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Ein Prediger muss nicht allein weiden, also dass er die Schafe unterweise, wie sie rechte Christen sollen sein, sondern auch daneben den Woelfen wehren, dass sie die Schafe nicht angreifen und mit falscher Lehre verfuehren und Irrtum einfuehren.

Luther

Es ist kein Ding, das die Leute mehr bei der Kirche behaelt denn die gute Predigt. — Apologie, Art. 24.

If the trumpet give an uncertain sound who shall prepare himself to the battle? — 1 Cor. 14, 8.

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Book Review — Literatur

Biblia Hebraica. Adiuvantibus W. Baumgartner, G. Beer, J. Begrich, J. A. Bewer, F. Buhl, J. Hempel, F. Horst, M. Noth, O. Procksch, G. Quell, Th. H. Robinson, W. Rudolph, H. H. Schaeder, edidit Rud. Kittel. Textum masoreticum curavit P. Kahle. Editionem tertiam denuo elaboratam ad finem perduxerunt A. Alt et O. Eissfeldt. Privilegierte Bürttembergische Bibelanstalt, Stuttgart. 1937. 1500 Seiten 6×9½, auf holdsreim Bibelbruckpapier in sarbigem Rohleinen mit geglättetem Rotschnitt und Rückenz und Seitengoldtitel gebunden. Preiß: M. 10.

Mit diesem Werke ift ein Unternehmen ju Ende gekommen, das für die Theologie und darum auch für die Rirche bon großer Bedeutung ift. Die hebraische Bibel von Rittel ift in der gangen gelehrten Welt als die befte Ausgabe des hebräischen Textes anerkannt und hat in den ersten zwei Auflagen weite Berbreitung gefunden. Mit der jest abgeschlossen borliegenden britten Auflage tritt bieses monumentale Werk in vollkommen neuer Gestalt vor die gelehrte Welt, und wichtige Beränderungen gegenüber der ersten und zweiten Auflage find gemacht Erstens ift ein größeres Format mit größerer The gemählt worden, und es gibt feine hebraifche Bibel, die leichter lesbar ift und ichoner ausfieht als biefes neue Wert, das darum auch alle andern Sandausgaben berbrängen follte. Sodann enthält die Ausgabe, wie ichon in den erften zwei Auflagen, einen reichen fritischen Apparat, ber in dieser neuen Auflage in zwei Abteilungen zerlegt worben ift. Bloge Varianten find in bem oberen mit a, B, y ufw. gefennzeichneten Apparat verzeichnet, die wirklichen vorgeschlagenen Textänderungen im unteren Apparat unter a, b, c angegeben. (Dag wir pringipiell gegen Konjekturen find, folange ber überlieferte Text einen Sinn bietet, tann jest nicht naber begrundet werben.) Bor allem aber ift hier ber mafforetische Text in bollfommen neuer Geftaltung bargeboten. Die sogenannte kleine Massora ist gleich am Rande beigegeben, und die große Maffora wird in einigen Monaten veröffentlicht, den Räufern des Buches auf Bunich unentgeltlich nachgeliefert und fpater der Biblia Hebraica beigegeben werden. Diese Massora, ber die wertbollfte Sandichrift gu= grunde liegt, wird jum erftenmal ber gelehrten Welt in diefer Geftalt borgelegt, und Prof. Paul Rahle, ber fich jahrzehntelang mit biefer Sache beschäftigt hat und wohl als die hauptautorität auf diesem Gebiete gilt, hat fich dieser Arbeit unterzogen. Endlich ift auch ber eben erwähnte fritische Apparat nicht bloß eine Durchficht des alten, sondern eine bollftändige neue Bearbeitung. Den Anfang Diefer britten Ausgabe machte ber verftorbene Leipziger Sebraift Prof. D. Rudolf Rittel. Nach seinem Tobe im Jahre 1929 haben die Professoren Alt und Giffeldt mit einer Reihe anderer Gelehrten, unter biefen der Englander Robinfon und ber Amerifaner Bewer, die Arbeit weitergeführt und vollendet, und die Bürttembergische Bibelgesellschaft hat unermüdet die großen Roften getragen und nun bas Wert fertiggestellt. Der verdiente Direktor dieser Anftalt Dr. E. Diehl, mit bem wir ichon feit Jahren etwas Berbindung haben, ichrieb uns fürglich: "Ob die unendliche Mühe, der große Fleiß und die ungeheuren Roften, die diefes Werk verursachte, nun auch belohnt werben durch einen entsprechenden Absat ber Biblia Hebraica? Das ift die Frage, die fich für uns erhebt. Wir wollen Gott bitten, daß er die Berbreitung auch dieser neuen Biblia Hebraica segnen möge, so wie

