

THEOLOGICAL QUARTERLY.

VOL. XXIV.

JANUARY, 1920.

No. 1.

The Ministerial Office a Divine Office:

The highest order or state of a man is that of a Christian. Christians, though, like other men, by nature sinners, are saints in the sight of God, being sanctified through the blood of Jesus Christ. They are children of God, kings and priests, as they are one with Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, His King and Priest. There is within this state of Christianity no higher order, no higher or lower grade of holiness and sanctity, no Christian more a child of God, more a saint, a king, or a priest than others, but all alike participants of these divine privileges. As we read Gal. 3, 26. 28: "Ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female; for ye are all one in Christ Jesus." And as to our relation to one another, the Lord says: "One is your Master, even Christ, and all ye are brethren." This being so, it must be maintained that pastors, or ministers, who are intrusted with the ministerial office, are of no higher order in the Church than the other members, called laymen. Their office does not invest them with such a priority. To grant it to them would be a violation of the words of the Master: "All ye are brethren." It would lead to the pernicious practise of the Roman Church to consider priests and bishops as having dominion over the faith of the Christians, and being mediators between God and the people.

All this, however, does not justify any one in thinking mean of, or disregarding, the *work* of the servants of the Church. It would be wrong indeed to overestimate the persons

BOOK REVIEW.

Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo., has issued the following publications:—

1. *CONCORDIA SCHOOL BIBLE*. \$2.10 and \$3.60.

All the requirements of a good school Bible are here met: clear, legible print, good paper, durable, yet not unattractive binding (black imitation leather with sprinkled edges and round covers, and limp leather with red under gold edges) and, last not least, a reasonable price.

2. *LUTHERAN PIONEERS. I. Our Pilgrim Fathers. II. The Bavarian Settlements of the Saginaw Valley.* 23 and 24 pages, resp. Illustrated. 17 cts. each. (Published also in a German edition: *Lutherische Pioniere. I. Unsere Pilgerväter. II. Die Frankenkolonie des Saginawtales.*)

Professor Graebner has written these beautiful juveniles, in which he tells, with affectionate interest, tales from our synodical history that take us back nearly a hundred years, and make the boys and girls of the Missouri Synod know their religious forefathers better and love them more than they could without these books. They are a delight to the eye, a repast to the mind, and a blessing to the heart.

3. *LUTHERAN ANNUAL 1920* and *Amerikanischer Kalender fuer deutsche Lutheraner auf das Jahr 1920.* 15 cts. each.

These old friends and companions through the year require no introduction.

4. *CONCORDIA PUBLISHING HOUSE CATALOG 1919—1920.* 512 pages.

This bulky book-list reveals the steady growth of our publication concern, and gives the reader a view of the varied and excellent trading possibilities which he has at this house.

The American Lutheran Publicity Bureau announces the following tracts:—

1. *HANDS OFF!* By *Arthur Brunn*. \$1.25 per 100.
2. *FAMILY WORSHIP.* By *L. Buchheimer*. 60 cts. per 100.
3. *WOMAN'S WORK IN THE CHURCH.* By *F. W. Herzberger*. 75 cts. per 100.

THE CHRISTMAS SONG BOOK, containing seventy of the best Christmas-songs (with music). Compiled and edited by *Adolf T. Hanser*. Second, enlarged edition. The Sotarion Publishing Co., Buffalo, N. Y. 64 pages; 25 cts. Order from Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.

Dressed in cheerful Christmas-garb, well printed on good paper, and phenomenally cheap, this unique collection deserves the attention

of all Christian schools and homes. It is not only the best, but the only one of its kind that we know. The editor has displayed good taste and good judgment. — From the same author and publisher there has come to us a well-graded system of *Sunday-school Lessons*, which is of great merit because of the pedagogical skill which the editing reveals, and the successful merging of Bible History and Catechism material into each lesson.

