

**A Voice from the Crowd.** By George Wharton Pepper. New Haven, Yale University Press, 1915. \$1.50 net.

In these days the "layman" is having, in ever increasing measure, his chance to preach to the preachers. In these lectures Mr. Pepper uses such an opportunity with rare skill and effectiveness. It is a good thing for the preacher to hear from "the crowd" as to the performance of his function, especially when the crowd has such a competent spokesman as Mr. Pepper.

It is of great significance that this thoughtful man from the crowd tells preachers that what the man in the crowd needs supremely is *the revelation of God*. "In nine cases out of ten the man next me in the crowd, whether he is or is not an occasional church-goer, has an idea of God that is too hazy to be communicable." "My own conviction is that in the great majority of instances thoughts of God play no appreciable part in his daily life." These are remarkable statements. What the man in the crowd needs then, primarily, is to have the idea of God made more definite and that he should be helped to see how God is related to his daily life. There is especial need for this today for, as the author points out, the conditions under which the modern man lives and acts are not such as to deepen in him the sense of the reality of God in his daily life.

The lectures abound in sayings that are clear and profound as well as intensely practical. Of course, there are positions taken and statements made with which many readers of this Review will not agree. For instance, in discussing the problem of religious teaching in modern life, or rather the lack of it, he is inclined to advocate the teaching of religious truth in public or State schools. The objection to this practice heretofore is, in his opinion, the clerical control of State Education. The solution, he thinks, might be found "along the lines of lay control of the educational system in each religious group." That is, the laymen would be concerned only about the fundamental essentials of religious education and not about the sectarian divisions and distinctions. The problem is one of pressing character and of great difficulty; but we venture that the solution will not be found along that line.

We might raise other issues with the author, were there time. But nevertheless this volume is a contribution of first-rate value to the literature of the subject; and should be read by every preacher.

C. S. GARDNER.

**The New Evangelism.** By Rev. Elmer T. Clark, Litt. D., Pastor of the Shaw Avenue Methodist Church, St. Louis, Mo. Nashville, Tenn., M. E. (South) Pub. House. 75 cts.

This is a book that will pay a live pastor to read and re-read; but it will prove a terror to a lazy preacher. By the "New Evangelism," Dr. Clark means the "One to Win One" Campaign, and it is intended as a handbook in conducting such an organized effort. The author does not attempt to discuss the theme of revivals in general, but confines himself rigidly to the business in hand. The book may strike some as advocating the use of too much machinery, and making a mere business of soul-winning; but such a view would do the writer an injustice. The writer has put his theories to the severe test of personal experiment, and gives the remarkable result of his efforts and those of his own people. There are, beside the introduction and specimens of his letters used in an actual campaign, seven chapters, as follows: "Preparing the Field"; "Preparing the People"; "Securing the Workers"; "Training the Workers"; "Directing the Workers"; "Reaching the Children"; and "Conserving the Result." Dr. Clark estimates that the M. E. Church, South, received over 16,000 new members on a single Easter Sunday, from putting into operation this plan in a limited number of their churches. To any pastor, especially in a city, who desires to develop his own constituency, as well as to bring the lost to Christ, this book can not help but be both informing and stimulating. The author has made a distinct contribution in the sphere of up-to-date evangelism.

P. T. HALE.

**A Students' History of Education.** By Frank Pierrpont Graves, Ph.D., Dean of the School of Education, etc., in the University of Pennsylvania. New York: The Macmillan Co., 1915. \$1.25 net.