Norris into what Senator Arthur Capper of Kansas called “a per-
ambulating Declaration of Independence” can be seen plainly in this
volume.

The author's portrait of Norris is careful, sound, and under-
standing. He neither simplifies nor complicates his subject, essentially a
direct, forthright, stubborn man who was perfectly aware of the realities
of the legislative process and who used that process and made no con-
cessions to it. This volume is a distinct contribution to American political
history and, with the second volume, should compose a significant one.

Michigan State University Russel B. Nye

The Origins of Teapot Dome: Progressives, Parties, and Petroleum,
$7.50.)

The author at first set out to write a history of Teapot Dome,
but concluded that the origins of that famous scandal provided material
enough for a book. The result is a chronicle of a struggle centering
in the years of Woodrow Wilson's presidency, between individuals who
wanted to conserve oil resources of western states and those who wanted
to give oilmen freedom to develop lands retained by the federal govern-
ment. In the van of the conservationists were eastern Progressives
who thought they were continuing Theodore Roosevelt's battle against
predatory businessmen wishing to take for themselves a national
heritage. Conservationists received important support from the Navy,
then converting its ships to oil. The Navy saw a danger of exhausting
the nation's oil resources, so joined Progressives in seeking to close
government oil land to private exploitation. Leading advocates of
opening government land were oil companies, but equally vocal were
western members of Congress, who apparently represented a widely
held opinion that eastern conservationists were thwarting western
growth.

Despite western determination, and the sympathy of Woodrow
Wilson for the western view, conservationists and the Navy for several
years managed to prevent a large encroachment on government oil land.
They received help from the World War, when conserving the Navy's
oil reserves became a patriotic necessity. But in 1920 came a law which
opened the way for leasing government land. The author shows how
the leasing of oil land influenced national politics, and points out that
President Wilson's sympathy for the western view may have returned
him to the White House in 1916. Bates demonstrates that oil also had
a part in the 1920 national election.

Resting upon impressive research in manuscript materials, this
book takes up a subject which occupied much attention in 1909-1921.
Yet it appears that Bates kept too closely to his notes and found it
painful to part with any piece of information. The result is a tedious
book which dwells upon seemingly endless maneuvers. The book will
find few readers, even among people interested in Progressivism and
the Wilson administration. If the author had followed his original instinct and compressed the origins of Teapot Dome into seventy-five or a hundred pages, he would have made a larger contribution.

Indiana University

John E. Wiltz


The office of secretary of state has stirred a great deal of scholarly interest in recent years. One of the pleasant results of this interest is the modernization of Samuel Flagg Bemis' Secretaries of State and Their Diplomacy after a lapse of forty years and the terms of eight secretaries of state.

This volume on Kellogg and Stimson, the first in the new series, is written by Indiana University's able diplomatic historian, Robert Ferrell. Ferrell, with assistance from Professor Bemis, will edit the remaining five volumes of the new series bringing it down to 1961. If the older series had a fault, it was the occasional unbridled enthusiasm of a personal friend for the secretary whose deeds he chronicled. Happily this is not the case with Kellogg and Stimson. All students of American diplomatic history are familiar with Ferrell's excellent and extensive research in the period covered by these men's tenure in office. This familiarity with the period is everywhere evident in skillful presentation of the problems of the time and judicious appraisal of the work of these two secretaries in meeting the issues.

In each of these studies, and in the succeeding volumes, a brief introduction and conclusion sets the detailed discussion of the secretaries' work in context. About 140 pages of text for each man in this volume affords opportunity to cover his four-year career adequately. Emphasis is given to the career as a whole; the temptation to go into great detail on some matters and slight others is avoided. The text is clear and readable, well documented, and concluded with a splendid bibliographical essay that in its completeness goes far beyond the demands of duty.

As for the men under discussion, there has been a general agreement that Kellogg was a sincere and busy but not brilliant or effective secretary working at a time when Americans were not interested in foreign affairs. Interestingly, Ferrell's studies have led him to disagree with this appraisal and to describe Kellogg as a "worthy successor to Charles Evans Hughes, in some ways perhaps a more able individual than his well-known successor, Stimson" (p. 129).

Stimson, unlike Kellogg, has provoked a great deal of conflicting opinion as to his success. In this respect Ferrell's treatment and that