

an admirable volume entitled, "The Citizen of To-morrow; A Handbook on Social Questions." The very organization of this society is proof of the increased interest taken in the reform of society, as well as the reform of the individual. This book consists of papers by men who have made a special study of the different aspects of this great topic. Among these are chapters on, From Serf to Citizen, John Wesley and Social Service, Christianity and Socialism, Labor and Poverty, The Drink Question, Gambling, Citizenship and Service, The Housing of the People, Women and Social Problems, The Land Question; Children, or Citizens in the Making; The City, or the Service of the Citizens. The two great plague spots in Britain, and measurably Canada as well, are the drink traffic and the social cancer of gambling. It is strange what an infatuation these have. Against them we must fight to save the commonweal.

"The Church and the Social Problem." A Study in Applied Christianity. By Samuel Plantz. Cincinnati: Jennings & Graham. Toronto: William Briggs. Pp., 356. Price, \$1.25 net.

Similar in character to the last is this thoughtful study by Dr. Plantz, President of the Lawrence University. He considers that in the social problem the church of the twentieth century has to face a crisis of the utmost importance. He discusses the historical aspects of this question with ample citations from standard authorities. His most important constructive chapter, a section, is that on How the Church May Help Solve the "Social Problem." This is a book of such importance that we shall make it the subject of a special article at an early date.

"Persecution in the Early Church." A Chapter in the History of Renunciation. By Herbert B. Workman, M.A. London: Chas. H. Kelly. Toronto: William Briggs. Pp., xx-382.

This is the Fernley Lecture for the current year. The author is well known as Principal of the Westminster Training College, and author of several important works on the church history. This is a comprehensive work, expanded largely from the Fernley Lecture as delivered. The great conflict between Christianity and paganism for the conquest of the world is a stirring story. On one side was the embattled power of Rome, all the influences of hereditary faiths, ancient use and wont, and the entrenched power of a wealthy priesthood and fanatical people; on the other were the lowly Christians, armed only with the Sword of the Spirit, the Shield of Faith, and the mighty Power of God. But before these the might of Rome yielded and early in the fourth century Christianity, despite the most flagrant and cruel persecution, had won its conquering way to the highest and remotest parts of the empire.

The Canadian Congregationalist Year-Book is a handsome volume of two hundred and thirty-seven pages, giving very full information concerning the Congregational Church in Canada. It furnishes ample opportunity for the study of this sister church, of special interest to us in view of the negotiations for closer union. The address of the Rev. J. B. Silcox, chairman of the Union for 1906, on the Revival of Religion, has a soul-stirring, evangelistic note. Several portraits and half-tones of churches are included.

CONTRASTS.

Always the shadow of war, but on go the works of peace;
 Always the shadow of death, but of joy life feels no lack.
 The battleship lunges along, a fortress swim in the seas,
 But over the self-same waves, the wind drives the fisherman's smack.

What rules the world? Is it might?
 What rules the world? Is it love?
 Is it hunger that drives? Is it wit that thrives? Shall subtlety triumph,
 or right?

Hunger drives, and gumption thrives, and subtlety's envy's glove,
 But knowledge and truth shall drive out ruth, and love, in the end, is might.

—By E. S. Martin, in Scribner's.