

**PRINCIPLES OF POLITICS  
FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF  
THE AMERICAN CITIZEN**

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Principles of politics from the viewpoint of the American citizen by Jeremiah W. Jenks

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**JEREMIAH W. JENKS**

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Columbia University Lectures

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CITIZEN

GEORGE BLUMENTHAL FOUNDATION

1908



COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY LECTURES

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# PRINCIPLES OF POLITICS

FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF THE  
AMERICAN CITIZEN

BY

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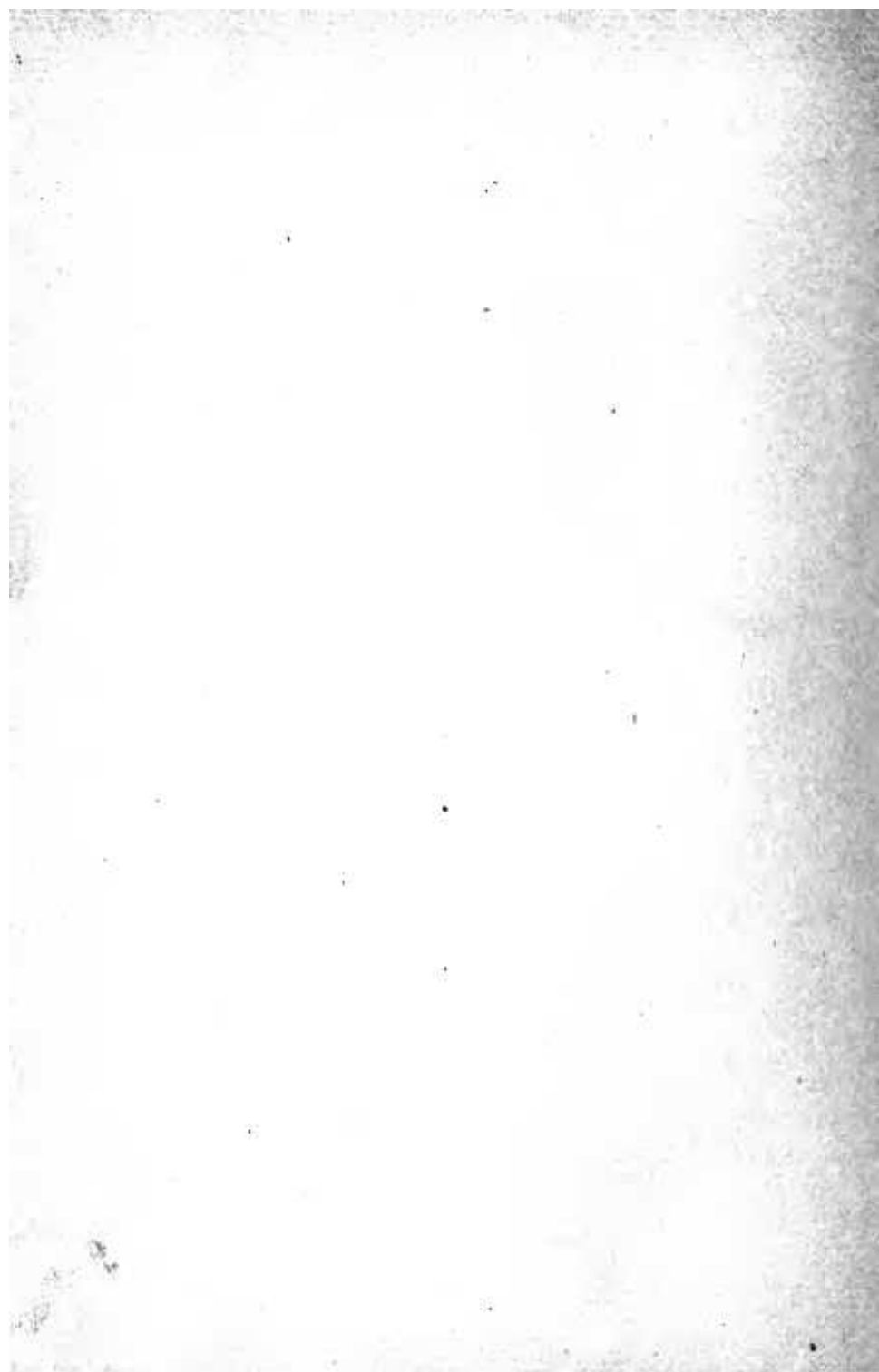
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TO  
MY STUDENTS OF POLITICS  
WHO HAVE GREATLY ASSISTED ME  
BY THEIR HELPFUL QUESTIONS  
AND SUGGESTIONS

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## PREFACE

It is the purpose of this volume to explain as simply as possible from the viewpoint of the thoughtful American citizen the principles by which political action is in the main guided in the United States and in other countries similarly situated. This material was prepared originally as a course of lectures to be given on the George Blumenthal Foundation at Columbia University in the fall and winter of 1907. The lectures are printed substantially as given, so far as substance and arrangement are concerned. If in any way they are to be distinguished from other writings on similar topics, it is in the effort to bring into closer touch than is usual the work of the scholar and of the practical man of affairs. Too often students in our Universities take the courses in economics and in politics without becoming fully conscious of the fact that the topics that they are studying are those which concern actual living conditions, and that if they are thoroughly understood they may prove helpful later in the business of life. Unfortunately, the men who write books on economic and political topics too frequently base their studies only on other books written by men who likewise have not had practical experience. In consequence, such studies at times lack touch with actual life. On the other hand, the men who do business and those who are active in guiding the affairs of state comparatively seldom write out in detail their methods of work and the principles by which their activities are guided. In the preparation of this work, while it has been the