The minority men of the old Norwegian Synod have published a second edition of *Hvad Gjaelder Det?* in which the position which they have taken reluctantly and with much sincere grief over and against the majority is ably defended. The positions maintained in this document formed the basis of the report of the Committee on Relation with the Norwegian Synod submitted to the Synodical Conference at its convention in Toledo in 1916.

These brethren have meanwhile organized themselves into an independent church-body, and have published their first synodical report: "*Beretning om Synødemoedet holdt i Vor Frelasers menighed Albert Lea, Mimm., past. Emil Hansens Kald, fra 29de mai til 4de juni.*" It also publishes an official organ, *Evangelisk Luthersk Tidende* (issued weekly at \$1 per annum) and a Norwegian almanac, *Folke-Kalender*. A laudable zeal for the traditional position of the old Norwegian Synod, and a clear conception of aims and responsibilities under the stress and in spite of unfavorable conditions confronting them at present, marks the work of this little band. Their publications can be obtained at the address of Rev. H. A. Preuss, 5916 Rice St., Chicago, Ill.

DIE STAATLICHEN UMWÄELZUNGEN DER GEGENWART IM LICHT DES WORTES GOTTES. Von H. Eikmeier. Zwickau, Sachsen. Verlag des Schriftenvereins. 24 pages. M 1.

This is a valuable review, from the Christian view-point, of the political transformation of Germany, which will go far towards reconciling Christian Germans abroad with what has happened in their former home country.

1. *THE HOUSE OF ENCHANTMENT.* By Margarete Lenk. 134 pages. 30 cts.
2. *THE WINNING OF WILLIE.* By the same author. 125 pages. 30 cts.
3. *IN THE SHADOW OF HIS WINGS.* With 32 illustrations. 31 pages. 20 cts.
4. *IMMANUEL — GOD WITH US.* Christmas Program for Sunday-schools. Edited by Rev. E. C. Bloomquist. 32 pages. 10 cts.

All the above publications of the Augustana Book Concern at Rock Island, Ill., are of merit. The first two are by an author well known in our circles.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH CONVENTION OF THE GENERAL SYNOD. Adjourned Session, held in New York City, Nov. 12—14 and 18, 1918.

NEW GOSPEL SELECTIONS. Made Ready for Pulpit Work. By R. C. H. Lenski. Texts for the entire church-year from the four Gospels and the Acts. VII and 1204 pages. Lutheran Book Concern, Columbus, O. \$4.00. Order from Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.

The arrangement of the material in this book is such that the sermon-builder is guided by a rational and very helpful method in his homiletical tasks, and learns, not only to construct a sermon, but to build himself up in homiletic ability and efficiency. Sixty-two texts are treated in the following manner: First, there is a textual study on the basis of the Greek original, which aims chiefly at a full grammatical understanding of the passage treated, and lifts into prominence the doctrinal material contained in it, thus foreshadowing the various *porismata* that can be logically drawn from the material in hand. Copious and pertinent references to Robinson's grammar and scarcely any allusion to the actual findings of exegetes show that the author desires his readers to work by means of principles rather than by means of appeals to authorities — a sound and commendable feature! Next, there follows a complete sermon, a sort of *ad oculos* demonstration how a finished homiletic product can be made to grow out of the previous study of the text. It is built up on the approved lines of the old school: introduction, theme, parts and peroration. Finally, a number of brief outlines (themes and parts) are given, prefaced by a concise statement that indicates the reasons for these outlines. To show by actual example how the author's scheme works out in a given instance, we quote the material for the Second Sunday in Epiphany. The text is John 7, 40—53. The sermon discusses this subject: The Voice of Human Authority: "Have Any of the Rulers or of the Pharisees Believed on Him?" I. Beyond question this authority *convincing many* (convinces? — Ed.). II. But the voice of human authority *stands contradicted*. Its false assertions are revealed as false, its authority unmasked as bogus, sham, a plain usurpation. III. Without question or hesitation the voice of human authority in religion *must be set aside*, both when it comes unsupported by Scripture, and when it comes with its perversions of Scripture, and in place of it we must set the true authority of God and His Word and bow to that alone. The brief outlines suggest the following subjects to be treated from this text: A. The Reception Jesus Found among Men. 1. Some hated and rejected Him completely. 2. Some had and retained wrong opinions about Him. 3. Some were being drawn nearer and nearer to Him. 4. Some believed and followed Him. B. The Debate about Jesus. 1. Out in the Temple-courts among the people. 2. In the assembly hall of the Jewish rulers. C. Where Do You Belong? 1. You surely do not want to be counted with His enemies! Look at what they are like. 2. You ought never to be satisfied merely to be one of His friends. (John 15, 14? — Ed.) See what they still lack. 3. Be one of His

