

to the churches of America, for the same fear and distrust of man for his fellow man, the feelings of national pride and prejudice and the commercial greed, which gave birth to militarism there, and precipitated this horrible cataclysm, are to be found in great measure in our own social and industrial life. America is yet to be Christianized. Part I of this volume deals with the need and nature of a revised message for today; Part II is a diagnosis of the situation in the light of this larger purpose, with special reference to program and method; and Part III points out the directions in which reconstruction is most needed, and offers suggestions for greater efficiency, growing out of actual experience. "I have had chiefly in mind," the author says, "those in the church who have a sturdy faith in organized religion, who believe that the church has a work to do in our changing social order and who are seeking the best methods by which it can fill its place." Each church, of course, must recast its program and decide upon its methods in the light of the needs of its own community and the forces available to meet them; but the study of so vital a book as this will help it no little in achieving its ends.

GEO. B. EAGER.

**The Crisis of the Church.** By Wm. B. Riley, M.A., D.D. Charles C. Cook, New York, 1914. 197 pp. \$1.00 net.

**The Building of the Church.** By Charles E. Jefferson. The Macmillan Company, New York, 1910. 306 pp. \$1.00 net.

**The Rural Church Movement.** By Edwin L. Earp, Ph.D. (Leipzig). The Methodist Book Concern, New York. 177 pp. 75c net.

Next to its doctrine of Christ what presses most on Protestantism, it is coming to be felt, is the reconstruction of its doctrine of the church, and of the church itself. In the last resort, Christ and faith are for the Protestant, as over against the Roman Catholic, higher categories than Church, and he is not slow to criticise all existing "Churches" through them. This critical process has gone far in our day and to a large extent the church has been discredited. Even among those who loyally adhere to the institution in some form, there is an uneasy feeling

that it is not serving the souls it should serve. Phenomena like these which are everywhere to be encountered, show how necessary it is for the non-Catholic Christian world to make clearer to itself what the Church is, what its place and function are, and what can and should be done to reconstruct it and make it more efficient. The above are a few of the many books which are products of this process and evidence of this growing conviction. "The Crisis of the Church" is by the pastor-evangelist of the First Baptist Church, Minneapolis, "The Building of the Church" by the pastor of the Broadway Tabernacle, New York City, Congregationalist, and "The Rural Church Movement" by the Professor of Sociology, Drew Theological Seminary, Madison, N. J., Methodist. We group them here, not to review them in detail, but to invite attention to them as but parts of the multiform evidence of the work of reconstruction that is going on all-about us. No one interested in the church life and the changing social order of to-day can afford to be ignorant of, or uninterested in, such books on the wide work of reconstruction that they stand for.

GEO. B. EAGER.

**The Doctrines and Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.** Edited by Gross Alexander. Publishing House M. E. Church, South, Nashville, 1914. 432 pp. 40c, net.

In reissuing this publication the Bishops say to their church constituents very consistently: "Far from wishing you to be ignorant of any of our doctrines, or any part of our discipline, we desire you to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest the whole. You ought, next to the word of God, to procure the articles and canons of the church to which you belong."

**What Have the Saints to Teach Us? A Message from the Church of the Past to the Church of To-day.** By Joseph Fort Newton, D.Litt. Fleming H. Revell Company, New York, 1914. 93 pp. 50c net.

An age which, like ours, places peculiar emphasis and value on the type of sanctity which expresses itself through the deed, the author thinks, should feel for the saints an especial rever-