

The two "Presidential Addresses" to the British Academy are of great permanent value for their general discussion of the causes for war and the hopes of averting it. Likewise, his addresses on "The War State: Its Mind and Its Methods" and on "War and Human Progress" cannot become old very speedily. The former analyzes Germany as an example of "the War State", but its principles and their application will need to be studied much for at least a generation. All the addresses—eight in number—are marked by that directness, clarity and simplicity for which this noble statesman is famous.

W. O. CARVER.

Mexico Today and Tomorrow. By E. D. Trowbridge. New York, 1919, The Macmillan Company. 282 pp. \$2.00.

If we shall shortly be free from the pressing demands of Europe, we shall need to give fresh attention to Mexico, where we have a pretty well established record for blundering. Mr. Trowbridge is quite right in saying that "We have, in the United States, a very confused idea of what has been happening in Mexico during the past seven or eight years." In a straightforward way this book undertakes to tell us what has been happening and why it has been happening.

The book bears the marks of frank statement with no ulterior motives, a matter of no small consequence when we read of Mexico.

The history of Mexico is outlined for us up to nineteen hundred and from that point onward the narrative and discussion seek to amplify the facts and appraise them. It is a work to help in a needed understanding of Mexico which we in our country must now understand.

W. O. CARVER.

The Adventure of Life. By Robert W. McKenna, M. A., M. D., Author of "The Adventure of Death". New York, 1919, The Macmillan Company. xi-233 pp. \$1.25.

A physician serving in the British armies in France carried with him a few, very few, books in a bag and evidently much scientific learning in his head. Besides, he had a conviction of religion well grounded in experience. Withal, he seems to have had a good mind in fine state of repair. In hospitals under the glare of the battle lights, in tents within the fighting zone, amid the roar of conflict, and all about the war-swept land he found himself face to face with facts that fell into question marks before the affirmations of faith.

This book is the product of reflection and reasoning under such conditions. It covers a rather wide field, adhering, however, all the

way to the one main interest—Life. The approach is scientific and on an evolutionary principle. The writer has imagination and descriptive power and good literary style. His work may well be classed as a modern essay in natural theology. After four years in the worst manifestations of war this man of science "can still believe in a just God who is not only the First Cause, but also the loving Father of mankind", and is able to give a reason for the faith that is in him. Other men will be interested in following these reasons.

W. O. CARVER.

Altruism: Its Nature and Varieties. The Ely Lectures for 1917-18. By George Herbert Palmer. New York, 1919, Charles Scribner's Sons. ix+—178 pp. \$1.25 net.

I dare say that most readers will find this a new, somewhat disturbing and provoking theory of Altruism and its various forms. Beginning on the low plane of manners, the author proceeds to Gifts, the nature and dangers of which are right fully discussed. In "Mutuality", he finds the highest form. Here he includes justice and reciprocal feeling and conduct in all the social functions and institutions.

It all magnifies the unselfish life. Love is analyzed in a very cool—sometimes one feels that it is cold—scientific way, which the more ardent soul will resent. All the same, such careful study will do a lot of good.

W. O. CARVER.

The Lost Fruits of Waterloo: Views of a League of Nations. By John Spencer Bassett, Ph.D., LL.D., Author of "Life of Andrew Jackson", "A Short History of the United States", "The Middle Group of American Histories", "The Federal System", etc. Second edition, With a New Introduction. New York, 1919, The Macmillan Company. xxxi+—289 pp. \$2.00.

With a profound conviction that the world must now adopt the plan of a League of Nations or go on down the road toward another war to thwart the ambitious designs of some dynasty or people, Dr. Bassett undertakes a plea based on historical grounds and ideal arguments in support of the League.

He begins with conditions a hundred years ago when Europe rid herself of Napoleon and the France of Napoleon's domination and then sat down in a too easy security to rest from exhaustion. How a League of Nations similar to that now proposed might have given—must indeed have given—an entirely different course to history and averted the great calamities of a century culminating in the supreme fallacy of the past five years the book undertakes to show. It is well done and argues mightily for the League.

W. O. CARVER.