

I can smell the stench of the shambles, where the
mangled bodies lie;
I can hear the moans of the wounded; I can see the
brave lads die;
And across the heaped, red trenches and the tor-
tured, bleeding rows
I cry out a mother's pity to all mothers of dear, dead
"foes."
In love and a common sorrow, I weep with them o'er
our dead,
And invoke my sister woman for a curse on each
scheming head.

Nay, why should we mothers curse you? Lo! flesh
of our flesh are ye;
But, by soul of Mary who bore the Christ man-
murdered at Calvary,
Into our own shall the mothers come, and the glad
day speed apace
When the law of peace shall be the law of the
women that bear the race;
When a man shall stand by his mother, for the
world-wide common good,
And not bring her tears and heart-break nor make
mock of her motherhood.

BOOKS

FOR MINNESOTA VOTERS

The Minnesota Legislature of 1913. By C. J. Buell.
Published by the Author, 1540 Laurel Ave., St.
Paul, Minn. 1914. Price, cloth \$1.00; paper 50
cents.

Lynn Haines, when he went to Washington to watch Congress for the National Voters' League, did not leave the Minnesota State house unhaunted. His Stories of the Legislatures of 1909 and 1911 are ably continued in Carl J. Buell's history of the session of 1913. Mr. Buell—whose name is familiar to readers of *The Public*—has put into his little book in easily readable form a brief resume and characterization of the session's most important bills, both those passed and those rejected, with the roll calls thereon. and has supplemented this useful analysis with a roster comprising in alphabetical order the name of each State Senator and Representative followed by his recorded vote on these same measures.

There is a difference of efficiency as well as intention between the common people and their exploiters. The ordinary voter asks about his representative at re-election time, "What has he got to say for himself?" "What sort of a man is he?" Big Business asks, "What is his recorded vote on such and such measures?" The sooner the disinterested public learns to ask the Interests' question, the quicker the death of corruption. Such legislative histories as Minnesota and California citizens may obtain after each session serve to create as well as supply this demand for effective political knowledge.

A. L. G.

NEW YORK STATE FINANCES

The Financial History of New York State from 1789 to 1912. By Don C. Sowers. Whole No. 140, Columbia University Studies. Longmans, Green & Co., Agents, New York. 1914. Price, \$2.50 net.

This monograph has a mass of information concerning the revenues and expenditures of New York during almost the entire period of its history as a State. Much of this is of value only to specialists, but some of it should interest the general reader. The history of the Erie Canal, for example, is worthy of study. The author does not find that it inspires confidence in the public management of such enterprises, and the advocate of public ownership and operation will do well to consider the facts, unpleasant as they may be. He will not find them fatal to his theories, and he will gain nothing by ignoring them. Public ownership is more likely to be successful if people know just how it can be made a failure.

The New York legislature has furnished from time to time evidence that democratic government is not an unqualified success. It is interesting to note, however, that when there was a property qualification for the franchise, the voters sent to Albany representatives who did not hesitate to vote themselves extra allowances. They were, in fact, no better than their successors of later years who made appropriations for the improvement of the "Bouquet River," a stream which learned judges failed to find on the map. It will be seen the financial history of New York furnishes instruction and even entertainment.

WILLIAM E. MCKENNA.

BOOKS RECEIVED

—The Judicial Veto. By Horace A. Davis. Published by Houghton, Mifflin Co., Boston. 1914. Price, \$1.00 net.

—My Own Story. By Emmeline Pankhurst. Published by Hearst's International Library Co., New York. 1914. Price, \$2.00 net.

—Open-Air Politics and the Conversion of Governor Soothem. By Junius Jay. Published by Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston. 1914. Price \$1.25 net.

PAMPHLETS

Pamphlets Received.

Ohio Public Utilities Commission: Uniform Classification of Accounts for Electric Utilities. Published by the Commission, Columbus, O. 1914. Also, Statements in re the Bucyrus Light and Power Company's Appeal from a City Ordinance Establishing a Rate for its Services.

Proceedings of the Conference of Cities Held in Connection with the Pageant and Masque of St. Louis, May 29-31, 1914. Published by the Executive Committee of the Pageant Drama Association under the Editorial Su-