
Duane Koenig

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in an introductory college government course. This is not to condemn it in any way, but to limit its potentialities as a “best seller.” Like the average college textbook in introductory courses, it is not written in a “popular” style. At the same time, it is not advanced enough to be of great value to those who are already acquainted with the subject. Although it is not a “Congress in Action” in general reader interest, it is readable and contains so much more information that it cannot be compared with that type of popular work on the legislative process as written by George Smith and Floyd Riddick.

The first “Part” deals briefly with the origins of legislative enactments. This Part, Part III on parliamentary procedure, and Part VI on Constitutional amendments and treaties are elementary for most lawyers and apparently designed for others without any background in these fields. Part II on the State and Federal legislatures, organization and sessions, and Part V on introduction and passages of bills and resolutions, will have the most interest for attorneys.

Within the general limitations indicated, the author accomplishes his purpose of giving a detailed explanation of the legislative procedure to any intelligent reader. For this purpose the book is a valuable text on the subject. Its value is enhanced because it appears to be the only current book of its type.

ROBERT MEISENHOLDER
PROFESSOR OF LAW,
UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI


When Baron Macaulay of Rothley penned his epochal History of England from the Accession of James II, it was with a definite audience in mind. The reader would not be the academician turning pages by candlelight in a midnight study; instead, it would be the father of a family, reading on a long winter’s evening before the one good light in the parlor, to assembled wife, children, and servants. Today all this is changed. Professors of history write books for other professors of history, as the layman is uninterested in the copious documentation, exhaustive bibliography, and other machinery of contemporary scholarship. Yet the larger reading public makes publishers’ ledgers black by choosing “best sellers.” So the historian, perhaps self-conscious of his learning, tries by dint of adeptly phrased title, to lure the unwary layman to purchase his book. A label chosen for the study of events past is neatly couched in terms of events present. Thus Professor Schapiro of the City
College of New York treats social forces in England and France, 1815-1870, as Liberalism and the Rise of Fascism.

Make no mistake: Schapiro is a learned man, a guild historian of acknowledged craft. Ask any sophomore "civilization" student who has toiled through Schapiro's Modern and Contemporary European History. In four hundred concise pages, in the volume under scrutiny, the author presents an anatomy of historical liberalism worthy of attention by any aspirant to intellectual elegance. It is sometimes said that the cover blurb of a book represents the publisher's review of the volume he wishes the writer had produced. Not so in this case. Schapiro lives up to the dust jacket promise of explaining "the successes and failures of the liberal movement in the past, and its significance in the present world situation." Actually, such a treatment is long overdue. The bibliography of synthesis for the period 1815-1870 is notably lacking. There is not even a good textbook covering this precise field. The chief objection to Schapiro, who otherwise fills a distinct gap, is that he limits his treatment to the Anglo-French, when he might have extended his work to liberalism in the Germanies, Italy, Austria, the Balkans, and Eastern Europe.

The points Professor Schapiro makes are quite valid. He shows the genesis of liberalism, its essential humanitarian and middle class qualities, in contrast to the older and aristocratic Classicism. He touches on liberalism's Romantic associations, its triumph and decline. Schapiro exposes the reactionary philosophies, neatly typed as "fascism," which challenged liberal predominance. Some of the writer's individual analyses are excellent, particularly those of Louis Napoleon and Carlyle.

Schapiro has merit. Among historians he is an elder statesman, having served a long apprenticeship delving into the minutiae of the past. He now applies the experience of a lifetime to present an overview of one of the most signally interesting ages in human history, the grass roots stage of communism, fascism, and the "third force," or the non-Marxist left.

Well meditated, well organized, and well written, the book is a landmark in the historiography examining the nineteenth century in Europe.

Duane Koenig Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Miami


This is a very practical book. It will serve a distinct purpose among city councilmen, zoning officials, attorneys, and even realtors in municipally zoned areas. It deals with a relatively-new phase of law, and, owing to the fact that