

the pitfalls of the contrasted ideas where one is bidden to choose this instead of that when there is no good reason why he may not have both. It is a book to read and ponder.

W. O. CARVER.

**Philosophy as a Science.** A Synopsis of the Writings of Dr. Paul Carus, Chicago. 1909. The Open Court Publishing Co. Pages ix+213. Price 50 cents.

The title page further explains that this volume contains an introduction written by Dr. Carus, summaries of his books, and a list of articles to date. Truly it is an inspiring array and testifies to the prolific energy, the breadth of learning and the vigorous personality of this remarkable man. The "Introduction" occupies twenty-eight pages and aims to be a sort of stock-taking of the principles and progress of the "philosophy of form" which Dr. Carus thinks so revolutionary, so lucid, so scientific and so certain to gain "the consensus of the competent". In the absolute confidence of Dr. Carus in the finality of his own system he is to be compared at once with Hegel and Spencer. The former had the conviction that no one understood him and the latter lived to see his splendid scheme outgrown. Dr. Carus has not yet seen his win the day, but his enthusiasm feels no damper and his self-assurance needs no flattering acceptance of his philosophy. Sixty-four pages are taken up with titles, analyses and extracts from published notices of more than fifty works which Dr. Carus has prepared. It is interesting to have these summaries of the author's own works and citations from reviews selected by himself.

The last part of the work lists nearly a thousand articles by Dr. Carus, with outlines or abstracts of the more important. The scope of his writings is wide and they have all along had recognition for their scholarly and thoughtful ability. The book is unique and interesting.

W. O. CARVER.

**The Fundamental Principles Involved in Dr. Edward Caird's Philosophy of Religion.** By Dr. W. O. Lewis, Leipzig. 1910. Quelle & Meyer. Pages 62. Paper.

This is the thesis of Dr. Lewis in application for his Ph.D.

in Germany and is issued under the patronage of Professor Dr. R. Falckenberg, of Erlangen. It is unusual for such a thesis to be submitted and accepted in English, but so it is in this case. The work is, in exact conformity to its title, a critical review of Edward Caird's *Philosophy of Religion*. The author has made a careful and competent study of the work and of other works needful for an accurate apprehension of this. He has then given a frank, fair statement of the teaching of Caird, together with an independent, searching criticism of the views and principles of Caird. The principles selected as fundamental are those setting forth the ideas of religion, God, subject and object, evolution.

The weaknesses of Caird's idea of dividing religion by stages into objective, subjective and absolute are searchingly, though briefly, exposed in the second chapter. Occasionally the criticism seems not quite just. Particularly does Dr. Lewis not seem fully to comprehend "the synthetic" stage of thought and evolution. For him the usual contrast between objective and subjective so exhausts the possibilities of thought as not to leave room for the objective-subjective, or synthetic, stage in thought process. For Caird, as for all Hegelians, this is the most significant, the ideal, stage of thought and so of evolution. The work has been done well and will serve any who want a summary exposition and criticism of Caird. W. O. CARVER.

**The Evolution of Worlds.** By Percival Lowell, A.B., LL.D., Author of "Mars and Its Canals", "Mars as the Abode of Life", etc., Director of the Observatory at Flagstaff, Arizona; Non-resident Professor of Astronomy at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, etc., etc. The Macmillan Co., New York. 1909. Price \$2.50.

In the preface the author tells us that the "substance of the following pages was written and presented in a university course of lectures before the Massachusetts Institute of Technology". Prof. Lowell is best known in connection with his speculations concerning the planet Mars. Those who know him only by his theory as to the Martian canals, may have the notion that he is too fanciful and speculative for sober-minded science. Unquestionably he is a bold theorizer in astronomy, but it is equally