er es bisher bei ber erften und zweiten Auflage getan hat." Und wir möchten nun an unferm Teile mithelfen, daß biefes ausgezeichnete Werk, bas fo wichtig ift für das Studium des hebräischen Bibeltextes, auch rechte Anerkennung und Berbreitung findet. Wir haben mehrere Ausgaben ber hebraifchen Bibel, aber dieses Werk wird, wie schon in den früheren Auflagen, so noch viel mehr jett das lette Wort ju fprechen haben. Und wenn einer fragen murde, warum biefes Werk außer den schon angegebenen Gründen so wertboll ift und alle andern Ausgaben bes hebräifchen Textes erfeten follte, fo ermähnen wir nur bies eine: Reine bollftändige Sandausgabe ber hebräischen Bibel hat eben einen folden fritischen Apparat; und wie wertvoll dieser ift und mit ein paar Worten öfters einen Rommentar erfett, mögen einige Beispiele zeigen. Es ift allgemein anerfannt, daß gerade der Text der Samuelisbücher im Laufe der Sahrhunderte und Jahrtaufende manche Schidfale erfahren hat. So lefen wir 3. B. 1 Sam. 6, 18 in der deutschen Bibel, daß die Bundeslade "bis an das große Abel" gebracht und darauf niedergesett wurde. Im Englischen heißt es "unto the great stone of Abel"; aber "stone" ift in italies gebruckt, steht also nicht in bem jezigen hebräischen Text. Das deutsche "Abel", das aus dem hebräischen Text herüber= genommen wurde, ift unverständlich, und das englische "stone" ist sachlich richtig, aber ift neben "Abel" ein Ginschiebsel. Gin Blid auf ben fritischen Apparat fagt nun dem Leser dieser hebräischen Bibel, daß mehrere hebräische Manuskripte, die Septuaginta und die alte aramäische übersetung, der sogenannte Zargum, nicht אבל haben, fondern אבן, und damit löft fich die ganze Schwierigkeit. Wie öfters, jo find auch hier die beiden einander ähnlichen Buchftaben | und 5 beim Abschreiben bermechfelt worden, und der Text lautet: Sie brachten die Lade "bis an den großen Stein und ließen fie darauf". - 1 Sam. 13, 1 hat in ber beutschen und englischen Bibel ichon manchem Leser etwas Ropfzerbrechen gemacht. Es beißt ba: "Saul war ein Jahr König gewesen, und da er zwei Jahre über Israel regiert hatte" usw.; im Englischen: "Saul reigned one year, and when he had reigned two years", usw. Jeber nachdenkliche Leser merkt balb, daß hier etwas mit dem Texte nicht gang in Ordnung ift, jumal es genau nach dem bebräischen Text heißt: "Gin Jahr alt war Saul, als er Konig wurde", was nach feiner im Buche erzählten Lebensgeschichte unmöglich ift. Aber ein Blid auf ben fritischen Apparat hier fagt, "Deest numerus", "die Zahl fehlt". Die Zahl der Lebens= jahre ift ausgefallen, was leicht geschehen konnte, ba die Zahlen ursprünglich nicht ausgeschrieben, sondern nur mit Buchftaben als Bahlzeichen angegeben wurden. Da Saul ichon an Jonathan einen Sohn hatte, ber in ben erften Jahren feiner Regierung bereits eine Abteilung des Heeres anführte, also mindeftens zwanzig Jahre alt, wenn nicht älter gewesen sein muß, so kann auch Saul beim Antritt seiner Regierung kaum unter vierzig Jahre alt gewesen sein. Und diese Zahl "vierzig" ift eben durch ein Bersehen der Abschreiber ausgefallen, wie der hebräische Text auch sonst andeutet. — 2 Kön. 24, 18 heißt es in der deutschen Bibel: "Acht= zehn Jahre alt war Jojachin, da er König ward"; ebenso in der englischen Bibel. Aber 2 Chron. 36, 9 fteht: "Acht Jahre alt war Jojachin", ebenso in der englischen Bibel; und beide Bibelausgaben haben den jekigen hebräischen Text richtig übersest. Das fieht aus wie ein Widerspruch und ift doch keiner, sondern nur ein Scheinwiderspruch. Wahre Widersprüche gibt es nicht im göttlichen Wort. Und doch stimmen die beiden Stellen nicht, und nur "achtzehn" wird richtig sein. Denn Jojachin regierte nur drei Monate und doch wird Hefet. 19, 5-7 bon ihm ausgesagt, daß er wie ein junger Löwe rauben lernte und Menschen fraß und die Witmen (ber Getöteten) erkannte, das heißt, schändete, was von einem achtjährigen

