

six pension laws enacted before congress adjourned in 1870. Chapter II deals with the Codification of 1873 and attempted reforms of the Pension system. Chapter III deals with the Arrears of Pensions Act 1879. Chapter IV is entitled Pensions and Politics. It seems that on the whole Mr. Oliver has taken too dark a view of the period. It was a period of poor public service, but the administration of the Pension Bureau was not worse than that of several others. Few bills passed congress in those days except they were backed by lobbies. Compared with the railroad lobby of that time the pension lobby was microscopic in size. The author has done well in citing many caustic remarks and editorials concerning the pension system, but he owed it to his subject to state boldly the underlying justice of pensions and especially of the Arrears Act of 1879.

New Constitution Text Book and Manual of Ready Reference, Prepared and published by the Citizens League of Indiana; paper; 165 pages, price 25c.

This pamphlet has all kinds of information, intended to be valuable to delegates to the lately deceased State Constitutional Convention. The Citizens League of Indiana was organized at Fort Wayne, August 1, 1914, to carry on an agitation for a constitutional convention. It has conducted a three year campaign by means of publications and speeches.

JUDGE ROSCOE KIPER is the author of a fitting little Patriot's Creed, which has been issued for private circulation.

THE "Centennial Ode of Dubois County," written by George R. Wilson, was printed in the *Huntingburg Independent*, July 28, 1917. The poem celebrates the first settlers of the locality.

STATE PUBLICATIONS

Fifth Annual Report of the Department of Inspection and Supervision of Public Offices of Indiana, 1915-1916. GILBERT HENDREN, State Examiner.

THIS volume is not recommended for light summer reading, but for voters and taxpayers in general and public officers particularly it is the best the State puts out. The work of

this office, popularly known as the State Board of Accounts, falls under three heads. First, expert accountants audit the books of all agents in the State who expend public money; from the country squire to the governor. Detailed reports are given of each office examined, and if any crookedness or mistake is found suit is instituted, if necessary, to correct it. Second, there is carried on a publicity work by which all officers are kept informed not only of the laws governing their office, the prices of commodities to be purchased, but of approved uniform systems of bookkeeping. Third, a general propaganda for a higher grade of public service with less graft. This latter business, graft in the civil offices of the state, is rapidly disappearing. The department has published a number of pamphlets in the last two years for circulation among officers and citizens. The following are noticed:

Special Report of State Examiner, 1914, by GILBERT HENDREN. This is a brief description of the working of the office, the character of the deputies, scope and progress of the work. There were examined 6,522 offices; 1,650 public officials were made to restore public money. The department employs about forty field examiners.

Indiana Statutes Relating to Township Trustees: 171 pages, 1915. Gilbert Hendren.

Price List Guide to Trustees, pp. 61. Trustees paying more for supplies than the prices there listed were required to make good the difference. A revision of this was issued in 1916.

The Township Ditch Law, an address by George M. Crane, before the Township Trustees Association, December 9, 1915, 12 pages.

Analysis of the Appropriation Ordinance or County Budget, also the Compensation of County Officers, 1916, pp. 27. This is an official guide for county auditors and treasurers. A similar pamphlet entitled *Budget Classifications* was issued by Gilbert Hendren, September 1, 1916. This was an officers' manual defining terms used in standard accounting.

A pamphlet of 54 pages dated 1915 gives a list of officers to be investigated and the order of examination in each office. This is entitled *Uniform System of Examination*, prepared by the State Board of Accounts.

The last publication of the Department is a *Report of School House Ventilating and Heating and Rules on Public Building Contracts*, GILBERT H. HENDREN, 1917, pp. 33 and 8. This report was prepared by C. B. Veal, School of Mechanical Engineering, Purdue. It is a description and appraisal of the various systems with definitions of standard terms.

Biennial Report of the commissioner of Fisheries and Game of Indiana, for the Fiscal Years 1914, 1915; E. C. SHIREMAN, Commissioner; paper, pp. 100, illustrated.

THIS contains a report of the work done during the period. The principal activities have been in connection with Fish Hatcheries, Wild Bird Protection, Game Protection and Farm Fish Ponds. In connection with the last are several illustrations.

Thirty-eighth Annual Report of the Indiana School for Feeble Minded Youth, for the year ending September 30, 1916. DR. GEORGE S. BLISS, superintendent, pp. 76.

THIS school is located near Fort Wayne. The attendance was 1,305, with 1,374 enrolled; an average of 15 from each county. The cost of maintenance was about \$140 per capita. This is conducted as a school with a farm and garden attached. The inmates make their own shoes, clothing and mattresses. A great deal of the time is spent in play.

Sixteenth Biennial Report Bureau of Statistics for 1915 and 1916. THOMAS W. BROLLEY, Chief of Bureau; cloth, pp. 881.

It is almost useless to try to describe a volume of statistics. The first 46 pages are devoted to Licensed Employment Agencies. Then come Social Statistics, under subheads of Population, Citizenship, Marriage and Divorce, Coroner's