

What Baptists Stand for. By Rev. William Dudley Nowlin, D. D., Associate Editor of the *Western Recorder*, Author of the "Scriptural Act of Baptism", "Christian Science vs. The Scriptures", etc. Louisville, 1918, Baptist Book Concern. 72 pp. 60 cts.

Dr. Nowlin has written a very forceful and very clear statement of Baptist views. There is nowhere any doubt as to what he means. He is a stalwart Baptist and does not mince words, stating his views with vigor rather than persuasiveness. He is himself conscious, of course, that the title to his book is somewhat misleading. Baptists are not all agreed about several views which he presents as Baptist beliefs. What his book really is, as must be the case with all books that attempt to state the Baptist position, is a statement of some things that all Baptists believe and of some things which some Baptists believe. But Baptists who cannot agree with all he says will heartily approve most that he has written. The book will do good.

W. J. McGLOTHLIN.

The Soul of a Bishop. By H. G. Wells, Author of "Mr. Britling Sees it Through", etc. New York, 1917, The Macmillan Company. 341 pp. \$1.50.

I do not pretend to understand Mr. Wells. He has, for me at least, a way of writing as if he had a most serious purpose. His stories have, again I say for me at least, no good reason for being except as propaganda and yet I am never sure what ideas exactly he would propagate. Now I will have disqualified myself wholly for most readers as a critic of any writing of Mr. Wells. Even so, I proceed to remark that in **The Soul of a Bishop** this uncertainty is acute.

If the work were cunningly devised to cultivate skepticism with reference to Christian creeds and Christian organizations without any constructive helpfulness one would be able to pronounce it skillfully done. But one does not wish to attribute to Mr. Wells any such motive. That he is working in a sphere in which he is more or less of a novice, a novice in spots at all events, is clear enough. That he wants to make the idea of the Trinity unpopular would seem to be of the aims in view. And the Church of England is made to appear in very ridiculous light. Its weaknesses, some of them at least, are dragged out into the lighted open.

And yet our Bishop, after growing doubts unconfessed even to himself, then after visions of God superinduced by drugs, and then one vision without his "dope", after a great struggle with himself to reach frank converse with reality, after taking himself out of the Church's fine "living" and after surrendering, in conscience, the pa-