true believers and followers! That is blessedness indeed. D. There was a Division because of Him. 1. There always will be. 2. Where will you stand?—As to the quality of the material offered in this book (though it has been impossible to examine this bulky volume minutely), it is good, sound teaching that is here offered in clear, chaste language, and with pointed and impressive applications.

A BOOK ABOUT THE ENGLISH BIBLE. By *Josiah H. Penniman, Ph. D., LL. D.* IX and 444 pages. The Macmillan Co. \$2.25.

Lectures delivered by the author to students in the University of Pennsylvania grew into this book, which relates the literary history of the English Bible, discusses the poetic forms, the uses of imagery and allusion in the Bible, summarizes its various books, and in the six concluding chapters gives the main facts concerning the English Bible from Wyclif down to the Revised Version. As the author's interest is exclusively of the literary kind, apocrypha and pseud-epigrapha are drawn upon for comparison and illustration, and the externals of Bible narrative and account are dwelt on. To its miraculous origin by inspiration and its exclusive mission to teach men the way of salvation, there are here no references.

THE BOOK OF FREE MEN. The Origin and History of the Scriptures and their Relation to Modern Liberty. By *Julius F. Seebach.* 235 pages. George H. Doran Co. \$1.25.

This lively presentation in a genial arrangement of materials and collocation of facts deals principally with the evolution of the Canon of the Scriptures and the fate of the Bible in the succeeding eras of the history of the Church. It is shot through from beginning to end with appreciation of Luther's work in behalf of the Bible, and is, in fact, intended as a contribution to the quadricentennial literature that is still growing around the late anniversary of the Reformation.

A GENTLE CYNIC. Being a translation of the Book of Koheleth, commonly known as Ecclesiastes, stripped of later additions, also its origin, growth, and interpretation. By *Morris Jastrow, Jr., Ph. D., LL. D.* 255 pages. \$2.00.

Working with Astruc's theory (that the Pentateuch is a compilation from several distinct sources) which underlies all modern criticism of the Bible, and appealing to discussion regarding the canonicity of Ecclesiastes which the Talmud records as having taken place between the schools of Shammai and Hillel, the author in a fascinating manner and pleasing style popularizes the results of modern historical and literary criticism of the Bible as applied to this part of the Old Testament Hagiographa. "Koheleth" is to him a *nom de plume*, and the Koheleth of our Hebrew codex is not the original product, which was the work of a skeptic who still believed in the existence of God and in His government of the world, but had renounced all hope of

understanding His ways, and hence counsels men to make the best of whatever happens, and not miss the little chance for happiness offered them in the present life, however, without advocating licentiousness. The teachings of this original Koheleth were neutralized by additions which the orthodox party of the Jewish Church before the days of Jesus ben Sira made. On pp. 79—86 the author announces the criteria which have guided him in separating the original components of the book of Koheleth from the elements subsequently added, and gives us samples of his method of discovering the heterogeneous elements: "The general criterion is the manifest *inconsistency* of the utterances of Koheleth with the pious reflections that were added whenever Koheleth gave voice to some particularly striking or shocking sentiment." "For the other class of insertions, enlarging upon the aspects and qualities of wisdom, and in other ways elaborating and modifying Koheleth's reasonings and conclusions, the test is to be found chiefly in the *interruption* of the contest or of the argument, and secondly, in the *form* of the maxims and sayings, which marks them off sharply from the original text." The author's illustrations of how he has discovered these inconsistencies and interruptions are not convincing, nor is the view which he propounds pp. 87 ff. why the heretical Koheleth was not suppressed, but carefully edited and admitted into the sacred canon. The book will be of interest to our readers only as an illustration of the workings and workmanship of Higher Criticism.

