

**The Clean Sword.** By Lynn Harold Hough. The Abingdon Press, New York and Cincinnati. 211 pp. \$1.00.

This is a well written volume, the burden of which is to justify righteous war. The central proposition is that evil is here and it must be fought with force; that the forces of good must be made stronger and kept stronger than the forces of evil. The weakness of the book, it seems to this reviewer, is not so much in what is said—most of it is quite obvious and much of it self-evident—as in what is not said, or, if said, is said with insufficient emphasis. That thing is that, after all is said which can be said in favor of the use of force, the Divine method of overcoming evil is not force but love manifesting itself in sacrifice. We do not question that it becomes practically necessary at times to fight evil with force; but the fact remains that the cross is the symbol of Christianity and of the Christian method, and not the sword. Now that the war is over, it would be a good thing for preachers and ethical teachers to stress the words of Jesus, "Put up thy sword".

C. S. GARDNER.

**The Moral Meaning of the War.** Edited by Samuel Zane Batten, Secretary of the War Commission of the Northern Baptist Convention. Philadelphia, American Baptist Publication Society.

This is a collection of sermons interpreting the great war. They were delivered, most of them, during the darkest period of the struggle, when the Allies were "walking by faith, not by sight". To indicate that they are strong in thought and high in moral enthusiasm, it is only necessary to mention the names of the preachers: Geo. E. Harr, Claiborne M. Hill, Austen K. DeBlois, Guy C. Lamson, Carter Helm Jones, Robert Gordon.

The little volume makes inspiring reading now after the great struggle is ended, and we stand face to face with the framing of a just peace treaty and with the reconstruction of the world.

C. S. GARDNER.

**Soldier Silhouettes on Our Front.** By William Stidger, Y. M. C. A. Worker with A. E. F. Illustrated by Jessie Gillespie. New York, Charles Scribner's Sons. 209 pp.

No book descriptive of the war's scenes surpasses this one. The chapters are not all equally fine and the last is one of the least good, while all the earlier chapters are superb. Such an arrangement is unfortunate. At that, the book remains one of the most satisfying of all. The author has descriptive imagination of very high order. His