favor upon a tribunal of "especial dignity like the Supreme Court of the United States," to settle disputes between conflicting interests and authorities. Yet, he tells us nothing of who is to make the law which the court is to administer, of what authority is to organize the court, and who is to enforce its decree.

Yet, it must be remembered that this book is not a systematic treatise upon the theory of the state. It is rather a series of studies, more or less related, upon what is perhaps the central problem of politics: the nature and limitations of state authority. The author elucidates his own position through an analysis of the theories of French philosophers of the post-revolutionary period. This part of Mr. Laski's work does the double service of helping to clarify his position and of acquainting an English speaking public with the thought of Bonald, Brunetière, Bourget, Lamennais and Royer-Collard.

To those of us who insist upon "solutions," Mr. Laski's volume will be disappointing. He doesn't build a utopia, he studies a problem. The process of government to-day is the process of the adjustment of various group interests. The representative legislature, in fact, promulgates as the law of the state the demands of those groups which are able to exert strong enough pressure upon it. The modern state is the organ of the dominant group in society. Its function, we are told, is to maintain "law and order." To the dominant group "order" is the existing order, and law is an instrument to maintain the *status quo,* rather than a method by which to effect progressive change. "To make the state omnicompetent is to leave it at the mercy of any group that is powerful enough to exploit it, . . . is to make it the creature of those who can possess themselves of its instruments" (p. 385).

Mr. Laski seeks the solution of his problem through the limitation of state authority on the one hand, and the allowing of a great measure of autonomy to social and functional groups on the other. The state will be recognized as one group within society, performing certain specific functions. Its importance, as compared with that of other groups, will be measured by the service it performs, rather than by the dignity which it claims.

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Army Mental Tests: C. S. YOAKUM, and R. M. YERKES. New York: Henry Holt & Co. 1920. Pp. 303.

This book puts into conveniently accessible form the methods for the examination of recruits employed by the Surgeon General's

Office, with their chief results and implications. Its importance to the mental examiner is sufficiently indicated by partial enumeration of its contents. There are reviewed the requisite features of a large-scale group test suitable for military use, also the various checks applied through other criteria of intelligence. The alpha scale is most satisfactory above 11 years, while the beta scale is less satisfactory at the high intelligence levels. The relation of intelligence ratings to occupational specifications is discussed. Among the statistics the reviewer has not seen elsewhere are those showing the proportion of low and high grade men in typical military groups; also the detail of intelligence findings for officers in different branches of the service, and the relation of intelligence to rank. This last is practically zero. The Examiner's Guide is reproduced, and keys for tests are added. The various tests of the army performance scale are closely described, and the important scoring table of Healy's newer picture completion test is included. There are some paragraphs on buildings and equipment. Account follows of tests made in the S. A. T. C. and in colleges. There are quoted statistical tables showing among other things the distribution of alpha scores in various institutions, the incidence of the higher grades in various institutions, military and otherwise; the comparison of men and women, and of different departments of the same institution. There is practically no difference between men and women or between different departments, and but little between different collegiate years. There is liberal quotation from significant articles by Yoakum, by Dodge, and by Yerkes. The Leavenworth Disciplinary Barracks tested about equally with the draft. Conscientious objectors averaged somewhat higher. It would be of interest to know how "sincere" objectors compare with "insincere" ones; the higher average as a whole is not surprising, the objection implying as it does some rationalizing tendency supported by higher "intelligence." In discussing industrial applications, as related to intelligence specifications of different occupations, note is made of a slightly negative correlation observed with one species of manual skill. In conclusion, the forms for the tests and other military records are reproduced.

Theoretical bearings of the material will be obvious, though this book is not intended to develop them. It is an impertinence to praise a volume which focuses the best powers of American psychology upon its subject. One formal suggestion might be offered. A book inviting such frequent reference would be convenient to have in pocket form, something with limp covers and round corners, after the fashion of Davenport's *Statistical Methods*. Royalties of the volume are fitly offered to the advancement of psychology

through the National Research Council. "The degree of practical success in the application of such a measure may well be considered one of the major achievements of the war."

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JOURNALS AND NEW BOOKS

THE PSYCHOLOGICAL CLINIC, December, 1919. *A Demonstration Clinic* (pp. 1–17): By the Staff of the Psychological Clinic, University of Pennsylvania.—Eight cases are described in detail. These cases were demonstrated in the Psychological Clinic of the University of Pennsylvania. The record of the patients includes name, age, whom referred by, cause, school attended, age entered, school history, diagnosis, recommendation, Terman Revision mental age, basal age, and I. Q., physical condition, educational status at time of examination—reading, letters known, arithmetic, number of hours instruction, present status, speech work. *The Meaning of a Binet Score* (pp. 18–26): H. J. HUMPSTONE.—The meaning of the Binet score is a performance level on the intelligence scale. This is one element useful in giving a diagnosis of the child's mental ability. *The Present Status of the Subnormal Class* (pp. 27–32): FRANCIS N. MAXFIELD.—The problem of the mentally defective child until he is sixteen years old is presented. The large part of the social problem after he is sixteen is also given with suggestions for meeting it. *Shell-Shock* (pp. 33–50): T. E. SULLENGER.—The term "shell-shock" has been adopted officially as a diagnostic term to cover all neuroses arising among officers and soldiers of the army. Nine cases are described. Considerable stress is laid on the psychological aspects of the war neurosis. *An Analysis of the Proficiency and Competency of a Fourth Grade Class* (pp. 51–58): GLADYS E. POOLE.—A survey was made of 30 pupils of nine different nationalities. The tests used were: Arithmetic Series B, Monroe Standardized Silent Reading Test, Courtis Standardized Research Test in Reading, Thorndike Visual Vocabulary Scale A–2, Ayres Measuring Scale for Handwriting, Ayres Measuring Scale for Ability in Spelling. Some of these pupils absolutely lacked fourth grade competency. Proficiency tests should be given and the child's proficiency accurately determined before promotion. *Diagnostic Teaching* (pp. 59–65): G. G. IDE.—A very interesting case of a boy with deficient energy is described. *The Classification of Criminals* (pp. 66–74): CARL MURCHISON.—The classification of several hundred criminals according to the Alpha Group Examination was made. *Some Problems at Work*