1. *AM WEGSAUM*. Ein Jahrbuch fuer das deutsche Haus, herausgegeben von *Paul Blau*. II. Jahrgang. 213 pages. M. 4.80.
2. *UNSERE KIRCHE*. Tatbeweise ihres Lebens. Von *Dr. Martin Hennig*. 96 pages. M. 2.
3. *STEHEN WIR IN DEN LETZTEN ZEITEN?* Von *P. Karl Reimers*. 72 pages. M. 2.
4. *BIRGER LOEWINGS ZWEITE EHE*. Erzaehlung von *Runa*. (E. Beskow.) 172 pages. M. 4.80.
5. *SIF BENTICKS PRUEFUNG*. By the same author. 300 pages. M. 6.80.
6. *DIE GOLDENE HOCHZEIT*. Ihren kleinen Freunden erzahlt von *Eva Gaehgens*. Mit Illustrationen von *Elisabeth Voigt*. 171 pages. M. 4.80.
7. *HANS VANLOOR*. Roman von *Ella Boeckh-Arnold*. 243 pages. M. 6.80.
8. *AUFRECHTE LEUTE*. Eine Geschichte aus den Tagen der Vaeter. Von *August Bomhard*. 189 pages. M. 5.50.
9. *WAS SOLLEN WIR SPIELEN?* 450 der beliebtesten Jugend-, Turn- und Volksspiele fuer Schule, Haus, Vereine und Gesellschaftskreise.. Von *A. Schlipkoeter*. 277 pages. M. 3.60.

10. *ALLERLEI KURZWEIL IM HAUSE*. 875 Raetsel, Scherzfragen, Rechenaufgaben, Kunststuecke, Gesellschaftsspiele und anderes mehr. By the same author. 176 pages. M. 2.80.
11. *DIE KINDERSTUBE IN BILDERN VON O. PLETSCH*. In Holz geschnitten von August Gaber. 6. Auflage. 40 pages. M. 4.80.

All the above publications are issued by the well-known Agentur des Rauben Hauses at Hamburg. Nos. 4 to 8 are clean novels with a Christian background; the first two of these are translations from the Swedish. Works by this author were noted by us before the war. No. 6 is a juvenile book, depicting genuine German home-life. No. 7 depicts social and religious conditions among the cultured classes of former Germany. No. 8 elicits our pathetic interest. The author is the son of the well-known Pfarrer Friedrich Bomhard, who served as hospital pastor in France and Roumania during the late war, and on his return to his parish in Lower Bavaria fell a victim to the influenza epidemic, while attending the stricken in his parish. His narrative has historical value: it depicts the inroads which Calvinism made in Lutheran territories in the age of the Form of Concord. Nos. 9 and 10 are very usable collections made by a teacher; and No. 11 needs no introduction, as it has long been a juvenile classic.