Anaben taum gefagt werden tonnte. Rittels Bibel zeigt ben Weg gur Cofung ber Schwierigkeit, indem fie barauf hinweift, bag hebraifche Manuftripte, Sandschriften der Septuaginta und die sprische übersetzung auch in der Chronikastelle "achtzehn" lefen. Es ift ohne Zweifel wieder ein Berfehen auf seiten der Abichreiber, durch Bermechslung ber Bahlzeichen für 8 und 18, entstanden. Und fo fonnten wir noch Beispiele auf Beispiele anführen, die den Wert dieser trefflichen hebräifchen Bibel anzeigen. Und dabei ift nun der Breis für ein Buch in hebräiichen Thpen, das rund 1500 Seiten in folder trefflichen Ausstattung umfaßt, geradezu spottbillig, sollte eigentlich ftatt 10 Mark 10 Dollars sein und ift nur möglich bei gang großen Opfern der genannten Bibelanftalt. Und auch bei diesem Werke findet wegen der Entwertung des amerikanischen Dollars im Ausland eine Berminderung des Preises (25 Prozent) ftatt bei Exemplaren, die nach Amerika gehen. Möge die Verlagsbuchhandlung durch reiche Abnahme des Werkes einiger= maßen Erfat finden! Bir erwähnen noch, daß diese Bibel auch in fünfgehn Liefe= rungen zu beziehen ift, jede zum Preise bon M. 1.70, was für ben Sandgebrauch fehr bequem ift. Tatfachlich hat einer unferer alten Baftoren, ber noch immer eifrig seinen hebräischen Text lieft und einen gangen Teil desselben auswendig fann, fürglich die Lieferung, die ben Propheten Jefaias umfaßt, bezogen, weil er ben Text wegen abnehmenden Augenlichtes nahe an die Augen halten muß und dies nicht mit einem ichwereren Banbe gut tun fann.

Bei dieser Gelegenheit mag auch erwähnt werden, daß die Bürttembergische Privilegierte Bibelanftalt fürglich das 125jährige Jubilaum ihres Beftebens gefeiert hat. Es fehlt uns jest der Raum, ihre Berdienfte gebührend gu murdigen. Es ift allgemein bekannt, daß fie die Bibel in allen möglichen Formaten und Ausgaben beröffentlicht und berbreitet hat. Wir ermahnen nur brei Gingel= heiten: Sie hat die auch in unsern Rreisen weitberbreitete treffliche und boch so billige, handliche Ausgabe des griechischen Reuen Testaments von Restle besorgt und läßt fie immer wieber, jedesmal berbeffert, in immer neuer Geftalt erscheinen; fie hat die gang ausgezeichnete Septuaginta von Rahlfs herausgegeben (vgl. biese Zeitschrift, VI, 873); und im Interesse ber Beibenmission hat fie fürdlich auch die fogenannte Suaheli-Bibel veröffentlicht, eine Bibelüberfegung des badurch berühmt gewordenen Leipziger Missionars Dr. Röhl in eine afrikanische Sprache, die jest ichon von etwa 50 Millionen von Menschen gesprochen oder boch verstanden wird und immer weiter fich ausbreitet. Auch babei hat die Anstalt feine Roften gescheut, sondern im Intereffe ber Berbreitung bes Wortes Gottes die Ausgabe unternommen. Q. Fürbringer

The Kingdom of God Is at Hand. The Life of Jesus in the Four Gospels. By Harold McA. Robinson, General Secretary of the Board of Christian Education of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America. With two maps, a harmony of the four gospels, topics for discussion, and suggested books. The Westminster Press, Philadelphia. 92 pages, 5×7½. Flexible paper cover.

This little book, the price of which unfortunately is not given, can be recommended to our pastors and teachers. It will be helpful to those who wish to give a course in the life of Christ. The arrangement is lucid, the chief facts are clearly presented. Whoever looks for a brief survey of the Gospel-story should have his attention drawn to this work. The "Harmony of the Gospels," which is included in the rear of the book and which the author follows, is that of Davis's Bible Dictionary. From the

view concerning John's baptism (p.29), "John washed with water as a sign that God had washed away their sins," every Lutheran reader will dissent. When the author on the same page defines the kingdom of God as "the society in which the will of God is done," he has the approval of this reviewer. It must not be overlooked of course that this "society" is a spiritual one, consisting of all those who believe in Jesus as their Savior.

W. Arndt

The Interpretation of St. Paul's Epistles to the Colossians, to the Thessalonians, to Timothy, to Titus, and to Philemon. By R. C. H. Lenski. Lutheran Book Concern, Columbus, O. 986 pages, 5½×8½. Price, \$4.50. Order from Concordia Publishing House, 3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

Here we have another volume constituting a link in that magnificent chain which, when completed, will be a commentary on the whole New Testament by Prof. R. C. H. Lenski, the separate volumes of which are now appearing as fast as is feasible. One does not have to agree with everything that is said in these volumes and to find all peculiarities of style and of exegetical method the acme of what the human mind can achieve in order to give this commentary a hearty general commendation. In the present volume I read with a great deal of satisfaction the exposition of Col. 2:16 f. on the abrogation of the Jewish Ceremonial Law and the section on Antichrist with reference to 2 Thess. 2, where Lenski vigorously champions the old Lutheran view that the prophecy of Paul has found its fulfilment in the Roman papacy. That in Col. 2:18, which admittedly is a difficult passage, he refuses to take the easy road of textual emendation, a cutting of the Gordian knot, too readily resorted to by many modern critics, in this instance even by Westcott and Hort, likewise elicited my approval. I do not agree with the exposition of 2 Thess. 2:13, one of the texts quoted frequently when the doctrine of predestination is presented, although some of Lenski's observations are illuminating. He misunderstands the thought of the apostle when he says: "The idea that, when this choice was made, 'you' were 'unbelievers' is excluded by the ev phrase." His translation of this phrase "in connection with sanctification of spirit and faith in truth" may be admitted to be correct, but such a rendering would not yet justify us in placing the creation of faith, from our human point of view, before election. The great truth is simply brought out that election was not absolute, the mere decision to save us, but included the whole ordo salutis. The passages which a conservative reviewer would like to quote are well-nigh numberless. It is not necessary, however, to insert any of them because by this time Lenski's treatment of exegetical questions and positive tone in disposing of difficulties are well known.

