

having a being, a personality distinct from the personalities of individual human beings. It introduces confusion into an otherwise remarkably clear and illuminating discussion of a great theme. The book suffers much from this theoretical difficulty. The theory of a social organism which has interests and aims of its own, apart from the interests of its individual constituents, is a piece of pure metaphysics, and is without scientific value, or basis in fact.

C. S. GARDNER.

The Anti-Alcohol Movement in Europe. By Ernest Gordon. Fleming H. Revell Company, New York, 1914. 333 pp. \$1.50 net.

The Question of Alcohol. By Edward Huntington Williams, M.D., with Dr. Henry Smith Williams contributing the final chapter. The Goodhue Company, New York. 1914. 121 pp. 75 cts. net.

Shall I Drink? By Joseph Henry Crooker. The Pilgrim Press, Boston, 1914. 257 pp. With 16 full page charts. \$1.00 net.

These books constitute a late, but small, part of the literature of the world-wide Anti-Alcohol Movement brought into general recognition in this country for the first time by the European war. Mr. Ernest Gordon's book has been called "The temperance sensation of the hour." It is a startling exposition of the conditions on the continent of Europe which forced the fight against alcohol, and a vivid description of the resulting campaign as it has been carried on in the universities of Europe, in the armies and navies, among Socialists, labor unions and workmen in general, especially in its educational features, and the heroic measures resorted to by the campaigners. It is an absorbing story vividly told, and abundantly verified by quotation or reference.

The pro-alcohol, or anti-prohibition, contention, not to say argument, is presented in *The Question of Alcohol*. To read the book is to be convinced that the authors were employed, or preferred, not so much to write up fairly and honestly "The question of Alcohol," as to write down the prohibition policy, temperance education in public schools, and the opinions of the ablest scientists concerning the nature and the effects of alcohol.

Shall I Drink? is a careful digest by recognized authorities of the facts and figures which they have recorded against the drink habit and the drink business, as if in answer to the question now more seriously asked than ever before, *Shall I drink?* Its suggestive chapter headings indicate the scope of the treatment: "The Drink Superstition; Ancient Origin and Present Operation;" "A Question of Proportion," dealing with the waste involved, in money, health and morals; "The Roots of Crime and Poverty;" "A Business Proposition;" "Parental Responsibilities;" "Applied Psychology," dealing with "suggestion" and its effect upon the drink habit; "The Discipline that Destroys;" "The Cure that Kills;" "The Function of Law;" and "Signs of Promise." It will serve as a great storehouse and arsenal from which the fighters against the drink evil may draw both stores and weapons.

GEO. B. EAGER.

Social Heredity and Social Evolution: The Other Side of Eugenics.
By Herbert William Conn, Professor of Biology in Wesleyan University, etc. New York and Cincinnati, The Abingdon Press. 348 pp. \$1.50 net.

The purpose of the author is to place emphasis upon social heredity as a factor in evolution, not as *against* physical or biological heredity, but as complementary to it. As a professor of Biology the author does not aim to belittle or depreciate physical heredity, but to emphasize the fact that the transmission from one generation to another of ideas, ideals, institutions—accumulated human experience, in general—is that which distinguishes human from animal evolution; and to indicate the growing importance of this factor in the development of man. The heavy emphasis by the advocates of eugenics upon physical heredity tends to stress too exclusively the merely physical factor in human progress and to encourage the notion that a man of bad physical heredity is helpless under the operation of forces that he cannot control. Emphasis upon social heredity is needed as a corrective to this tendency.