

Critic's Corner

Reviews this month by W. R. Taylor, Ph.D.

THE EVER COMING KINGDOM OF GOD is a translation by Dr. Archibald Duff, of an address on religious progress recently delivered by Professor Duhm, of Basle, Switzerland. The small, neat volume contains more of inspiration and has less of information than one expects to find in a book by a German theologian, and it is likely to be proportionately more honored with thumb-marks. The author preaches a gospel of hope. The kernel of Christianity is hope, best expressed in the words, "Thy Kingdom come!" Many utter this prayer who never pray it. The present generation is not earnestly hopeful. The Kingdom has always been coming. This thought is traced in the development of the Biblical conception of it. The prophets first discerned its coming. With Amos there was approaching a day of woe. With Isaiah a new hope arose. This was worked over by later writers in view of their own times. Jesus made corrections in the accepted views of the Kingdom, both in regard to outward form and inner meaning. Over against the Indian sages who taught extinction of self, Jesus gave a religion of hope and progress.

The translation is in the simplest English. Many sentences for grace and condensation would warrant quotation if space were available. A few only may be permitted:

"It is not men that should help religion; it is religion that should help men."

"Christianity is a will, not a doctrine"

"Must religion fall under the wheels instead of driving the chariot?"

"No man can prove the highest: either we feel it or we do not feel it"

"There is only a narrow road to lead us out of the world lying around us; Jesus came to show us the road, and it leads to everlasting life."