Our chief interest naturally belongs to the first three publications. Blau's year-books are beginning their second decade. The present volume reveals the gloom of crushed Germany. Says the *Vorwort*: "Wir stehen tief erschuettert auf den Truemern des alten Deutschland. Und war es uns frueher ein Stolz, uns deutsch zu nennen und deutsch zu fuehlen, heute sind wir zum Spott in der Welt geworden, und man zeigt mit Fingern auf uns. Deutsch sein heisst heute den Hass und die Schmach einer ganzen Welt tragen — und ohnmuechtig tragen muessen." In his article "Deutsche Zukunft" the editor says: "Ist es nicht ein Hohn, von deutscher Zukunft zu reden? Gibt es doch nicht einmal eine deutsche Gegenwart! Denn was wir heute um uns sich abspielen sehen, mag es auch auf deutscher Erde vor sich gehen, hat doch mit dem Deutschtum selbst nichts zu tun; es ist russischer Bolschewismus und internationaler Sozialismus, der eben-sogut in jedem andern Lande seine traurigen Verwuestungen anrichten kann — angerichtet hat und anrichten wird. Aber von deutscher Art und deutscher Seele ist nichts zu spueren. Und was uns an sogenanntem deutschen Leben noch uebriggeblieben ist, ist ja kein Leben, sondern nur ein kuemmerliches, trostloses Vegetieren. Wie aber kann eine Zukunft hoffen, was nicht einmal eine Gegenwart hat? Es ist nur zu gut zu verstehen, wenn bei dieser Lage der Dinge die einen jener jammervollen Gleichgueltigkeit verfallen, der schliesslich alles recht ist, Freiheit oder Sklaverei, Vaterland oder Fremde, wenn sie nur wenigstens ihr taeglich Brot hat, und die andern in dumpfer Verzweiflung alles verloren geben und von ihr gelachmt die Haende tatenlos in den Schoss legen, um alles ueber sich und ihr armes Volk ergehen zu lassen — wehrlos, machtlos, trostlos." Still this volume is devoted to plans for reconstructing German life on a religious basis. We question the solidity of what is suggested as

a basis; there is still too much room left for German intellectualism and "Sittlichkeit." Germany will have to reinspect old religious ideals of four hundred years ago, which it has abandoned, before it can hope for a reconstruction that is worth while. (By the way, the American engineer whom the editor quotes as saying: "Is it cheap and makes it money?" did not speak English.) — The article "Der Traum des Pfarrers" by Dietrich Vorwerk is a pastoral sketch of the German Revolution of 1918, full of gripping episodes. — The article by D. Reinhard Mumm, "Die Arbeiterschaft im neuen Deutschland," is virtually an indictment of the Social Democratic Party, and a plea for the organization of "Evangelical working men's clubs." — Johann Koch's contribution, "Alte Volkswesen in unsern Gesangsbuechern," will interest liturgists. — No. 2 is by the Director of the Rauhe Haus, who signalized himself as a happy writer on the theme chosen for this treatise by his larger work "Unserer Kirche Herrlichkeit." The present publication relates chiefly incidents from what the Germans call "Inner Mission." — No. 3 is a sober study of the signs of the times foreboding the Second Advent. The author is inclined to affirm the question stated in the title of his book, with the wise caution, however, that beyond the "I come soon" nothing can be determined regarding the Return of the Lord.

1. *AHMEDNAGAR UND GOLCONDA*. Ein Beitrag zur Eroerterung der Missionsprobleme des Weltkrieges. Von A. Oepke, Pastor, theol. Lehrer am Missionsseminar in Leipzig. Leipzig: Doerffling & Franke. 160 pages; paper. M. 6.50.
2. *JAHRESBERICHT DER EV.-LUTH. MISSION ZU LEIPZIG UEBER DAS JAHR 1918*. 84 pages.

These two publications, which are backed by the official authority of the Leipzig Mission, recount, on the basis of much documentary evidence, the treatment accorded the German missionaries and their families in India and Africa during the late war, and plead for belated justice. The accounts here submitted bear the stamp of candor, and it does not appear possible that the impression which they must make on Christian readers will be changed by the explanation of its war-measures against the missionaries which the British Government has promised. "Most Christian England" cannot afford to let these reports go unanswered. Systematic lying and fanaticism that covered spite and envy with the false dress of intense loyalty and patriotism, seem to have been rampant in India, as they were rampant wherever British influence was dominant in any part of the world. "Wenn dereinst die Verblendung aufhoert," says Dr. Oepke, "wird eine grosse Scham ueber sie kommen." — However, it is not only past wrongs that are paraded in these publications, but there is here a momentous discussion of the future fate of Christian missions in pagan countries, and the awful responsibilities which the virtual destruction of these missions has entailed on the destroyers.