by the general public for information upon economic questions, the presentation is, for the most part, textual rather than statistical. This edition of the *Britannica* is much more interesting than previous editions have been and its educational influence will be consequently greater.

Taken as a whole, the Eleventh Edition of the *Encyclopædia* must be highly appreciated by all students of history, literature and science. This edition does not contain the long and discouraging monographs characteristic of previous editions; the papers are generally short, are phrased in excellent English, and are accompanied by appropriate but not excessive illustration. A long step forward was taken in adopting India paper. The volumes may be secured either in the ordinary thick paper, which makes each volume weigh eight pounds, or in the India paper edition, the average weight of each India-paper volume being about three pounds. It was, indeed, a triumph of the printer's art to manufacture a volume less than one inch in thickness, containing 1,000 pages of clear, readable type. It seems doubtful whether any large encyclopædia will be published in the future except upon India paper.

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**Fishberg, M.** *The Jews, a Study of Race and Environment.* Pp. viii, 578.

Price, \$1.50. New York: Macmillan Company, 1911.

This volume is a thorough-going treatise on environmental causation of race differences. It is especially interesting in view of the fact that the

peculiar race traits of the Jews, perhaps more than those of any other people, have been considered biologically inherent.

The common supposition that the Jews have maintained a racial purity for three or four thousand years he shows to be a fiction. Inter-marriages with other races have continued from the days of the patriarchs and kings of Israel down to the present time.

That the Jews are non-assimilable is shown to be erroneous by an appeal to history and experience. The race is not a unity in color, stature, head formation nor physiognomy. Modifications of type under changed environment are apparent everywhere. Cultural, not physiological differences separate Semite and Aryan.

Again, the mental and social characteristics are shown to be modified under changed conditions. The Ghetto, originating as a privilege through preference and convenience on account of dietary and other customs, has been perpetuated as a disability through the external pressure of religious and political persecution. Released from this condition of life many marked changes result. Inter-racial marriages become increasingly frequent, reaching a rate of 96.5 to each 100 pure Jewish marriages in Berlin, 1901-1905. The birth rate diminishes more rapidly than among native Americans. Absorption of foreign cultures increases enormously. These and other factors threaten group extinction in many localities.

Other "Jewish characteristics," as "commercialism" and the "greater thirst for knowledge," are not so much "Jewish" as they are the characteristics of the "middleman" group. English and American merchants in the last fifty years have outdone Jewish merchants, while from an equal numerical group of Americans of the same mercantile and professional class, an equally large number of young men go to college.

Whether or not all these generalizations will be substantiated by further observation and research remains to be seen. The significance of the work lies in its method of interpretation on the environmental basis of race differences as applied to the Jews.

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**Gettell, R. G.** *Introduction to Political Science.* Pp. xx, 421. Price, \$2.00. Boston: Ginn & Co., 1910.

This book is "intended for use as an introductory text in the general field of political science" in colleges and universities. Its aim is to "trace the origin, development, organization, and functions of the state." It is divided into three parts on "The Nature of the State," "The Organization of the State," and "The Ends of the State." To anyone at all familiar with the equipment and capacity of the average freshman or sophomore, it must be evident that a book, such as the one under review, presumes altogether too much for an introductory text-book. Such difficult and disputed subjects as the origin and nature of the state, the theory of sovereignty, the nature of