

Notes and News

IN JUNE this year a Congress of the European Baptist Federation will meet in Brighton. To mark the occasion this issue of the *Quarterly* is mostly about Baptists in their European setting. The EBF was founded in 1949, for fellowship, mission and relief work. It now consists of twenty-seven bodies with a total of about one and a half million church members. It encompasses the European Baptist Women's Union, the EBF Youth Committee and various groups of laymen. The Federation's day-to-day programme is carried out through committees which are active in such fields as education, broadcasting, migration, reconciliation between the nations and, above all, evangelism. Readers of the *Quarterly* will join in wishing the Congress and the Federation every success.

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The Rev. C. Sidney Hall has offered a correction to the oft-repeated statement that Caleb Evans (1737-91), the son of Hugh Evans, was the first student to be aided by Dr. John Ward's Trust. In E. J. Tongue's series of articles on the Trust in the *Baptist Quarterly*, Vols. 13-14 (1950-51), it is assumed that this Caleb Evans is the one referred to in the Trust's first account book, but the dates will not fit.

(i) The Ward Trust scholar was sent to study under Dr. John Walker in London in about September 1759. He was sent to King's College, Aberdeen, at Michaelmas 1761. Payments were made for him there in 1762 and 1764 (*B.Q.*, Vol. 13, p. 225).

(ii) According to the Isaac James MSS. at Broadmead Baptist Church, Caleb Evans of Unicorn Yard, Horsley Down accepted the call from Broadmead to assist his father there on 25th March 1759. It is also known that Caleb Evans preached the second sermon at the Western Association in Exeter in 1761. He wrote the letter for the 1762 Association at Pithay, Bristol, and preached the second sermon in 1763 at Tiverton.

Mr. Hall suggests that the explanation for these apparently conflicting statements lies in the fact that Hugh Evans brought up his nephew Caleb (son of his elder brother Thomas, who died in 1748) as well as his own son Caleb. The Caleb Evans who was the first Ward Scholar was son to Thomas Evans, although his address was the Broadmead minister's house. The Joshua Thomas MSS. make it clear that it was this Caleb whom Hugh Evans sent to Aberdeen University; afterwards he became a pastor at Charlestown, South Carolina, and he died in 1772.

Readers may care to be reminded that the Baptist Historical Society published in April last year a "history pack" prepared by Faith Bowers, entitled "Who are the Baptists?" (price £1.50 post free; available from the Rev. T. S. H. Elwyn, 148 Greenvale Road, Eltham, London SE9 1PQ). The first printing of 1,000 copies sold out very quickly but a reprint is now available. The "pack" reproduces contemporary documents illustrating the story of the denomination and is accompanied by an outline history. All who are concerned with church and social history will enjoy it and learn much from it, and it is particularly useful for young people doing educational projects.

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The Bristol Baptist College is publishing this year *Education for Ministry: Bristol Baptist College, 1679-1979*, by Norman Moon. It describes the life of the College through three centuries and gives an account not only of the Principals, Tutors and other leading personalities but also of a number of former students. (Price £3.00 plus postage, obtainable from the College Librarian.)

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Thomas Crosby's *History of the English Baptists (1738-40)* has a mixed reputation. The General Baptist historian Adam Taylor summed it up nicely: "Notwithstanding the inelegance of his style, the perplexity of his arrangement, and the inaccuracy of some of his statements, his volumes will always be valuable as a depository of facts and documents". It is good to know that this pioneer work has been reprinted. The publisher is Church History Research and Archives, Route 4, Box 38, Lafayette, Tennessee, U.S.A. The original four volumes are bound in two, and each set costs 35 dollars.