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CHURCH BOOK ROOM NOTES.

82 VICTORIA STREET, S.W.1.

THE Late Canon A. M. W. Christopher and " J. C. S.," the author of the *Anglo-Catholic Principles Vindicated*, published in 1908 the first edition of *Quousque? Whereunto are we Drifting?* A second edition was issued a year later, and with a view to sending a copy to all the Bishops attending the Lambeth Conference, the Executive Committee of the National Church League have just issued at 2s. net a third issue with an explanatory Preface by the Dean of Canterbury. The book contains a number of quotations from Anglo-Catholic divines, showing how far the present so-called " Catholic " school goes beyond, not merely the " old Historic High Church School " of days long gone by, but those who went all lengths with the Tractarian Movement. It also contains extracts from the pastoral letters and charges of Archbishops Longley, Maclagan and Magee, and from the charges of Bishops Christopher, Wordsworth, Harold Browne, Samuel Wilberforce, Lord A. Hervey, Durnford, Ryle and others, beside pastoral letters addressed to clergy and laity by the whole Episcopate. There is also a letter from the once famous William Sewell and a sermon from Dean Burgon. The whole forms a perfect arsenal of quotations from divines of all parties in the Church of half a century back, and it shows that the innovations, doctrinal and ritual, so persistently thrust on the Church by a small but active section of the clergy have been steadily and emphatically condemned by many of the wisest, most learned, and most holy of our Bishops. The book will be found most useful by those who are engaged in repelling this assault on the faith and practice of our Reformed Church.

A book dealing with the meaning of Baptism, written not only for the theological student but also for the parent, is needed, and the Rev. C. H. K. Boughton, B.D., formerly Vice-Principal of Wycliffe Hall, Oxford, and Principal of Ripon Clergy College, has endeavoured to supply the want in writing his valuable book *The Meaning of Baptism*, which is published under the auspices of the National Church League by Messrs Longmans, Green and Co., at 3s. 6d. net. It is written with a scholarly clearness, and its great value arises from the use of simple English words of a non-technical character to make plain the meaning. Mr. Boughton tells us in his preface that he had three general reasons for the publication:— 1. That there may be available for consideration and criticism a fresh presentation of the subject, based directly upon the teaching of Holy Scripture. 2. The hope that the contribution thus made may help towards the promotion of that Reunion of Christendom, which, through the inspiration of the Spirit of God, has now become the object of so much thought and prayer. 3. The condition of things within the Church of England itself—the question of the position of the two Sacraments ordained by our Lord.

The Bishop of Uganda (Dr. Willis) contributed to *The East and the West* an article entitled *Recognition, Authorization and Reunion*, and this has now been published in pamphlet form by the Church Book Room at 6d. net. The Bishop's contribution will be found a particularly useful addition to the literature already in circulation in regard to

Reunion. He reviews the two strong movements observable in the Church of England to-day in regard to this question: the first making for immediate action, and the second emphasizing the necessity for caution, and he follows with a statement which is at once telling and helpful.

One of the results of the new Constitution of the Church which has been legally recognized by the Enabling Act is that henceforth there is to be a Parochial Church Council in every parish which is a statutory body. The powers of the Council have yet to be defined by the National Assembly, but some indication of what these may be have already been outlined, and undoubtedly the new Councils will have control of many matters of vital importance to the life of the Parish. New Councillors will be elected by a vote as legal as that which is given to candidates for civic honours, and they are naturally anxious for some guidance as to their present responsibilities, and how to exercise the powers which are likely to be conferred upon them. Mr. Albert Mitchell, who has already contributed so many valuable pamphlets and leaflets in regard to the Enabling Act, and the various bodies which it has called into being, has added to the indebtedness which the Church owes to him by writing a leaflet on Parochial Church Councils, 1*d.* net, which will undoubtedly be found helpful. After speaking of the qualifications and powers of the electors, the author indicates the spirit which should direct the Councils, and points out that their first duty is to help forward the work of God, in the parish, in the diocese, and in the world outside.

Lt.-Col. Seton Churchill has written many pamphlets particularly adapted for circulation amongst men, and which have earned for him a considerable reputation as shown by the large circulation obtained by his writings. *The Road that led me to Christ*, 2*d.* net, or 1*s.* 6*d.* per dozen or 10*s.* per 100, has been issued already in another form, and has reached a circulation of 67,000. The new edition has been practically re-written and enlarged, and we feel sure will supply the same need as the previous editions. The pamphlet contains an account of the author's own experiences in early life, and the influence which led him to Christ.

An interesting little pamphlet has just been reprinted entitled *The Passover in the Time of Christ* by the Rev. Khodadad E. Keith, M.A., Teacher of Hebrew in the University of Liverpool, and lecturer at St. Aidan's Theological College, Birkenhead, at 8*d.* net. The author has not aimed at describing the Passover as it was observed in Old Testament times, but has confined himself to a non-technical description of the Passover as it was kept in the days of our Lord, dwelling especially on those manners and customs of the Jews which throw light on the Institution of the Holy Communion or elucidate some obscure passages of the New Testament. An interesting account is given of the various Hebrew festivals, and there are some excellent illustrations. The appendix on "The Cup in the Holy Communion" is particularly valuable. It is not generally known that at the Passover Table every guest is furnished with a cup which he fills four times during the service and drinks, and that each cup has a particular signification.