

but undertakes to show how these great doctrines are rooted in human experience and borne out by the scientific study of human nature. *The Psychology of the Christian Life* has in it some richly suggestive material for the preacher.

The last three sections of the book are homiletical and pedagogical. What does this analysis of the course of human experience and the faculties of body, mind and soul mean to the preacher and teacher? How may he actually apply the knowledge acquired in becoming more effective and skillful? What is the broader meaning of preaching and teaching? Dr. Snowden does not add much to what is widely known and generally accepted in the field of practical homiletics and pedagogy, but he shows how these fundamental principles are grounded in psychological necessity, and re-enforces what the great teachers and preachers have often said concerning the essential principles of teaching and preaching.

This is one of the books on psychology that the preacher need have no hesitation in adding to his library. It is written for the general reader as well as the student of the science, and is free from confusing technical terminology.

G. S. DOBBINS.

How to Conduct a Church Vacation School. By Albert H. Gage. The Judson Press, Philadelphia. 166 pp. \$1.50 net.

One of the most significant movements of recent years in the field of religious education has been that to extend the program of instruction in the Bible into the week days. Various experiments have been and are being tried, the most practical and satisfactory of which has been the Daily Vacation Bible School. From an effort on behalf of the neglected elements in the community, this type of school has come to be recognized as the opportunity of the church for a religious educational program for its entire constituency, and that the vacation school may be made a real school. Mr. Gage writes from wide personal experi-

ence and observation. Passing from a discussion of general principles underlying the need and purposes of the vacation school, he proceeds to outline practical plans for conducting the school, dealing helpfully with matters of administration, curriculum, dramatics, games, music, handwork, exhibits, etc. The closing chapter on "The Larger Outlook of the Church Vacation School" is optimistic and suggestive. Workers who are interested in the extension of the church's program of religious education will want this book.

G. S. DOBBINS.

The Bible for School and Home: Genesis. By Rev. J. Paterson Smyth, B. D., LL. D. George H. Doran Co., New York. 196 pp. \$1.50 net.

This is the first in a proposed series of five volumes by Dr. Smyth, prepared to be used as commentaries in the Week Day Church School, the Sunday school, and the home. Volume one deals with the book of Genesis; volume two, Moses and the Exodus; volume three, Joshua and the Judges; volume four, the Prophets and Kings; volume five, the Life of our Lord.

The writer is thoroughly modern in his viewpoint, accepting as established most of the claims of the higher critics as to the composite authorship of Genesis. He finds no difficulty in reconciling the Genesis account of Creation with the theories of the theistic evolutionists. He feels that it is much better to accept frankly the modern view and teach the Bible accordingly, than to have children who have been taught the traditional view discover later that it is at variance with the teachings of science, thus weakening their faith in the fundamental verities. He takes pains to emphasize that the writers of the books of the Bible wrote their histories of past ages "much in the way that Mr. Green or Professor Gardiner or any other historian wrote his history." Some may raise the question as to whether it would be more conducive to a vital faith to have such assertions taught the immature young people of our Sunday school than to have