

you think when you finish, it is certain that you will think. It contains a great deal of needed and needless criticisms of politics, ideas of society, democracy, psychology, etc. The style is forceful and compelling, often more so than the arguments. The chapters are short and make delightful reading. The need for this book is based on the truism that there is to be a new state. The author clearly sees the collapse of many ancient forms of statecraft and in the plan for the "new state", like the wise scribe, he brings forth many treasures new and old. The old, individual psychology and democracy must go according to our author and he certainly makes a good case against both. Society for every one of us is a number of groups, and around the idea of the group as the unit his plan is constructed. "The most salient political *fact* today is the increasing amount and power of group-life—tradesmans, professional societies, citizens leagues, neighborhood associations, etc. The most pressing political *problem* is the relation of all these groups to one another and to the state. This book seeks to find the essential principles which shall underlie the new state through an analysis of the psychological basis of group organization."

While there is much repetition and one believes often an unwarranted dogmatism, there is never a dull page. The only pity is that this book will not likely be widely read by the class that needs it most, viz., the politicians. To any one who is thinking, this book will be a welcome guest. F. M. POWELL.

The Preacher-Persuader. The Value of Personal Work. By C. F. Reisner, D.D. Jennings and Graham, Cincinnati. 67 pp. 35 cts.

This little book is written by one who has been blessed largely in soul-winning, and hence has the freshness that comes from first hand, personal work. The book is well written, neatly bound, and small enough to be carried in the pocket without

inconvenience. One cannot read this little volume without "taking stock" of his own Christian life as a soul-winner. It abounds in rich illustrations and gives much safe, helpful advice to those who should go out to "take men alive". The reading of this book carefully will enrich the ministry of many, who, over-burdened with the details of a heavy pastorate, have become more concerned with saving sermons than souls. While written primarily for preachers, it would be of great value to all who have the impulse to do the Christian's chief task.

F. M. POWELL.

A National System of Education. By Walter Scott Athearn. Geo. H. Doran & Co., New York. 132 pp.

The world is slowly but surely coming to the truth, which should have been reached centuries ago, that a democracy cannot long abide nor thrive in a people who are lacking in at least a rudimentary education and who are morally wrong or spiritually bankrupt. In these days we are forced to view the educational problem as a whole—the whole individual and the whole nation. Professor Athearn in this thought-provoking little volume presents an appealing program for a system of *national* education. He shows how the legislative interest aroused by the presentation of the Smith-Turner bill creates an unparalleled challenge to the "educational leadership of the church to produce a plan that will be equally scientific, equally democratic and equally prophetic". In answer to this challenge comes this book with its sane, timely message for a real program of education that will be really educational and at the same time Christian. There are five short chapters pregnant with practical and scientific suggestions. The style is the more delightful that these chapters were originally given as lectures. Fourteen graphic diagrams aid in enforcing what is written. A worth-