In Christus. Eine Untersuchung zur Sprache und Theologie des Paulus. Bon Werner Schmauch, Lic. theol. Verlag von E. Bertelsmann, Gütersloh. 1935. 197 Seiten 6×9. Preis: RM. 5.80.

Es ist dies ein Werk, das zu den "Neutestamentlichen Forschungen", herausgegeben von Prof. D. Otto Schmit, und zwar zur ersten Reihe, "Paulusstudien", gehört. Der Gegenstand, der hier behandelt wird, ist wichtig für das Berständnis ber Beiligen Schrift. Es gibt wohl feinen aufmertfamen Bibellefer, ber fich nicht icon gefragt hatte: Bas bedeutet eigentlich ber Ausbrud, ber fich fo häufig in ben Schriften Pauli findet: "in Chrifto" oder "in Chrifto 3Cfu"? Die Sache wurde 1892 bon Prof. A. Deigmann jum Gegenstand einer gründlichen Untersuchung ge= macht, worin diefer hervorragende Renner ber paulinischen Schriften gu folgen= dem Resultat tam: "Die bon Paulus unter Benugung eines Profansprach= gebrauches geschaffene Formel ev Xoioto 'Inoov charakterifiert das Berhaltnis des Chriften zu JEsus Christus als ein lotal aufzufassendes Sichbefinden in dem pneumatischen Chriftus. Dieser Gedante, für welchen es in jedem sonftigen Berhältnis des Menichen jum Menichen an einer Analogie böllig fehlt, können wir uns verdeutlichen durch die Analogie der den Wendungen έν πνεύματι und έν τῷ Deo jugrunde liegenden Borftellung des Berweilens in einem der Luft vergleichbaren Bneuma-Elemente." (Bgl. A. Deikmann, "Die neutestamentliche Formel ,in Chrifto 3Cfu'", S. 97 f.) Die Sache wurde bann viel erörtert. In "Lehre und Wehr" erschien 1911 aus der Feder des seligen Prof. W. Mönkemöller ein Artikel über diese Formel, der auch in dem vorliegenden Werk gitiert wird. Unfer Berfaffer gibt junachft einen überblid über bie Arbeiten, die, bon Deiß= manns Buch ausgehend, über diefen Gegenftand gefchrieben wurden. Indem er sodann seine eigene Untersuchung beginnt, unterscheibet er zwischen ben Ausdruden "in Chrifto Besu", "in Chrifto" und "im Herrn" und gewinnt auf exegetischem Wege die Überzeugung, daß wir es hier nicht einfach mit aus ftilistischen Gründen gewählten Synohma zu tun haben, sondern daß jede der drei Formeln ihre besondere Bedeutung hat. S. 158 schreibt er: "Gegenüber der allgemeinen Annahme, daß die berichiedenen Formeln den gleichen Sinn haben und darum aus ftiliftischen Grunden miteinander bertauschbar find, hat fich gezeigt, daß gerade ihre Mannigfaltigkeit nichts anderes ift als der notwendige Ausbruck eines ihnen zugeordneten Sachberhaltes, beffen Dreigliedrigkeit fich in ben Barianten έν Χριστῷ 'Ιησοῦ, έν Χριστῷ und έν κυρίφ ausprägt, mährend die diese in fich vereinigende ,tompleze Formel' ev Χοιστω 'Ιησού τω κυρίω ήμων feine Gangheit reprafentiert." "In Chrifto JEfu" bezeichnet nach unferm Berfaffer "ein göttliches Geschehen, bas unabhängig bon allem gläubigen Leben in ewiger Bollendung gultig gefest ift". (S. 66.) "In Chrifto" hingegen enthalt "das metaphyfifche Pringip der als ,Wirklichkeit' des metaphyfifchen Gefchehens ev Χριστφ 'Ιησού fich barftellenden ,neuen Schöpfung', beren Trager bas apofto= lische ,Wort' ift". (S. 102.) Mit andern Borten, mahrend die Formel "in Chrifto BEsu" fich auf die Erlösung und Berföhnung bezieht, weist die Formel "in Chrifto" hin auf das große Wert Gottes im Menschen, Die Glaubenssetzung. Bon ber Formel "im SErrn" meint schliehlich ber Berfaffer, daß fie "ben Rhrios (HErrn) als Rorm eines durch diese lettere gerichteten Sandelns" bezeichne. (S. 124.) Es wird, wie diese Studie hervorhebt, diese Formel da gebraucht, wo bon Miffionsarbeit die Rede ift.

