

NOTES ON NEW BOOKS.

FORTY-FIVE *Talks for Bible Classes* (S.P.C.K., 3s. 6d. net) is a collection of lessons by Mr. P. C. Sands, M.A., Headmaster of Rocklington School. Their special aim is to provide useful material for young people in their teens, and to present fundamental subjects in a fresh way, "fresh in matter, fresh in their allowance for the questioning that arises in young people's minds, and fresh in linking up religion with the social questions of the day and modern developments." A useful "Word on Method" is prefixed in which emphasis is laid on letting the class do something for themselves, and on the importance of beginning a lesson in a striking or interesting way. The Bishop of Ely contributes an appreciative Foreword. In the seven courses of the series there is immense variety, and use is made of a wide range of illustration. The Great Days of the Church are considered in relation to modern questions. Five Addresses on Prayer illustrate the fundamental conditions of praying privately and publicly. Lessons on Great Men include John the Baptist, St. Paul, William Booth, Dr. Barnardo. A special section is devoted to the work of Robert Moffatt. Great Mottoes is the heading of another section, while further variety is provided by the consideration of "Other Great Matters" such as Heaven, Suffering, Service, Reverence, The Countryside, The Diocese. An expert teacher dealing with such varied topics could not fail to set out useful suggestions, and leaders of Senior Bible Classes will profit by the perusal of these interesting outlines.

The Rev. A. F. Thornhill, M.A., the author of *Family Prayers*, one of the most useful collection of prayers for its special purpose, has written another book, *Method in Your Prayers* (Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 2s. 6d. net), which will, we are sure, meet with a very warm welcome. It is just the kind of book which the clergy would like to give to the more thoughtful of their Confirmation candidates. It begins with practical advice, especially in regard to the use of the Bible and Prayer Book. Brief chapters answer the important questions: "What do we mean by Praying?", "What do we mean by God?" and "How shall we begin?" Then follow two chapters on Communion with God, based mainly on the Lord's Prayer and illustrating the wealth of suggestion to be obtained from it. Chapters on Thanksgiving and Intercession pay due attention to these important elements in the prayer life, and give useful illustrations of method. A chapter on the Holy Spirit finds an appropriate place, and the book closes with "A Few Thoughts on Holy Communion."

Apolo, The Pathfinder—Who follows? is a short account by the Rev. A. B. Lloyd, the former Archdeacon of Uganda, who returned to carry on the work of Canon Apolo in the Pygmy Forest of Central

Africa, after the death of that great missionary in 1933. Although well past the age for pioneer work, and in charge of a living in Somerset, he did not hesitate to resign it and to return to the heart of Africa, in order that there might be no break in the work, and he remained until two volunteers came forward to undertake the mission. Mr. Lloyd gives a most interesting account of his experiences and gives vivid pictures of some of the scenes in the life of the remote people whom he visited. We heartily recommend this book as a stimulating record of successful missionary work. The publishers are C.M.S. and the price 1s.

The Scripture Lesson in the Infant School and Kindergarten, by K. M. Kinder, M.A. (S.C.M., 2s. net.), is a book that can be used with caution by those concerned with the teaching of infants. A deep understanding of child-psychology is manifest throughout its pages, and those who are responsible for framing a syllabus of religious teaching will find many useful suggestions. Unfortunately, we cannot escape the feeling that the book is a surer guide in the realms of psychology and methods of teaching than in the realm of theology. There is much in these pages that will cause Evangelical Churchmen grave misgivings, especially in the Chapter on "School Worship." It is, for example, assumed (p. 96) that no difference will exist between the modes of worship used in Council Schools and those used in Church Schools, except that in the latter "the Creed, the Sanctus, the Gloria, and the Ave" may be added. That young children should be taught the "Ave" at all will appear objectionable; but when it is placed side by side with the Creed as an item of "Church" teaching we may justly complain not only of ignorance of the true position of the Church of England, but also of an entire lack of proportion, that the basic doctrines of Christianity should be placed on a par with a Romish Devotion.

No review of this volume is complete without mention of an extraordinarily interesting appendix from the pen of E. Bosward describing an experiment in Class worship taken by children in a Council School at Brighton.

The Way into the Kingdom, or "Thoughts on the Beatitudes," by J. D. Jones, D.D., C.H. (Allenson & Co., 3s. 6d. net), are the reflections of a great preacher on the characteristics of the citizens of the Kingdom of Christ as they are set out by our Lord at the beginning of the Sermon on the Mount. The whole series of Addresses are striking in the originality of their interpretation, in the clearness of their thought and in the wide range of their application. Useful and suggestive lessons are conveyed on many aspects of the Christian life. Preachers who are contemplating a practical course of Addresses on an interesting subject will do well to consult Dr. Jones's treatment of the Beatitudes.

CHURCH BOOK ROOM NOTES.

DEAN WACE HOUSE, WINE OFFICE COURT,
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Important Notice.—The particular attention of members of the League is drawn to the importance of supporting the Book Room, which would not only strengthen our cause by the dissemination of sound and wholesome literature, but would also be a financial support and strength to the League. To facilitate this and in order to induce *members* to buy ALL their books through the Book Room it has been decided to supply them with books *post free* in future, and also to provide business reply post free postcards for orders so that books can be supplied by return of post at the *published price* without *any* extra expense whatever.

