

social solidarity with the entire universe is strictly scientific or not, it is an attractive philosophical idea.

After discussing fundamental principles as to the material, the method and the atmosphere of religious teaching, he takes up the question as to the curriculum. He outlines a very broad one, including much in literature and history besides the Bible—especially that which is adapted to the development of the social mind in the student, which he conceives to be the main thing to be aimed at in religious education.

Whatever one may think of the author's plan, he has given us a very readable book, which will be suggestive even to those who do not altogether agree with him.

C. S. GARDNER.

God's Responsibility for the War. By Edward S. Brown. The Macmillan Company, New York. 56 pp. 60 cts.

The author ably discusses some of the great questions which perplexed sincere Christians during the ravages of the awful war and which still perplex many. The subject is discussed in five chapters: I. God Before the Judgment Seat of Humanity; II. Why Does God Allow Evil? III. Is God Limited? IV. Power Through Limitation; V. True Omnipotence.

Each subject is presented in a scholarly, philosophic way but at the same time intensely Christian.

The Sword of the Spirit. By Joseph Fort Newton, D.D. George H. Doran Company. 240 pp.

Dr. Newton, minister of the famous City Temple, London, proclaims in these sermons the Eternal Christ as a real seer and as a faithful minister should. He in no uncertain words gives voice to the plea for international Christianity. He is an optimist and rightly so. Christianity has not failed, indeed, cannot, for it rests on the "imperishable principles of Jesus Christ". There are in all twenty-two sermons, any one of them worth the price of the book. Each one in cumulative faith hold before the reader the prophet's vision when "nation will no more rise up against nation, neither shall men learn war any more".

H. C. WAYMAN.

If a Man Die. By J. D. Jones, D.D. George H. Doran Co., New York. 180 pp.

This book is indeed a message of solace and comfort for the stricken. Clear assurance concerning the life beyond is the keynote.

This assurance has its bases in the word of the living Christ; the justice and love of God; the strong certainty of Christian experience. Death is an "open door" to blessed peace, to realized desire, to fullness of opportunity and to endless day. The following headings of the chapters suggest the method of presentation: "If a Man Die"; "If it Were Not So"; "The Banished Fear"; "Spirit With Spirit Can Meet"; "With What Body do They Come?" "Shadow and Substance"; "At the Long Last"; "The Open Door". The subject matter of this volume—belief in a future life—has been and will continue to be, so long as man is in this world, of supreme interest. The author's method of allowing Jesus to speak will likewise remain man's real method of finding peace in a world of change.

H. C. WAYMAN.

Americanism and Social Democracy and Social Democracy Explained. By John Spargo. Harper and Brothers, New York and London, 1918. 338 pp. \$1.50 net each.

These new books on Socialism, or Social Democracy, by an acknowledged authority, serve a double purpose: They state in simple, untechnical language the essentials of Socialism, and they help us to value and interpret the process of socialization now going on in America. This much is certain as to the tomorrow of this world war, Mr. Spargo thinks: The Socialist movement will be revived, restored, re-enacted and sooner or later the Socialist program will be realized. The war found the author engaged in writing the book now appearing on "Social Democracy Explained", but the resulting chaos and demoralization in Socialist circles and the betrayal of the movement by the German Socialist majority caused him to lay it aside for the time being. Now that we are recovering a bit from the shock and schism of the Socialist movement, a revival has ensued and the movement is in process of reorganization and readjustment. The book, therefore, seems more than ever to be needed, and so he gives it to the public in enlarged and final form. Moreover, he conceives that the fact that he felt called upon to break with the party as a party because of its unfaithfulness, as he saw it, to the principles of Socialism, has made it necessary for him not only to explain that he is still a Socialist, but also to help as best he can to make clear, especially to forward-looking, patriotic Americans seeking to know the truth, what constitute the essentials, the fundamental principles and aims of Socialism.

In "Americanism and Social Democracy", he attempts to give just what he conceives to be the program of social democracy for which every patriotic American and lover of his kind can afford to work and should work to realize.