Die große Frage ist nun, ob man dem Verfasser, indem er diese interessanten Ergebnisse vorlegt, zustimmen kann. Mir persönlich ist es noch nicht gewiß, daß er mit seinen Aufstellungen recht hat. So sehr ich mich über den schönen Sinn freue, den er in den verschiedenen Formeln sindet, und so sehr dieser mit der Theologie des Apostels im allgemeinen stimmt, muß ich doch offen gestehen, daß ich noch nicht überzeugt bin, daß Paulus jeder dieser Formeln eine besondere Beseutung geben wollte. Ich möchte aber das Studium dieses Werts allen, die tieser in die Theologie des heiligen Apostels eindringen möchten, warm empsehlen.

Religion und Politik in der Germanenbekehrung. Von Walter Bätke. Berlag bon Dörffling und Francke, Leipzig. 1937. 46 Seiten. Preis, gebunden: M. 1 (fürs Ausland 25 Prozent niedriger).

Der Verfaffer will die Motive untersuchen, die für die Annahme des Christentums durch die Germanen bestimmend waren. Man hat nicht immer beachtet, fagt er, "daß es fich in dem Rräftespiel der Chriftianisierung um drei Romponenten handelt: politische Mächte, Kirche und Volksreligion". Er streitet gegen die Annahme, daß bei dem übertritt der germanischen Bölker politische Erwägungen entscheidend waren, "die mit der Religion und dem Glauben nichts zu tun hatten, sondern in gewissen Borteilen lagen, die die Annahme des neuen Glaubens mit fich bringen, beziehungsweise in Nachteilen, die das Festhalten am alten Glauben nach fich ziehen würde". Er meint, fo reinlich könne man gar nicht zwischen Politik und Religion scheiden; vielmehr feien Politik und Bolksreligion fo eng miteinander verbunden gewesen (Religion bilbete bie Grundlage bes politischen und bes gangen kulturellen Lebens), bag, wenn heidnische Stämme bon driftlichen Bölfern befiegt murben, fie gang felbstverftandlich mit ihrer poli= tischen Selbständigkeit auch ihre alte Bolksreligion aufgaben und mit ber Berrschaft auch bie Religion ber Sieger annahmen (Sachsen) ober, wenn fie ihren Wohnsit anderten und fich friedlich unter Christen ansiebelten, ebenfalls ihre alte Religion berloren und fich der Religion des Landes anpaßten (Oftgoten, Langobarden, Franken). Selbst wenn man der Ausführung nicht beistimmt (ich selbst möchte mich ohne weiteres Studium nicht fo ober anders entscheiben), so ift ber turge Auffat, ber zuerft in ber "Allgemeinen Eb.=Quth. Rirchenzeitung" erichien, boch intereffant und lefenswert, besonders da gegenwärtige Strömungen in ber firchlichen Welt Deutschlands nähere Untersuchung der Bekehrungsgeschichte der alten Germanen nahelegen. Theo. Hoher

The Small Sects in America. By Elmer T. Clark. The Cokesbury Press. Nashville. 1937. 311 pages, 5½×8½. Price, \$2.00. May be ordered through Concordia Publishing House, 3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

Dr. Clark has rendered the student in Comparative Symbolics a distinct service, for he has carefully studied the pamphlets, tracts, periodicals, educational publications, year-books, and minutes of over 100 small sects, has corresponded with, or personally visited, the headquarters of more than 50. His study throws interesting light on many of the obscure sects. Besides the sects treated in the "Census of Religious Bodies, 1926," and in Popular Symbolics, 1932, he discusses "Father Divine's" Peace Mission (8 pages), several purely local cults, e.g., the communistic group in Florida known as Church Triumphant, or Koreshanity, which teaches that man lives inside a hollow world, Peniel Mission, House of Prayer, a colored group whose emotional religious frenzy manifests itself in "jerks" and resembles the paroxysms of the Kentucky Revival about 1800. The author does not present the religious tenets in a matter-of-fact way, but attempts to explain the rise of these sects economically and particularly psychologically. He explains the unusual popularity of premillenarianism as a "defense mechanism"; i. e., when the poor fail to obtain material blessings through the social processes, they hope that a cosmic cataclysm will ultimately exalt them. Dr. Clark groups the small sects under the following headings: 1. The Pessimistic Group (millenarian); 2. The Perfectionist Sects; 3. The Charismatic Churches of the Holy Roller Type; 4. The Communistic Societies; 5. The Legalistic Sects. Naturally such a division results in much overlapping. The section dealing with the legalistic sects is not entirely satisfactory, partly because contrary to fact the author exempts the larger Reformed bodies from every form of legalism (p. 213), partly because he defines legalism as "an intense devotion to the very word of Holy Writ," and chiefly because legalism is prevalent in each offshoot of Calvinism or Arminianism. We heartily recommend the book because it is replete with factual information, is interestingly written, and is very reliable and objective in the presentation of facts (we have noted only one or two very minor errors, e.g., failure to mention that the Amana Society discontinued the practise of Communism in 1932). A carefully selected bibliography of general works and an extensive list of tracts add greatly to the value F. E. MAYER of the book.