National Church Almanack.—The Almanack for 1936 is in preparation and will be ready early in October, in time for the Church Congress. It is issued at *2d.*, and we should be glad to receive advance orders and to have inquiries as to special rates for distribution. The Almanack contains the full Table of Lessons and Old and Revised Lectionaries. The introductory matter contains notes on Church matters and is specially useful to members of Parochial Church Councils. Members of the League are specially asked to make use of this Almanack and circulate it as widely as possible. The illustrations this year are of Exeter Cathedral and have been specially taken by the compiler.

Church Congress.—The League has arranged for a large stall at the Church Congress Exhibition to be held in the Winter Gardens at Bournemouth during the Congress Week (October 5–12). Members of the League are invited to visit the stall (in Block F) and to mention it to their friends. The publications of the League will be on sale, and special mention may be made of Sunday School Lesson Books and material, Confirmation manuals, and leaflets, and Devotional literature, of which a large selection of those specially recommended will be on sale.

Church and State.—The following pamphlets are recommended for study: *The Nation and the Nation's Worship*, by the Bishop of Norwich (*1s.*); *The Christian Church and the Christian State*, by Mr. Robert Stokes, Foreword by Sir Thomas Inskip (*6d.*); *The Christian State*: Articles reprinted from *The Times*, with a Preface by Sir Lewis Dibdin, D.C.L. (*6d.*).

Sunday Schools.—Arrangements have been made for the publication of a series of six pamphlets relating to teaching in Sunday Schools, price *2d.* each or *1s. 6d.* a dozen. The first of these pamphlets is now ready: (1) *Sunday Schools and their Management*, by Mr. W. G. Lambert; (2) *The Preparation of a Lesson*, by the Rev. Guy H. King; (3) *Thy Servants are Ready*: Hints to teachers particularly on the use of illustrations and stories, by Miss Dorothy M. Graves. Miss Graves's excellent little manual, *Boys Together* (*1s.*), should also be noted as of great value in presenting the Bible story.

The Sunday School Registers which were especially prepared for the Church Book Room last year with a special form for opening and closing the school, were in great demand, and the supply was very quickly sold out.

For the coming year, we are arranging for the publication of a larger number of Registers. The forms for opening and closing the school have been carefully revised in view of criticisms we have received, and it is hoped that the new Registers will have as large a sale as before. The particulars and prices are as follows: *For Morning and Afternoon Attendances*: No. I, 18 lines, 4½d. each; No. II, 22 lines, 6d. each; No. III, 40 lines, 8d. each. *For Marking Single Attendances*: No. 13, 18 lines, 4½d. each; No. 14, 26 lines, 6d. each. (These are dated from Advent Sunday to the end of Trinity.) The undated Registers are still obtainable at the same prices.

Confirmation Register.—Owing to several communications on this matter the Church Book Room has published a Confirmation Register, as so many of those in existence do not contain sufficient room for the necessary particulars. This, we hope, has been rectified by the new Register which is now on sale. The size is 8 inches by 12 inches, and the price 5s. for 500 names and 7s. 6d. for 1,000 names.

Collecting-Boxes.—It may interest our readers to know that the Book Room now stocks collapsible cardboard collecting-boxes in a convenient form for Freewill and other offerings. These can be despatched for 4s. per 100, post free. Prices for quantities can be had on application, and if any special printing is needed this can be done on payment of a small charge which depends on the extent of the printing required.

Litton's "Dogmatic Theology."—A remainder of the third edition of the Rev. E. A. Litton's *Introduction to Dogmatic Theology* has been purchased by the Book Room and is on sale at 3s. per copy. This edition was originally published at 10s. 6d. It has an introduction by Dean Wace and was edited by the late Rev. H. G. Grey, Principal of Wycliffe Hall. At the present moment the circulation of this book would be a great service. It contains sections on Christian Theism; Man Before and After the Fall; The Person and Work of Christ; The Order of Salvation; The Communion of Saints; The Intermediate State and The Second Advent. Canon A. J. Tait, late Principal of Ridley Hall, states in a short introduction that "it would sound impertinent in the ears of those who know anything about Litton and his writings to say that the book is the product of ripe scholarship; but there is another merit, and that is, that the work is true to its name; it is a treatise on dogmatic theology; it is free from the limitations to which commentaries on the Thirty-nine Articles are necessarily subject; it is a comprehensive, balanced, thorough treatment of dogmatic theology from the standpoint of a loyal son of the Church of England."

Reunion.—Canon C. H. K. Boughton's valuable book, *The Meaning of Holy Baptism*, which was published a few years ago and is now on sale at 1s., will be found of considerable service now that the question of Reunion is occupying so much thought in the Church. The book is really a contribution to the discussion which arose in regard to the First Interim Report of the Faith and Order Sub-Committee in which the members agreed that Our Lord ordained the two Sacraments, but felt that difficulties regarding them required further "study and discussion." Canon Boughton sets forth, with constant reference to Scripture and with much clearness, freshness and skill, the prevailing Evangelical view of Baptism and Regeneration. The book is admirably written and is suitable, not only for the reading of students, but for parents and Churchpeople generally.