

VII. PEDAGOGICAL.

Building a Successful Sunday School. By P. E. Burroughs, D. D. Fleming H. Revell Company, New York. 192 pp. \$1.50 net.

As Educational Secretary of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, Dr. Burroughs has had wide and varied experiences which have peculiarly fitted him for the writing of this, his best book, on the administrative side of the church school. The volume fills a real need in educational institutions that desire a text-book sufficiently comprehensive and scholarly to challenge college students, and yet thoroughly practical and modern. Through the eyes of the writer one is enabled to see the modern Sunday school as a whole, functioning effectively in every proper direction, and then to visualize each of the essential component parts in its relation to the whole. The chapters on building and equipment are of especial value. This contribution to the rather meager literature on church school administration will be welcomed with delight and appreciation by pastors and Sunday school specialists.

G. S. DOBBINS.

How to Teach Religion. By George Herbert Betts, Professor of Religious Education, Northwestern University. The Abingdon Press, New York. 220 pp. \$1.50 net.

Professor Betts is a skilled teacher of pedagogy, and has brought to the task of teaching religion his fine pedagogical powers and deep insight into teaching methods and aims. Like many others who deal with the subject of child-nature, he takes the Pelagian view that the child is born innocent and perfect, and needs only proper environment and culture to be kept in this state of perfection. "The child," he asserts, "need never know a time when he is not in the kingdom, and growing to fuller stature therein." This fundamental misconception governs the writer's philosophy throughout, and mars the discussion at many

points; yet at other points, where he deals with the subject matter of religious education, the organization of material, the technique of teaching, types of teaching, and methods, he makes exceedingly valuable contribution. He undertakes to show how modern principles of pedagogy may be applied by the Sunday school teacher, and how the Sunday school may be made a genuine educational institution, in striking and thought-provoking fashion. The book will prove of interest and worth to mature teachers who know how to distinguish the wheat from the tares.

G. S. DOBBINS.

The Week-Day Church School. By Henry Frederick Cope, M. A., D. D. George H. Doran Company, New York. 190 pp. \$2.00 net.

Much interest has been manifested recently in the movement for the extension of the program of the Sunday school, and Dr. Cope in this series of surveys undertakes, not a treatise on the theory of week-day work, or of religious education in general, as he himself indicates in his introduction, but (1) to state briefly the present situation and need; (2) to gather up the records of what is being attempted and accomplished in this direction; (3) to so arrange this material that it will be of service to all who are seeking to carry out similar plans; and (4) to furnish them with some of the simple principles and the bare facts which must underlie all such work. Perhaps no better means could be adopted for setting forth the significance of this movement for week-day religious instruction than to describe in detail the experiments that are being made throughout the nation. The writer does not attempt to dogmatize, and for the most part refrains from expression of opinion as to the direction in which these experiments are leading, but presents the facts as he has been able to gather them through accurate and painstaking research. Those interested in vacation Bible schools will find the book invaluable in its suggestions as to administration, curriculum, etc.

G. S. DOBBINS.