The Art of Living. By Norman Vincent Peale, minister of Marble Collegiate Church, New York City, radio preacher over the N.B.C. in services sponsored by the Federal Council of Churches. The Abingdon Press, New York. 144 pages, 5½×7¾. Price, \$1.00.

The addresses offered in this book come from the pen of a nationally known Methodist minister. (In Brooklyn he rejuvenated a moribund congregation of forty members, which within three years became nine hundred strong and worshiped in a new \$150,000 church-building.) In style and presentation they are attractive and contain helpful ideas. To our happiness-hunting generation the writer endeavors to show how happiness may be obtained through "applied Christianity," or the application of Christian principles to life. To secure happiness, a person must (I) meet himself fully and squarely, (II) banish worry, (III) take time to live, (IV) cultivate ease of mind, (V) understand what happiness is, (VI) escape fear, (VII) know the technique of spiritual power, (VIII) adapt himself to prevailing circumstances, (IX) observe Christ's healing power, (X) and "try God," and in all these things Christianity is directly beneficial. Dr. Peale belongs to the mediating Modernists, who may be called theological one-arm drivers, since they keep one hand on the wheel of orthodox tradition, while with the other they pet Dame Reason, whose charms attract them so very much that most of the time they find themselves off the road. When he speaks theologically, he is generally unorthodox; when he follows common sense, he usually has good advice to give; as for example: "Live a day at a time is sound wisdom" (p. 106). "The patient man is one who is unhurried in his soul and who finds it possible to relax within" (p. 107). "Sin is not a fantasy. Tolstoy and Ibsen, two of the greatest masters of the human spirit in modern times, substantiated the preacher's emphasis on the reality and terror of sin" (p. 143). Biblically unsound passages are such as these: "George Herbert's advice also is good. 'Undress your soul at night,' he says, 'not by self-examination, but by shedding as you do your garment, the daily sins, whether of omission or commission, and you will wake a free man with a new life'" (p. 107). But can a man of his own power daily shed his sins as he does his garment? Scripture

answers, No. "Essentially the function of the Church is that of the General Electric Company - to release power; but the former was content, it seemed, to mumble prayers and recite creeds" (p. 91). Certainly a most unfair statement. After having spoken about the healing power of Christ, he says: "If this power is still operative, - and we see no reason for assuming that it is not, — it would mean that any man today who completely opens himself to the influence of the spiritual Christ would straightaway clear a channel within himself through which this power might flow" (p. 118). This presupposes that Christ was a mere man and differed from other men only in degree, not in kind. In view of the writer's modernistic position even such apparently Christian statements as the following mean nothing: "No man is strong enough to take out of his own life the haunting memory and sting of past misdeeds. There is, however, thank God, a Great Physician who can perform this healing operation. I refer to that Physician of souls who, when He places His hand upon the life of a willing [?] patient, draws out of him with sure skill the dark poison which has infected his mind and soul and destroyed the peace and happiness of life. He has done it for many happy men and women through the years. He can do it for you" (p. 144).

J. THEODORE MUELLER

Sermons on the Apostles' Creed. Edited by Henry J. Kuiper. Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids. 296 pages, $5\frac{1}{4}\times7\frac{3}{4}$. Price, \$2.00. The Faith We Live By. An Exposition of the Apostles' Creed. By Earl L. Douglass. Cokesbury Press, Nashville. 190 pages, $5\times8\frac{1}{2}$. Price, \$1.50.

In a day when many publishers hesitate or refuse to publish books on specific parts of Christian doctrine, with the plea that neither the theological nor the general public will buy such books, the appearance of two distinct volumes on the Apostles' Creed must be regarded as almost a phenomenon. And both of these books are written from the fundamentalist standpoint, at that. Of the twenty-four sermons in the first book by as many different authors the compiler says: "The sermons in this book are an exposition, from the Reformed viewpoint, of the Apostles' Creed, the best-known and most widely used of the ecumenical creeds of Christendom." Needless to remark, the Reformed viewpoint does show in many statements contained in these sermons, as in No. XXI, where the author states: "No, we do not believe that . . . the Sacraments in particular are the channels through which this grace is conveyed to us. That is Roman Catholic doctrine [?], but not Scriptural truth." (P. 262.) On the other hand, the sermons on "Our Faith in the Triune God," "The Virgin Birth of Christ, Our Savior," and others are as beautiful and Scriptural as that on "The Elect Church of Christ Jesus" is beside the mark in many of its statements. In other words, the book throughout presents Reformed theology. - The second book presents a series of sermons by a Presbyterian minister and therefore also has a Calvinistic background, not, however, in the emphatic manner of the former volume. The author wove into his discourses much historical material, which throws considerable light on his presentation. He believes in the atonement through the blood of Christ, and yet he does not understand the

double implication of the substitutionary work of the Savior when he says: "It was not to appease God's anger, but to fulfil God's love, that Christ suffered on the cross." (P. 90 f.) This in spite of the fact that he states on page 124: "The atonement of course was achieved by His death. God and man were reconciled by His dying." As for the remainder of the book, the section on Christ's descent into hell is weak, that on the Church is not clear, and millennialism is brought out on page 130, where the author associates with the final advent of Christ "a wide-spread diffusion of the Gospel, a great change among the Jewish people," etc. Caveat lector!

