

*History and Government of Indiana.* By E. E. RAMSEY, Department of Education, State Normal School. Copyright by Laidlow Brothers, Inc., 1926, p. 138.

This is one of a number of pamphlets prepared by various authors to meet the requirements of an Indiana law of 1924, requiring the state constitution to be taught in the grades. This pamphlet seems about as good or perhaps one should say about as bad or no worse than the others. Only a trifling outline of a state's history can be presented in 30 or 40 pages. One's state history or state government ought not be made even to appear as a trifle either to teacher or pupil. No writer in such limits can show connection, sequence or development; the teacher is perhaps more helpless. To call such gossip history either in book or school room is dangerous. It would be far better to leave our state history entirely out of the curriculum.

In a revision the author of the above pamphlet should go over his "Explanation of Terms" carefully. Such words as Probate, Prosecute, Incipient, State Seal, Registration, etc., have various meanings. On page 88 one is liable to get the impression that men only vote. There were a number of "New Purchases". The deportation of the Pottawattomies was in the hands of one of the finest citizens Indiana has ever had, and incidentally one of the best friends of the Indians.