

THE BOOK PAGE

Country school master passing rich on \$300 a year ; budding orator in a rural "Division" of the Sons of Temperance, editor of a village newspaper with the overwhelming subscription list of 350 names ; then county public school inspector, member of the Dominion House of Commons, Minister of Education for Ontario and afterwards Premier of the Province ; now, in the "Valhalls" of our active legislators, the Red Chamber at Ottawa ; Sir George W. Ross had undoubtedly, in his own career and in his experiences of men and things, the materials for an exceptionally interesting volume, when he set out to write **Getting Into Parliament and After** (Wm. Briggs, Toronto, 343 pages, \$2.50 net). And exceptionally good use he has made of those materials. The story begins in the stirring times just before Confederation and continues to the present. How the elections were managed in those early days ; the giants of the House in the Confederation period, the Pacific Scandal era—are pictured vividly. Sir George is a keen observer and critic always master of the right word,—the story being lightened up with many a bit of grim humor. His long and important official career as a member of the Ontario Government is described more briefly. An interesting chapter is that on the Senate, in which the veteran parliamentarian is now rounding off his political career. He is wholesomely amused to find himself among the ancients ; but contends for the usefulness of the Upper House in legislation. Particularly characteristic are the four concluding chapters—

Electioneering as a Fine Art ; The Political Platform ; Speech-Making (that is, preparation) ; and The French Canadian in Politics. On the first three of these topics especially the author has a right to speak with authority. "Ross," as he is familiarly called, was a prince among campaigners, and unexcelled as an expounder of great national and imperial questions.

Woodrow Wilson is President of the United States because of the profound dissatisfaction and unrest which prevail throughout that country, which he had the good fortune and the skill publicly to set forth—and the way out of it—more strikingly and persuasively than any other man. That "way out" is embodied in the twelve chapters of a book, **The New Freedom**, (Musson Book Company, Toronto, 294 pages, \$1.00), which bears the President's name on its title page, and is made up of utterances from his campaign speeches carefully woven together. The book shows Mr. Wilson at his best, the philosophic student of history, the alert aggressive politician, the skilful speaker, above all, the man of the people ; for the gist of the volume is, in his words : "The men who have been ruling America [the United States] must consent to let the majority into the game." It is a plea for the right of the many against the few—in politics, in business, in social life. "America has allowed itself to be governed by persons who were not invited to govern it ;" the people must strike for their sovereign right to rule. Mr. Wilson's book will have a very wide reading, here, as well as on the other side of the line ; for, largely, the same perils beset both countries and

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