P. E. Kretzmann

A History of Christian Worship. By Oscar Hardman. Cokesbury Press, Nashville, Tenn. 263 pages, 5½×8. Price, \$2.00. May be ordered through Concordia Publishing House, 3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

Dr. Hardman is professor of Pastoral and Liturgical Theology in the University of London and therefore is well qualified to write a book of this kind. His approach to his task is stated in the preface to his book, where he writes: "Religious exercises alone may indicate religiosity rather than worship. . . . But when a sense of supernatural Presence, however vague in its intellectual definition, finds expression in acts of reverent approach and of dutiful obedience, then there is worship." The book is a brief but satisfactory history of Christian worship from the Apostolic Age to the present time. Some of the information in the form of tables is particularly valuable. We cordially recommend this book to pastors who desire a brief summary of liturgical history.

P. E. KRETZMANN

A Mighty Winner of Souls. By Frank Grenville Beardsley, Ph. D. American Tract Society, New York, N. Y. 192 pages, 5½×7¾. Price, \$1.50.

When the words revival and revivalist are used, we think of such men as Richard Baxter, Jonathan Edwards, John Wesley, Charles Finney, Dwight L. Moody, Reuben A. Torrey, Gipsy Smith, and Billy Sunday. We also think of the revival of the Methodist camp-meetings of former days. The word revival in general usage refers not only to the thing itself but also to the method that is used. On account of the tactics used in many revivals we prefer not to use the word lest we be misunderstood. If by revival, however, we mean the giving of spiritual life to those who are by nature spiritually dead, then we can speak of the revival on the day of Pentecost at Jerusalem, of the revival which took place as the result of the Reformation, and the revival under such men as Louis Harms and others. We may also speak of a revival when we have in mind the intensifying of the spirituality of those Christians whose Christianity does not register very high.

We are not so much concerned about the name as about the thing which it represents. And that demands our attention just at this time when a revival of spiritual awakening is not only needed, but when attempts are being made in that direction not only in sectarian circles (preaching mission) but also in the Lutheran Church, our own church-

body included. When we speak of a revival or a preaching mission or an evangelistic campaign or a missionary forward movement or the Call of the Cross, in the final analysis these terms when used by us speak of the effort made toward a larger expansion of our work, reaching the masses with the Gospel-message. It is for this reason that the reading of such books as that by Beardsley, A Mighty Winner of Souls, referring to the evangelistic efforts of Finney, or Beardsley's History of American Revivals or Shearer's Old-time Revivals will not only prove to be interesting and stimulating but will also warn us against wrong methods used in revivals and against the teaching of doctrines that are not taken from the Bible.

When conducting a so-called evangelistic campaign, we must first of all keep in mind that souls can be saved only by the preaching of the Gospel. The purpose of an evangelistic campaign must not be to attract crowds and hold them spellbound by all manner of antics and by presenting all manner of interesting and startling facts, all of which would also give a wrong impression of the Church and its purpose; nor should the evangelist make the nervous system his target instead of man's conscience. If the doctrine as God has revealed it is not preached, preaching cannot serve its purpose. And, of course, the revivalist should always preserve that dignity in reference to language and manner which his divine message demands.

The story of Finney's life and the evangelist's efforts make interesting reading. Finney was born in 1792 and died in 1875. The biographer gives Finney's wrong view on Christ's work of atonement in the following paragraph: "He dissented from the view that Christ had literally paid the debt of sinners. On the contrary, he affirmed that Christ had died to remove an insurmountable difficulty in the way of God's forgiving sinners, so as to make it possible for Him to proclaim a universal amnesty; the interests of 'public justice' demanded some substitute for the penalties of a broken Law; and since Christ had honored the Law in His obedience and death, it was safe for God to pardon any and all men who would repent of their sins and believe in Him. Christ's death did not cancel sin in the sense of a literal payment of debt, but was a condition to the forgiveness of sin, since it satisfied the demands of 'public justice.'" (Page 40.) Finney also did not believe in the total natural depravity of man. Yet, according to his biographer, he believed that man is a sinner who cannot save himself by his own works but needs Jesus Christ, the Savior.

