

the delayed publication of the matter in book form. The questions dealt with were first discussed in a popular vein in a series of articles in *The Sunday School Times* in 1904, and their publication was announced to take place at once. But long, distressing and fatal illness in the family of the writer, and the decision to expand the material to more than twice its original size, compelled postponement of publication. Now the volume appears lovingly dedicated "To the Memory of Jennie Rhoads Price, inspiring, devoted wife and mother, during whose last year of patient and pathetic suffering these pages were penned".

GEO. B. EAGER.

Practical Ideals in Evangelism.

By Charles Herbert Rust. Philadelphia, The Griffith & Rowland Press. 1906. Pages, 348. Price, 75 cents.

This is a book that is an outgrowth and exponent of the "New Evangelism". Since the appearance of "The Evangelistic Note", by W. J. Dawson, we have had quite a crop of them. Taken with other things already noted in these columns, such works, and the reception given them by the public, are signs of what Dr. George E. Horr, of Newton Theological Institution, has called "a distinct reaction in favor of a more generous recognition of the place of the evangelist in the economy of the Kingdom."

A few years ago the reigning type of evangelist was distinctly out of favor, and as the same authority says, we were inclined to "judge the whole tree by the gnarled and worm-eaten specimens". Now, the conviction grows, not only that one of the most fatal errors that has wrought ruin to the churches has been the tacit admission that the work of the minister is a thing separate from the work of the evangelist, as Dr. Dawson insisted; but that there is, after all, as this author puts it, "a large place in the world for the God-ordained, well-balanced, spiritually-minded, sympathetic, cultured Gospel evangelist". No matter what one's view of the function of the "evangelist" of the New Testament times, or what one's theory of what ought to be now, may be, one thing

has grown clear as the outcome of experience, that a church under the best pastoral leadership may sometimes reach a situation in which a new voice, a new personality and an appeal from a new point of view, may do for it what the tossing of a lighted match into the grate does for the smoking and smoldering fire.

The author has had years of varied and blessed experience as an evangelist. He "humbly submits" to us here "what the Word, the Spirit and experience have been quietly but surely teaching him concerning evangelism". He writes in recognition and appreciation of a number of "valuable contributions" to the subject, but under the conviction that there is "something lacking", namely, practical suggestions as to how to make evangelism at once effective and sane. He writes with the avowed hope of helping to inspire, not ministers only, but all who read, to have some part in the gracious work of winning souls by a continuous, convincing and effective Gospel evangelism. He deals with the subject in its various forms and phases in a sane, lucid, straightforward way, but always earnestly and with a view to practical helpfulness. He deals generously with his fellow-evangelists of today, and leaves the reader deeply impressed with the need, urgency and "eternal fitness" of this form of effort at soul-winning. Among other topics he discusses luminously and inspiringly "The Ideal Evangelist", "The Ideal Message", "The Ideal Method", "The Ideal After-Meeting", and one of his freshest and best chapters is devoted to "Evangelism with the Young People".

It is significant that the author takes up the report that little is done in our theological seminaries to fit men to be evangelists, or evangelistic pastors. He thinks, however, that many of our seminary teachers are coming to believe that something more than simply teaching the student how a sermon ought to be built and delivered must be accomplished, and that they are being forced to give time and attention to helping to fit men to preach and work so that constant conversions will characterize

their ministry. He cites the calling of Dr. Cornelius Woelfkin, an experienced and successful evangelist, to the chair of Homiletics in Rochester Theological Seminary, and points to "the efficient evangelistic preachers whom some seminaries send out", as "proof positive" that this is being done to some extent; but he adds, "there is room for more of this important training." (Compare pp. 50 and 100.)

He advises that every evangelist take a two years' course in business training, claiming that "this is needed in the mental development of the man who would lead men to Christ". He quotes with hearty approval what Dr. J. M. English, of Newton Centre, is accustomed to say to his classes: "I suppose when you boys leave the Seminary that you will settle down as pastors of some little churches at once, perfectly satisfied that you are fully prepared to preach the Gospel; but I advise each of you to spend two years as a traveling man on the road getting into touch with men." Certainly the thing aimed at is supremely important and desirable, for evangelist or pastor, whether gotten by the method proposed or by some other. The book will prove inspirational and helpful, we are sure, to all who would become successful soul-winners. It may well be put alongside of Dr. Mabie's volumes on this subject.

GEO. B. EAGER.

The Price of Winning Souls.

By Charles L. Goodell, D.D. Fleming H. Revell Co., N. Y., etc. 1907. Pages, 32. Price, 10 cents net.

An address delivered before the Conference of Christian Workers at East Northfield, Mass., Aug. 11, 1906, by the pastor of Calvary Methodist Episcopal Church, New York City, dealing with the human side of the work of soul-winning. A shining merit of the modest booklet is that it is the outgrowth and interpretation of the multi-form experience of a most successful pastor-evangelist. It is at once Scriptural, frank, informing and inspirational. It has already received, as it deserves, cordial