As an example of Finney's work we are quoting the following paragraph: "Charles P. Bush, who afterwards became an influential minister in New York, but at that time was a student in the Rochester Academy and had united with the Third Presbyterian Church under Mr. Finney's ministry, wrote: "The whole community was stirred. Religion was the topic of conversation in the house, in the shop, in the office, and on the street. . . . The only theater in the city was converted into a livery-stable; the only circus into a soap- and candle-factory. Grog-shops were closed; the Sabbath was honored; the sanctuaries were thronged with happy worshipers; a new impulse was given to every philanthropic enterprise; the fountains of benevolence were opened, and men lived to do good.

"'And it is worthy of special notice that a large number of the leading men of the place were among the converts—the lawyers, the judges, physicians, merchants, bankers, and master mechanics. These classes were more moved from the very first than any other. Tall oaks were bowed as by the blast of the hurricane. Skeptics and scoffers were brought in and a large number of the most promising young men. It is said that no fewer than forty of them entered the ministry.

"'It is not too much to say that the whole character of the city was changed by that revival. Most of the leaders of society being converted and exerting a controlling influence in social life, in business, and in civil affairs, religion was enthroned as it has been in few places. . . . Even the courts and the prisons bore witness in crime. The courts had little to do, and the jail was nearly empty for years afterward.'

"The influence of this revival was felt throughout the length and breadth of the land. The great cities especially were moved. It was estimated that more than fifteen hundred towns and cities were blessed with revivals of religion, and as many more felt the impulse of the movement. During the first five months fifty thousand were converted, and before the movement had spent its force, more than one hundred thousand had been gathered into the churches of the nation." (Pp. 90, 91.)

J. H. C. FRITZ

The Business Administration of a Church. By Robert Cashman. Willett, Clark, and Co., Chicago, Ill. 163 pages, 5½×8. Price, \$1.50. May be ordered through Concordia Publishing House, 3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

Pastors will find this quite a helpful book. One will not always agree with the author, but will be grateful for many a practical suggestion offered by him on such subjects as files and records, advertising and publicity, the sexton, the use of one's time, personal conduct, etc.

Th. Laetsch

Our Glorious Savior. Daily devotions covering the period from January 16 to March 1, 1938. By F. J. Lankenau. Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo. 1938. 61 pages. Price: 5 cts. per copy, postpaid; dozen, 48 cts., and postage; 100, \$3.00, postage extra.

Besides the fact that this little devotional book for the Epiphany season is well worth spreading for its own sake, there is an additional reason, the publishers say, why this pamphlet should be distributed widely: It prepares the way for, and introduces, the Lenten season. May it find a larger market even than its predecessors!

Proceedings of the Thirty-second Convention of the California and Nevada District. 1936. Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo. 1937. 20 pages. Price, 18 cts.

This report contains the record of the business transacted by this convention.

THEO, HOYER

BOOKS RECEIVED

From the Judson Press, Philadelphia:

More World Stories Retold. Two hundred stories for retelling and dramatization. By William James Sly. 297 pages, 5×7½. Price, \$2.00.

From the Abingdon Press, New York, Cincinnati, Chicago:

Meditations. Suggested by Biblical and other poetry. By Laura H. Wild. 150 pages, $4\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{3}{4}$. Price, \$1.00.

From Harper & Brothers, New York and London:

Ninety-Nine Sermons for Children. A source-book of suggestion. By Rev. G. B. F. Hallock, M. A., D. D. 119 pages, 5×8 . Price, \$1.00.

The Red Stocking and Other Christmas Stories. By Margaret W. Eggleston. 153 pages, $5\times7\frac{1}{2}$. Price, \$1.50.

From Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, Mich.:

Dreams Come True. By G. L. Wind. 161 pages, $5\times7\frac{1}{2}$. Price, \$1.00. Practical Christian Living. Choice Thoughts for Daily Meditation. Compiled by Zelma Argue. 32 pages, $5\frac{1}{4}\times7\frac{1}{2}$. Price, 25 cts.

Flowers of the New Life. Meditations on the Love of the Savior. By Edwin Raymond Anderson. 73 pages, $5\frac{1}{4} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$. Price, 35 cts.

My Human Best, Filled with the Spirit. (Quiet Hour Series.) By Richard Ellsworth Day. 94 pages. Price, 35 cts.

From the Warner Press, Anderson, Ind.:

A Call to Prayer. By Vivian Ahrendt. 159 pages. Price, \$1.00.

From Ernst Kaufmann, Chicago, Ill.:

Lutheran Elementary Schools. A catalog presenting the history, purpose, status, and the program of the Lutheran schools within the Northern Illinois District. By Paul T. Buszin and Alfred Schmieding, Editorial Committee. 48 pages, $5\frac{3}{4} \times 7\frac{3}{4}$. Price, 15 cts.

From W. A. Wilde Company, Boston, Mass.:

The Christian Gentleman. By William H. Ridgway. 143 pages, $5\times7\frac{1}{2}$. Price, \$1.25.

From Fleming H. Revell Co., New York, London, Edinburgh:

Cut from the Loaf. Expositions and meditations from the writings of James M. Gray, D. D., LL. D. Compiled and edited by William Marion Runyan. Introduction by Will H. Houghton, D. D. 182 pages, $5\times7\frac{1}{2}$. Price, \$1.50.

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